STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION (CRC)

In the matter of:
CRC BUSINESS MEETING

Southern California

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2022
9:30 a.m.

Reported by:
Peter Petty
APPEARANCES

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

STAFF
Alvaro Hernandez, Executive Director
Ravindar Singh, Administrative Assistant
Chris Stevens, Chief Counsel
Fredy Ceja, Communications Director
Marcy Kaplan, Director of Outreach

TECHNICAL CONTRACTORS
Kristian Manoff, AV Technical Director/Comment Moderator

Also Present

PUBLIC COMMENT
Renee Westa-Lusk
INDEX

PAGE

Call to Order and Roll Call 4
Director's Reports 5
PROCEEDINGS

Monday, February 7, 2022 9:30 a.m.

CHAIR YEE: Good morning, California, and welcome to a business meeting of the California Citizen's Redistricting Commission. Happy Lunar New Year, (indiscernible), and blessings on you all. We will start off by taking roll.

MR. SINGH: Thank you, Chair Yee.

Commissioner Ahmad.

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Here.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Akutagawa.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Here.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Andersen.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Here.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Fernandez. Commissioner Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Presente.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Fornaciari.

Commissioner Kennedy. Commissioner Kennedy.

Commissioner Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Here.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Le Mons.

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Here.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Sadhwani.

Commissioner Sinay.
COMMISSIONER SINAY: Here.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Taylor.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: I am present, yay.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Toledo.

Commissioner Turner. Commissioner Turner.

Commissioner Vazquez.

And Commissioner Yee.

CHAIR YEE: Here.

MR. SINGH: You have a quorum, Chair.

CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Ravi. Today's agenda is posted, along with the run-of-show and various meeting handouts. Today, our Chief Counsel is away -- Anthony Pane, and Chris Stevens will be covering for him.

Let's start off with any news or announcements anyone has? If none, we'll go right into our Director's Reports. And we'll start with our Executive Director, Alvaro.

MR. HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Chair. Just once again, I wanted to let everyone know that we have off-boarded some of our outreach staff and communication staff, so we are back to more of a skeletal crew of very limited staff. We are still working on some of the data management pieces and tagging. We have some of the staff who are still here. The data management team is continuing on to tag. We're down to, I think it's less
than 15,000 records that still need tagging, and we're working through that.

Beyond that, I will defer to the subcommittees to provide additional information as to our planning for offboarding, future offboarding as well as planning for the Commission activities for the remainder of this year and the upcoming years as well. That concludes my report. Are there any questions?

CHAIR YEE: So for the budget requests and such, that will be coming up with the subcommittee reports?

MR. HERNANDEZ: We're working on the budget request information -- the BCP, as we call it -- budget change proposal. Working with the subcommittee, finalizing the details, some of which will -- as a result of today's conversation, may impact the language and also the amounts that we're going to be requesting moving forward. But we are working on that piece of it as well.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Any questions, discussion?

If not, we'll move. So our communication director will be reporting in the afternoon. Meanwhile, let's go to our outreach director, Marcy.

MS. KAPLAN: Hi. Good morning, Commissioners. As Alvaro mentioned, the outreach staff have rolled off as of January 31st. We had a nice farewell Zoom with the Outreach and Engagement Subcommittee where everyone had
some time to share their memorable moments with the Commission, so that was -- that was really nice, and just nice to acknowledge all of the tremendous work that they did over the course of this year.

I also wanted to update -- per direction from the Commission, we sent out a survey last week to our email list, and also promoted it on social media. And the survey was an opportunity for the public to provide feedback on what worked well and didn't work well with the Commission's effort and recommendations for going forward, as well as sharing how they may have participated in the process. That survey closed on February 2nd at 5 p.m., and we received 362 responses in total. And of those, fifty-seven were affiliated with an organization. 282 were individuals. And twenty-three didn't answer that question. And at our next meeting, I'll be providing a high-level overview of the feedback that was received from the survey.

And just highlighting what Alvaro noted, I've also been working with him and the Long-Range Planning Subcommittee on planning efforts, and we'll defer for the subcommittee for that report, as well. And that's my report.

CHAIR YEE: Thank you. Any questions or discussion? Commissioner Sinay, I think I missed your hand earlier.
COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thanks. I just wanted -- I was just going to follow up kind of on what Marcy was saying about the -- we did meet with the staff that transitioned out, and their stories were great and we really worked -- Commissioner Fornaciari and I kind of gave them a little coaching on how to talk about what they did and how extraordinary it was the work that they had done and make sure that they felt good about telling the story. But if they do reach out or if you have opportunities for them, please don't hesitate to connect with them. Each time I meet with our staff, it's amazing all the -- who they are, what they've done, and it's just an amazing -- they're very inspirational and strongly recommend connecting with them, and I look forward to seeing where they end up in their journey of doing good for California. Thank you.

CHAIR YEE: Thank you. Any other questions or discussion about Out-Reach? If not, we can move on. Chris, I don't know if you have any -- Chris Stevens, I don't know if you have anything to report on behalf of our chief counsel?

MR. STEVENS: Yeah. We don't, Chair Yee, but I appreciate the opportunity, and it's a pleasure to be sitting with the Commission today. So let me know if you have any questions. Thank you.
CHAIR YEE: All good. And of course, we continue to wait for the February 10th deadline for any legal challenges to our maps.

MR. STEVENS: That's right.

CHAIR YEE: So far, there are none.

MR. STEVENS: That's right.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Let's see. Oh, actually, I do have a question, then, for you, Chris. So we're postponing our Communications Director's Report until later today, and so Agenda Item 2, then, will not be complete. And I guess we don't take comment until then?

MR. STEVENS: That's fine, yeah.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Very good. Okay. Let's move on, then, to our Committee and Subcommittee Reports. And today, we will start with -- actually, okay. We were going to start with Lessons Learned, but Commissioner Kennedy's on the road, and so we're going to try to postpone that a bit until he's more available. Perhaps we can go, then, to Outreach and Engagement on that subject and hear from the subcommittee. Anything further? Nothing? Nothing to report?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: No. I think what -- well, let me ask you, Chair. Do you want to talk about the meetings we've had here or in the Lessons Learned Subcommittee?
CHAIR YEE: Ah. I think here would be fine. Yeah.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Okay. We had reported -- Chair Yee and I had reported at our last meeting that we reached out to Common Cause nationally -- well, we had reached out locally to Common Cause and Legal One voters and were connected to the national efforts. And our purpose of reaching out was just to see how could we as a Commission, and individual Commissioners, support efforts to create a -- to support kind of the redistricting movement, realizing that that's not part of that Commission's direct mandate and that that would be done on our own time and such.

And we have a meeting -- since the last meeting, we've had a meeting and it was a pretty -- it was a very fruitful meeting. They were very excited about what we had accomplished. I think it is fair to say that Kathay from National Common Cause, who was one of the original writers of the 2008 mandate. Anyway, she was giddy -- I would use the word giddy -- and the Chair can correct me. But we were all kind of giddy about what we had accomplished, and we were very -- they were clear -- yeah, we were looking at long-term what can we do and how can we bring together different commissions throughout the country to have conversations on Lessons Learned.

But for right now, the one thing that they had asked
was for us to kind of have an op-ed in the hopper or several op-eds in the hopper that we can submit to local state redistricting efforts as they're happening. With the first being Ohio, because the State of Ohio, their Supreme Court did mention the California redistricting efforts. And so we will be working with different Commissioners who have connections in those areas. For instance, North Carolina -- Commissioner Kennedy grew up there -- and so they have asked that it be two or three Commissioners that submit so that it shows the diversity of the Commission, both political and otherwise. And so that will be kind of the first effort that we will be taking. So if you have any connections to the states that are kind of on the hopper right now are New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and Ohio. So if you have connections to any of those states, like you grew up there, you went to college there -- any of those things -- please, let Martin (ph.) know from our team, and he will be coordinating those efforts.

Again, it's New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and Ohio. And there'll be other opportunities. And the idea is really to get them into kind of local papers. Sometimes they'll be op-eds, sometimes they may just be a letter to the editor. So that's one way we've been told that we can support those efforts. We're
continuing to have conversations. I think the other piece of the conversation falls under kind of Lessons Learned and maybe the Outreach Committee, too. The Outreach Engagement Committee is part of our Lessons Learned. We did the survey. Thank you, again, Director Kaplan and Commissioner Ceja, for really helping us get that out, and collecting it and all that. We're really excited by how many people did participate. So that was really great news.

But we were thinking about doing focus groups with the nonprofits. We've talked about that several times, about really learning from the advocacy groups -- how many people did you reach? And all those things. They have received money, League of Women Voters and Common Cause in California have received money to do an analysis like they did last time. We don't know the details. We will be meeting with them this week to talk a little bit about the details.

But it kind of became evident that we may be duplicating efforts by asking them what we could've done better. They will be telling us but we may want, as part of our Lessons Learned, how can we as -- how can independent redistricting commissions -- how can advocacy groups and CBOs help our efforts in the future. Looking at Lessons Learned in a different lens than we were
looking at before. So we're on -- so we haven't decided
if we will be doing focus groups, or if it makes sense,
we don't want to be duplicating efforts. We know that it
would be different questions. And we'll come back and
tell you all what we learn from that.

CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Commissioner Sinay. Any
discussion on Outreach and Engagement? And I think our
next meeting with Common Cause and League of Women Voters
will be later this week.

Commissioner Andersen?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you, Chair. Yeah, one
connection we have with Ohio is Haystaq was called and
was a consultant with -- who they were not able to use,
because the maps weren't actually drawn, but they are
very involved in the redistricting process that actually
got kind of -- well, I'll just say, in the redistricting
process. So that's certainly another source of very up-
to-date current information for Ohio.

CHAIR YEE: Thank you. Anything else? If not,
let's go ahead and move on to Long-Term Planning. Long-
Term Planning Subcommittee, and I believe you have some
handouts for us, too.

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Yes. Two handouts were
posted. We met and posted additional information through
the -- let's see. Got my handouts all mixed up. So the
first handout -- that's just the activities that we
talked about last time, and that has sixteen different
items -- activities -- on there, and what Commissioner
Akutagawa and I, with the assistance of Executive
Director Hernandez and Outreach Director Kaplan -- we
attempted to attach estimated costing information for
that so that we can use that information when we go
forward to the Department of Finance with a budget change
proposal. If there aren't any questions with that -- we
went over it last time, so I don't really think there's a
need to go through it again unless there's questions from
any of the Commissioners. We will be updating the
information a little bit for the out-years for the census
work. We might be adding a little bit more resources to
that effort. But are there any questions before we move
on to the second document that is the task activities
noted that require further discussion to determine
whether or not, one they are within the Commission's
scope, and then, two, whether we will estimate some
costing information for that.

And Commissioner Akutagawa, I don't know if you had
anything else to add to that first handout?

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. Thank you very much.
No. On that one not necessarily. The only question I
think I would have is -- and I didn't -- wasn't able to
press my hand up fast enough -- but Commissioner Sinay, you mentioned possibly doing the focus groups. I don't believe -- and correct me if I'm wrong, Commissioner Fernandez -- I don't believe we accounted for that, because we weren't quite sure what that all meant. So I don't believe we accounted for that, and that may actually be grouped under the items to be discussed areas and therefore budgets still need to be estimated.

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Okay. Yeah. That's a great point. And I think maybe, Chair Yee, maybe that's something -- that's a conversation maybe as a Commission we should have, because we do have subcommittees, and we want to make sure we're not venturing out into some area that maybe isn't within out scope on our own where -- okay, we're going to do this, and we're going to do that. But is it appropriate or not? And I know that Commissioner Kennedy floated an idea to me for the materials in terms of updating the redistricting information on Wikipedia to make it more accurate. But maybe it's something that we need to bring forward, to say, hey, is this something that we want to do under the Commission's work, or is it something that we would do on our own? So we probably need to discuss how we're going to handle things like that. So I'll just -- I'll add that to the Activities Needing to Discuss. But moving
forward, I mean, maybe we have to talk about how we're going -- so that we don't go too rogue off into the sunset -- the redistricting --

CHAIR YEE: Sure.

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: -- sunset somehow.

CHAIR YEE: Sure.

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Yeah.

CHAIR YEE: And perhaps you could say a little bit more about -- so we're looking at this two-page document with the estimated budget impacts are three page --

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Right.

CHAIR YEE: And just say more about the process and where we're at with this and what you --

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Okay. And so the process --

CHAIR YEE: -- what you expect.

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Okay. So what we're expecting out of today is we do have to submit a budget change proposal to the Department of Finance, I believe by tomorrow. So by this week we need to finalize something and forward it. So what we've done is we've noted the activities. The first document has the activities that we've all discussed or we know that there's going to be additional expenses as we move forward during our next eight years kind of continuing to
be Commissioners and a Commission. And we have split out
the estimated costs by fiscal year. And so what we'll do
with the current year cost, which is the 2021/22 cost, we
will add those projected costs to whatever our budget
also has for this fiscal year to ensure that we are -- we
will have sufficient funds for this year. And if we do
have sufficient funds for this year, our ask will not be
for this year, but it'll be for the out-going years.

So for the out-going years, starting in July 1st, 2022, if you go to the bottom of each year you will see
what the estimated cost is at this point by fiscal year.
And so what we will do is take that information to draft
and submit a budget change proposal requesting those
funds. And just so everyone's aware in terms of the
budget cycle, we will note the funding for each year, but
really we're asking for the next fiscal year, because the
budget cycle doesn't go out for ten years, right? It
goes year-by-year. So that's what we're doing. And then
we, as a Commission, can update that as the deadlines
come up for the following fiscal year, we can update our
ask for the following year, and just continue to do that
until 2030.

And we did go over these items that are noted at the
last meeting, and we did receive feedback from
Commissioners. And unless there's any changes or any
questions, we could probably move on to the other
document that would lead to further discussion. Or do
you want more information or something else for us to
share with that, Chair Yee?

CHAIR YEE: No. That's super helpful. So really,
we're looking mostly right now at the 2021/22 estimated
costs. Or the budget letter covers that or it covers
2022/23?

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: The budget letter would
cover the 22/23, but we also need -- so we're looking at
both years.

CHAIR YEE: Okay.

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: We really want to focus on
this year and next year, because for this year ensuring
that we do have enough funds for the activities that we
project, and then for next fiscal year, that will be our
ask. Because next fiscal year, you assume there's
nothing, and so you want to start from there and ensure
that you have sufficient funds for the activities.

CHAIR YEE: Right.

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Commissioner Akutagawa?

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I was just going to mention
to you that we're costing out or at least estimating
costs for the out-years from 2023 and beyond because we
were advised that we would -- we should give the
Legislature an estimate for the entire time frame so that they have, I guess, a broad idea what we're going to be looking to do and to ask for instead of just doing year by year. That's why you're also seeing some of the out-year costs included as well, too.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. And at any point, will we actually need to vote on these amounts or -- no?

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: I don't know if we need to vote on the amounts or just vote on the activities.

CHAIR YEE: The activities, okay.

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: And if there's -- in terms of the amount, I mean, we showed on there like how -- if it was dollar amounts for contracts or for staffing or if our estimates in terms of Commissioner time and days -- and we don't know how many subcommittees there's going to be going out because I would think that Chair Yee will probably -- we will probably sunset some of the existing -- some of the existing subcommittees, and from Lessons Learned, we might actually gain a few. So we're just kind of guessing at this point how many we're going to have. And that's why -- that's why it's kind of crucial to get this year-next-year correct because the years after that, we can always -- we can update that information. And we will update that information. Every year, if we are projecting to have activities, we will be
submitting a budget change proposal.

CHAIR YEE: And even midyear it's possible to get budget changes if something extraordinary comes up.

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Yes. Yeah.

CHAIR YEE: Yeah.

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: We can do a finance letter -- I believe that's what it's called.

CHAIR YEE: Yeah.

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: We could.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Commissioner Toledo?

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Yeah. I mean, in looking at this, it looks really detailed, and a lot of thought went into this, and I really appreciate the work of the Commission -- or the committee, rather, subcommittee. I'm just wondering, in terms of days -- I'm just wondering if we should build in some contingency in terms of the budget just given that everything takes longer than we anticipate sometimes and perhaps -- and the committee may have already thought about that, so I'm just bringing it up in terms of perhaps a contingency or some kind of -- or if that's not how it works, because I'm not as familiar with the State budget process. So I'm just curious as to that process. Thank you so much for your work. It's looking very, very comprehensive and very good. Thank you.
COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: And I think -- and thank you, Commissioner Toledo, for that. That's the unknown right now, because we don't know how many subcommittees we're going to have. And we don't know -- and you're absolutely right, everything seems to take longer than what we think we're going to do. So that's the challenging part at this point, is to -- last time we talked about -- well, if there isn't litigation, then meeting twice a year. So we put that in, meeting twice a year. But also knowing that there's still going to be some subcommittee works, because we're going to project potential legislation or whatever. Or even like with the federally incarcerated populations. There's other activities that we'll be working on.

And you're absolutely right; I did receive some information from Commissioner Kennedy in terms of what he estimated for the federally incarcerated population in terms of that activity. And then for -- then we just kind of put a generic -- I think it was -- was it ten days per subcommittee? Something like that. But yeah, I mean, if you -- if the Commission or Commissioners feel that we need to maybe bump that up, then that's, of course, something that we can do. I wouldn't note it as contingency. I would just note it as that's the workload or the cost that we estimate. But yeah, I mean, if
anyone has any comments, please? Or ideas of how to increase it?

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Kennedy, on the road.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. Yes. I just wanted to endorse Commissioner Toledo's suggestion that we include a contingency line, because I agree. We never know, and I think it's just prudent to include that in the budget going forward. Thank you.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Commissioner Sinay?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you. I thought at one point we had talked about twice a month. And I heard twice a year. And then I had also heard once a quarter that we would meet throughout the eight -- when I heard twice a month I was kind of -- I think twice a month between now and June just to wrap things up. But I don't know if twice a year is enough. I really thought we had talked about quarterly like, I believe, the other Commission did. But I also don't know what would come up except for short -- so I'll just leave it at that, that I think the subcommittee has really thought this through. So thank you.

As a consultant, one of the things I have learned is exactly what Commissioner Toledo was saying that everything takes longer than you expect. So I usually multiply everything by 1.5 -- however many hours I
actually came up with and multiply by 1.5 and if its --
if I don't use up all the hours, I don't charge all the
hours, but at least it gets more realistic. So we may
want to think through something similar to that. And if
we don't use the budget, it's always a good thing.

But the other piece that I wanted to mention was
that there are activities that we have said that we would
be doing outside of what we thought was the purview of
the Commission and that we might not be charging. So
just all those things are to take into consideration.

But I do agree that having just a budget that's as
realistic as possible, because we don't -- there are
things that we plan, but there are others that we may be
asked to participate. So anyway, thank you.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Andersen.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. Thank you, Chair. I
completely agree with Commissioner Toledo and he's saying
that things do take a little bit longer. But I also
undress that from a budget perspective saying contingency
is a very difficult thing to do. And so what I'm looking
at a few items here that I think -- I'm just saying,
that's going to take longer -- and I think that might
help the subcommittee more than just saying, let's put
another line in. And a few of those items -- excuse
me -- that I was going to bring up are -- a lot of our --
oh, included in Lessons Learned -- if some of these items are included in Lessons Learned, then I would definitely, I like that 1.5 multiplier that Commissioner Sinay said, because I know that we're talking about the contracts, because I think that's Item 13. Those, which I'm hoping to work on, I know will take a little bit longer, and also I totally understand the items that also -- dealing with a 2030 as far as I see, you're putting them down towards the end of our eight-year term, which I think is totally appropriate. But I think those also need to be a little heavier, because those items do involve quite a bit of -- well, quite a bit of work, I'll just put it that way.

So I'm going to have a closer look and give a few items, but I think the quickest way to do that to increase -- to cover ourselves for the budget, would be that 1.5 for the Lessons Learned group. And a couple other items, like the one I mentioned, Item 13, should indeed -- if we want to put it in Lessons Learned, that's okay, but that is definitely an item that's going to take more. So if anyone else has ideas that they think would really affect the budget or the numbers are a bit light, please say so, so we can help the subcommittee. And by the way, this is very detailed and very well done, so thank you very much to the subcommittee.
CHAIR YEE: Thank you. Commissioner Akutagawa?

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. Thank you. And thank you, everyone for your comments. I do want to just maybe make a few comments. One, we based a lot of this on what we heard from the last meeting and for those who were present at the last meeting. We did also ask for some additional feedback from everybody. And we did try to anticipate that there would be additional time that would be needed. I think like Commissioner Fernandez says, I think if there's a feeling that we are going to need more, that's totally fine. I think we just need to be in agreement about it. I think the last -- based on the last group who was available at the last meeting, the feeling was that we're looking at probably closer to two meetings a year in the off years versus like four.

The other thing, too, that I think we took into consideration as much as we could, is also trying to estimate -- I'll just be frank, I mean, what's a realistic budget, given that, really, the main focus of our work is completed. And so while we wanted to be as realistic as possible and include in what we think we would need, we also wanted to just be mindful of perhaps overdoing it and then get our entire budget rejected. And so that's kind of the fine line that we're just trying to also walk. But if anybody has other
experiences and feels that we have more wiggle more, then
that would be great, because we do want to make sure that
we'll be able to continue doing the kind of work that
we're tasked to do even in these off years. So any
feedback that you could give sooner rather than later
would also be helpful, because we will be needing to
submit this budget very soon. So thank you.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Thank you. If there are no other
comments, perhaps we can take a look at the other
handout, then.

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Okay.

CHAIR YEE: One page.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes. And I did want to
just piggyback on what Commissioner Akutagawa said. Last
time we did talk about the meeting cadence. So for this
fiscal year, it is twice a month. That's what we are
estimating in terms of full Commission meetings, and then
for the years out was twice a year. And I believe it was
Commissioner Kennedy that actually went to the 2010 to
see how often they met, and it turned out to be about
twice a year. And there was one or two years where they
met more often, but I believe that's when they had that
contract that they had external work that they were
working on.

And yes, in terms of contingency, I will not
recommend that we have a contingency line, because that
would be the first line that they would say no to.

Basically, if you do have feedback, if you can get that
back to Anthony by the end of the day after our
meeting -- if you still want to go back and look at it
and provide feedback, because we really do need to try to
finalize. Again, this is going to be like the bare bones
asking pretty much for permission to continue on with
some of our efforts. And if you can get that to Anthony
by the end of the day, and we can try to finalize that
information by tomorrow so we can include it in our
request moving forward.

And then I do notice that Commissioner Kennedy's
hand is up.

CHAIR YEE: Yes, Commissioner Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. On the out
years I think maybe we should think in terms of dividing
that into a couple different periods, because as we
approach (audio interference) over to the 2030
Commission, and particularly the opportunity to engage
with the census effort on the Out-Reach and perhaps
working with the auditor's office on the recruitment
effort. It seems to me that we would probably be better
off looking at or budgeting for quarterly meetings
starting in at least July of 2028. So just wanted to put
that out there for comment. Thank you.

CHAIR YEE: Thank you.

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Yes. Thank you for that.

I was trying to catch up to you, Commissioner Kennedy. We did actually increase it quite a bit in the 29/30 fiscal year, so we will -- in terms of meeting cadence -- and so we'll go ahead and add some more time for the prior year. So thank you for that information.

So with that, if everyone's okay, we will move on to the next document. Okay. So the next document -- so what we did is we updated it a little bit from last time, and we actually moved a few of the items that we had on this list into the first list that were activities that we were going to move forward with.

So Alvaro or Marcy, are any of them here? If they can --

MS. KAPLAN: Do you want me to share the document?

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Yes, that would be great.

Thank you.

MS. KAPLAN: Okay. Hold on.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Kennedy, did you still have a comment?

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: He's driving. We don't want him to push --

CHAIR YEE: He's a actually a passenger. He's
actually passenger, so.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: So sorry.

CHAIR YEE: Okay.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Sorry about that.

CHAIR YEE: And then Commissioner Turner.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yes. I put my hand just to be in the queue. I'll wait until this is presented, and then I do have a comment, yes.

CHAIR YEE: Okay.

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Okay. Is that big enough for everybody?

CHAIR YEE: Looks good.

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Okay. Well, and everybody -- I mean, it's been (indiscernible) as well.

MS. KAPLAN: I tried to open it separately, but it wasn't working.

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Okay. And so the first one -- that was the conversation that we started to have last time in terms of the continued advocacy for independent redistricting. We kind of reworded it to note promoting independent redistricting commissions nationally. So there was conversation on us requesting participation versus being requested to provide. So I mean, I think there is a differentiation between the two. And so at this point, my personal opinion was that, in
terms of nationally, I believe it's outside the scope.
Of course, that's just my own opinion, and that's why
there was the discussion. I don't believe that it's
appropriate to use California State funds for national
efforts of redistricting. Statewide and locally, that is
something that I can definitely -- I feel is more within
our scope. So with that -- Commissioner Akutagawa, did
you want to say something before you step away?

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Thanks. And I apologize.
I just got pinged on a -- I have to jump onto this other
call real quick. I think what we wanted to do is -- we
had a long list that we wanted to focus on the things
that we feel we can -- one, we can realistically do. I
mean, I think we're a pretty ambitious group and we want
to do a lot of things, but I think we wanted to just
really focus on the things we thought were doable within
the time that we have. And also really, most and
specifically aligned with what we are tasked to do. And
so I think that the three that we've narrowed down that
we think -- in addition to the other things that we've
already have declared that we want to focus on -- are the
things that we thought most closely reflected, but what
might be possible within the scope of our work, so.

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Okay. I think we lost her.
I think so.
CHAIR YEE: Okay. But love feedback, probably --

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Yeah.

CHAIR YEE: -- was the thought.

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Yeah.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Sorry about that. Yeah, my wi-fi's very bad here. Thank you.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Commissioner Turner, are you still thinking?

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Well, it's not so much that I was still thinking, I was trying to wait and ensure that I lifted my hand at the appropriate time for the conversation. But let me just -- it's not suspenseful or anything, it's just a matter of looking at the tasks and activity noted that we agreed upon and then looking at the particular one as it relates to legislative issues. I wanted when we got down there to have more conversation in regards to the -- let's see, what are the areas? The incarcerated individuals. There where it says, more discussion is needed. It's currently noted as a no.

I see it as one of a legislative-type conversation similar to access as far as we know we've had lots of concerns with Bagley-Keene. We wanted to move forward and support Little Hoover Commission as far as the identifying and implementing best practices for disability access, certainly things that we need to fight
for to ensure that everyone has access and available to participate in the process. I see the incarcerated population the exact same way from an access perspective and really want to understand what the conversation was that we're struggling with that we don't see that that's something that falls within our purview as well.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Very good. Commissioner Fernandez, I'm wondering if -- I'll leave it to you to --

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Okay.

CHAIR YEE: -- decide which ones to hit and what order.

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Okay.

CHAIR YEE: And then why don't you go ahead and call on people, too, while you're (indiscernible).

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Okay. Okay. I didn't know how you wanted to -- Commissioner Turner, is it okay if we discuss that one when we get to the incarcerated individuals?

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yep. I kept trying to wait for it.

CHAIR YEE: Sorry.

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Oh, I know. I know.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah.

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: That's okay. Like for me, I have to go through my list or else I'll just -- I'll
forget something. I know I'm going --

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yes.

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: -- to forget something.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah. Hit it when it's appropriate. Thank you.

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Okay. Thank you. But I definitely -- and I was trying to go onto the other list, too, because I know that we did have some items noted as legislation. And of course, it was not a comprehensive listing. And so the more information we have, the better in terms of what our thoughts are in terms of moving forward with potential legislative changes, language, action, whatever it is that we agreed to. So I'll look for that in a second.

Okay. So the first part -- the first one that I'd like to talk about is the Public Education Related. And again, that's for continued advocacy for independent redistricting. And the three subheadings or subtitles would be Promoting Independent Redistricting Commissions Nationally, Nationally, Why Independent Redistricting is Critical for Democracy, and Local Redistricting. So if we could have some feedback on that in terms of where everyone is? And then also not only that, if you do believe it's something that is within the scope of our Commission and it is something you feel that should be --
state funds should be spent on those efforts, then also note what those cost or days are estimated. And I know, it's hard to come up with some estimated times, but that's what we have to do in order to move forward with our budget change proposal. So Commissioner Andersen.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. Thank you. Actually, my specific question was, I do see -- particularly, as California sort of lead the way here -- well, not completely with everybody. Obviously, Arizona was going first, but I feel if we are requested to participate and give our input at the national level for other states, then I think that is in our purview. I don't mean -- I understand there's a difference -- are we promoting it actively or we're being asked. I think there's a difference there. And I think that if we're being asked to share our information and our knowledge on behalf the State of California, I think that should be certainly covered.

And I understand there's the issue of how do we parse the two? Essentially, if we go above and beyond, then does California pay for it or not? But I do see -- I'm glad to see that these are in here for budget implications, because I see quite a lot of that as actually being covered. And what percentage, I don't know -- and we're trying to do this essentially, for the
first year, and then we would modify it from there on. Is that correct?

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Well, what I'm trying to do -- what we're trying to do is project it for the remainder of our term --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay.

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: -- I guess, I you want to see it that way -- say it that way. And again, we would modify it as needed each year.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. All right.

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Then, so if we have more information in the future, then we can modify it.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. With that in mind, I will come back to kind of with an idea. So thank you.

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Thank you.

Commissioner Taylor.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Good morning.

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Good morning.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yes. As we speak to whether or not -- speaking about redistricting issues on a national level -- we should use state funds -- I kind of think I agree -- shouldn't do that kind of thing. I agree with Commissioner Andersen in that speaking on the issue nationally can still improve the position of redistricting in California one way or another. It
informs people's opinion whether it's for it or against it. National exposure still leads to state exposure, especially if it's a requested issue. And I think it informs the public. It still continues to inform Californians regarding redistricting. And I think from that standpoint, it is still part of our purview. Thank you.

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Thank you.

Commissioner Sinay, I saw that you raised your hand and then lowered it? And now you raised it again.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yeah. I think -- yeah. I'm not in the best setting out here and I'm fighting all the different quirks. Anyway, I go back and forth on this one. When you say, using public funds, I think that that's when I look at it a little differently than is it within our purview. I definitely think that the California Citizen Redistricting Commission was set up to be an example for the state, and with everything going -- I mean, not just for the state. It is an example for the state, because there's a lot of independent redistricting commissions taking place in California. It hasn't become the norm in California.

And I think that -- I've always thought that that should be kind of the second part of -- our second job is to help local redistricting commissions do the best job
they can, set them up and all that in the State of California. It might not be in the mandate. And there is also this one piece that we can actually rewrite some of the mandate as we have grown and learned what it is. So that's a question to put out there -- is do we have to redefine -- do we need to add -- and I know that's a constitutional -- a bigger question.

The other piece is I do feel that the State of California Citizen Redistricting Commission was set up as a shiny example for the whole country. If it could be done in the State of California, which is the most populous, it should be able to be done in other places. And that's why I kind of -- I go back and forth that I feel like if we didn't participate in these efforts that are to ensure that we have fair and representative maps throughout the country, that we're kind of taking our toys and going home, and that might not be the best, but that's how I see it -- is that what we did is amazing and every day it becomes even more amazing when you hear what's happening in the rest of the country.

And then the second piece is the requested participation versus seeking. I don't think I agree with that, because I think we do need -- again, we are the shiny example on the hill, and we do need to find places where we can tell our story. And so we may be seeking by...
writing a paper that will be sent into a conference, or
submitting an article to a national publication. There's
just so many different pieces. Should we get paid for
that or not, that might be different, and that might be
what the bottom line question here is -- using state
funds. But I feel uncomfortable when we keep saying it's
not our mandate, and I think we're trying to confuse
mandate with how do we use state funds. And I would like
us -- and for a lot of people the word advocacy is
uncomfortable versus promoting independent redistricting.
And I really do think that that is part of the work and
the reason why the folks who put the redistricting on the
ballot -- the Voter First, they looked at California for
many reasons. And one is to be an example for the rest
of the country.

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Thank you.

Commissioner Kennedy?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you. I just wanted to
put a hypothetical on the table. Both of our senators
are members of the Senate Committee on Rules which has as
part of its jurisdiction, election administration. So if
we found ourselves receiving an invitation to testify
before the Senate Committee on Rules -- how's that going
to be handled? I've never been asked to testify before
Congress before, but given that both our senators are
members of that committee and this subject matter falls under their jurisdiction, it seems to me that it's entirely possible that we could receive an invitation for that, and how does that get handled as far as the budget? Thanks.

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Thank you.

Commissioner Vazquez?

VICE CHAIR VÁZQUEZ: Thank you. I agree with Commissioner Sinay. To add to her comments, I think for me, continued advocacy is more around public education and building public faith and buy-in, not just into the maps that we approved and submitted, but also the concept of independent redistricting. I think the more that that is accepted as a valid pathway to more fair maps across the U.S., that builds Californian's faith and trust in our own process. So for me, I one hundred percent see it -- not just as within our purview -- but also our mandate to continue to build faith in the work that we do here on the Commission, and we can do that nationally.

I also think that the use of public funds to do that, to educate and inform the public about redistricting is valid Commission business. And understanding that there are legal restrictions potentially on legislative advocacy which has, again, legal definitions. Obviously, we are bound by -- bound
by sort of the rules and the law of the land, but I will say that I think when it comes to public education that that's one hundred percent, not just in our purview, but our mandate.

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Thank you.

Commissioner Le Mons?

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yeah. I just wanted to endorse the positions of both Commissioner Sinay and Vazquez. I share that same point of view. It sounds like our dilemma may be what is our "purview". So I think that we should look at whether or not there are any particular steps that we need to do to expand the scope if necessary in order to be able to carry out the activities that we need to do. And barring any major change there, I think that kind of squelches the question whether or not it's an appropriate use of funds. So I agree that if we are operating as a Commissioner or representing the Commission, then we should be using funds to support that. Otherwise, we are a private citizen and what you do as a private citizen is a separate matter.

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Thank you. I'm sorry if I'm not responding right away. But I'm actually furiously writing, because when we move forward with the budget change proposal I actually want to put as much
information in there in terms to support our position and why we are continuing to move forward with some of these activities -- to justify it. So with that information -- so the second piece to that is -- the more difficult piece to that is trying to that is trying to estimate what that's going to look like in terms of cost. So that's really the piece that's missing right now. Are there any other comments from other Commissioners that are maybe opposite of this in terms -- I mean, other than my own that I do feel it's outside of scope. But again, I'm one vote, and that's fine, and we can write the BCP -- the budget change proposal -- in terms of the position of the Commission, which is great. We can do that. If there aren't any other comments contrary to that, then I do -- oh, Commissioner Le Mons? Sorry. I thought you had --

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: I don't have a contrary -- I don't have a contrary comment, but I just -- I realized that what I didn't say when I was speaking was that if we could just ask Anthony to review this portion of our discussion and raise any concerns that might exist, that will be helpful.

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Yes. Thank you. Yes. I'll do that. And I have -- I have reached out to him on some of the other activities that we noted, specifically,
the legislative changes. And I can't remember if it was
Commissioner Vazquez or Commissioner Sinay that noted,
some of the legislative changes or language changes are
constitutional, so that's a completely different process
that has to go back to the California voters to change.
So that's a little bit -- that's quite a bit -- a bigger
effort than we were thinking versus government code
section changes that we would -- that's a different
process that would go through the legislature. So yes,
definitely, I'll have our chief counsel review both lists
and provide feedback on both lists. And then we can
decide how we're going to move forward. Thank you for
that, though. I appreciate that.

Commissioner Sinay?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: So I was thinking you were
saying, how do you figure out the budget for some of
this? And it is -- this is the part that's always hard.

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Um-hum.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: And we're doing like nonprofit
budgets or consulting budgets. One thought I have is, if
we look at how many counties we have in the State of
California and multiply that by -- well, if you look at
it as, let's say, we say, if a county were to call us, we
would give them five hours of a Commissioner's time, but
we would want to give them two Commissioners at least, so
it would be 5 x 2 is 10 x the number of counties. Not
every county's going to get us, but I mean, I'm just
trying to think of a way to kind of figure out those
numbers -- to think through how to create a pool for this
area since you had asked for some ideas.

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Okay. Thank you. Yes.
That is a good way to look at it, although, yeah, in
terms of even our redistrict -- or our education outreach
efforts, we weren't able to get every single county to
respond. I mean, to ask for our presentations or
anything like that. So that's one way to look at it.
That would be -- I'm just doing a --

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Maybe we say --

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: That would be about
$45,000. Is what that would look like per year.

Commissioner Le Mons?

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yeah. I just wanted -- I
wanted to just support that suggestion or a similar
formula. And maybe even we could do a little bit of a
look back at what was the level of engagement and do a
comparison. So if we start with all counties and then we
look at what percentage of counties actually were engaged
in the process, and then take that percentage of it, we
sort of substantiate activity that we have already
experienced. And maybe even if we don't do the full --
do the percentage a little bit higher, a budget is a projection, of course, in this case, and the more detailed we can be, of course, the better of it getting supported. But just because the resources are budgeted, it doesn't mean that we have to spend them, either.

So I think we shouldn't worry too, too much about asking for what we think we need and seeing what they say. I'm hoping that -- I don't profess to know how the budget process works, but I would imagine that -- is it just a black and white hard yes/no? Or is there some kind of discussion back and forth of questions of certain line items or reconsiderations and things of that nature?

If so then what we're wanting to do is enter the process with as close of a projection of what we'll need as possible, understanding that where we land and the final budget approval might look a little different.

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Yeah. Thank you for that. That's good information. I guess, two pieces to -- one is, do we project the same amount for every year? And then two, in terms of the budget change proposal process -- in terms of my experience -- and then I'll let Executive Director Hernandez also give his feedback -- my experience in the past has been, we submit a budget change proposal and there's usually communication back and forth with the Department of Finance -- they're
trying to understand what your request is. And then
ultimately, they can line certain things out in terms of
nope, or they can decrease based on whatever -- based on
whatever they come up with. So there normally is some
sort of conversation back and forth justifying what
you're requesting and supporting as much as you can,
providing as much support as you can for that
justification -- but that at the end of the day they can
say yes, no, or this much. Executive Director Hernandez,
did you want to add?

MR. HERNANDEZ: Just that we have been engaging with
the Department of Finance over the course of this last
year. Any time that we've requested additional funds or
the appropriated funds, they've asked for line-item
information on how they're going to be used and so forth.
So this activity that we're now pursuing in the budget
change proposal will probably be very much the same where
they will ask specifically what we're going to be using
those funds for, and kind of the detailed breakdown as
much as possible. So I concur with Commissioner
Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Commissioner Turner.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Um-hum. Thank you. I just
wanted to add in. I love the conversation that we're
having right now. I certainly support and believe that
we should be submitting with as much detail and thought as possible. I'd rather ask for it and have the conversation back and forth. And if anything, if it's rejected, have that be a matter of record that for the advocacy that we were attempting for whatever the ask is and was perhaps denied by Finance or whoever the denial would come from. But I don't think we should back away from what we believe should happen. And if then it is refused and we can't go around it or request in a different manner -- perhaps we weren't as clear as we could've been -- but I think that at the end of the day, if there is an activity that we strongly feel we should be doing as Commissioners, let's submit it and see how far we can push it or let someone else then reject it as a matter of record. Thank you.

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Yeah. Thank you. And that's another -- I mean, it's not completely related to what Commissioner Turner said, but again, we're asking for this kind of fiscal-year-by-fiscal-year, and let's say for example, maybe they reject it for next year. But that doesn't prevent us from asking for it again the following year. So we might have more information. Whatever the case may be. So keep that in mind as well. So I do have some information in terms of how to add some verbiage and also some costing information for that
line-item.

Commissioner Le Mons?

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: I just have a clarity question. So there's been some discussion about putting together a budget for the remainder of our tenure. And then I hear annual. So is this submission just for the next fiscal year, or is this a more global budget over the rest of our tenure? So that's my clarity question.

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: So it'd we both. How's that? In terms of forwarding it to Finance so they can see a picture of how we envision our activities for the next eight years. And then also it's the basis for our budget for the next -- what we'll be working on for the next eight-and-a-half years -- or almost nine years, I guess. Thank you for that.

Commissioner Andersen?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. Thank you. As I see it in terms of this year versus over our eight years, a lot of these things they really are under public education, the redistricting process. And I would say it's heavier this year, next year because redistricting is going along right now. The chances of us being called to other states to -- for actually to assist, that's high.

And this year also possibly next year as they go
through lessons learned then actually tapering off but then there's say the three years before 2030 it would increase.

So similar to what Commissioner Kennedy said earlier about -- well, that very same thing in terms of our activity I would almost say -- I like Commissioner Sinay's idea about the fifty counties, these days, and that should be this budget, next year's budget, and then again the three before. And say cut that in about a quarter in the three years in between that is how I would break that down, how I recommend that we break that down.

Thank you.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Thank you.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Commissioner Vazquez did you no longer have a --

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: No, thank you.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay, good. So I think I do have some -- Commissioner Akutagawa and I can go back and work with Executive Director Hernandez, and Outreach Director Kaplan, and try to find finalize some of this information and attempt estimated costing information for the next years.

Commissioner Sinay?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I just wanted to thank the
subcommittee again and I know how frustrating it is to
ask us for information and we don't share it at the time.

But sometimes it's this brain -- the collective
brain that helps us spark what it is that we should be
sharing. So thank you and thank you for your patience
as -- since you did ask us for this information earlier
but I think it was helpful to work on it collectively.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes. And for me I kind
of -- I don't actually work on it until it's due. So and
today's the meeting and that I completely understand.

Okay, so we'll attach some information to that.

We'll mark that as a yes for 1. And if we go to number
2, I think that's kind of similar and we actually have --
I'm looking at it now and I think it's -- part of it
we've already moved to the other spreadsheet.

So I think I'm just going to kind of tie 1 and 2
together in terms of costing information and education.
And then item -- if that's okay with everyone, I'm
thinking it's probably fine. But number 3 is conveying
independent redistricting commissions from different
states.

Initially, when I believe Commissioner Sinay had
mentioned that they had already started the discussions
with Legal of Woman Voters and common cause. She'd
initially noted that CRC would not pay.
I'm just wondering maybe this can all just be grouped together is how I see it -- I just -- based on the conversation and different pieces that have been brought into this conversation. So does anyone think differently from that? If not, we'll just group them together, obviously put it on the other spreadsheet and add some dollars to it and maybe some travel. I'm not sure if we'll ever be able to travel again but maybe I'll add in a little bit of travel cost on that too.

Commissioner Sinay?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Just for clarity. Are you saying 1 through 4 could be put under that or were you being --

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I was being specific as 1 to 3.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Okay, 1 to 3.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yeah.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: For me personally when I think about the local redistricting, the counties, and the cities of California, I do see that differently than the conversations that we've been -- with the conversations more nationally. So I would allow the local piece from the national.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. I am writing down -- takes me a little bit longer to write down not that I
don't want to go back and listen to your video but yeah,
I just want to look at my notes. Okay, so with that we
will move on.

And so from 4 on and actually all of them as the
subcommittee as we didn't really get a chance to review
the entire document last time nor did we receive feedback
as requested, Commissioner Akutagawa and I just went
forward with what our thoughts were. And we felt that
that was kind of like the mandate we were given in terms
of go forward and try to come back with something.

So in terms of item number 4 and that's with
recruitment of 2030 one of the line items was to support
the local interest group efforts. And what Commissioner
Akutagawa and I came up with is to work with the state
auditor.

And so the state auditor when they start the
recruitment efforts they also coordinate their efforts
with the local interest groups and we felt that it would
be duplicative.

And also we wanted to make sure that we just stayed
with the nonpartisan -- the group that is moving forward
with the recruitment process and coordinate with their
efforts and we do have -- working with the state auditor
on the first list so we have estimated some dates. I
think we've put 18 dates, I think, per commissioner for
that effort as we move -- probably the last two years
prior to the new commission being seated.

Commissioner Sinay?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thanks for that. So last time
I will be honest, I didn't see anything from the state
auditors on the actual videos and things and technical
assistance on how to apply. But that was all being done
by the nonprofit groups that were out there that were
really trying to get people to see themselves as
potentially being commissioners.

And so I don't know how closely the auditor's office
worked with the nonprofits or if they each kind of did
their own efforts but I just wanted to put it out there
that there was a tremendous effort to try to get
communities that wouldn't traditionally apply and folks
who wouldn't see themselves on a commission to apply.

And I think that that resulted in a really great
pool of candidates and resulted in many of us being here.

So I don't want to look at it as a -- I think whatever we
can do to support those efforts and last time it was --
they would every time they did an outreach training to
talk about the application and how to answer first what
is the commission and then how do you fill out the
application, they would have a commissioner on those
calls on those videos and folks could ask questions
directly of those commissioners.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Commissioner Yee?

COMMISSIONER YEE: So I'm thinking about this and agreeing that this selection process for 2030 is entirely the state auditor's responsibility. And if they wish to use former commissioners as examples to help talk about what it's like or how to fill out an application they can ask us to do that.

But it's really their process and I wouldn't want us to have any -- to be inserted in any way to have any hand in the selection process other than that because it's really absolutely not our role.

So I agree with you, Commissioner Fernandez, that this should not be a function of us. If the state auditors want to use us then that's entirely up to them. But it would not be our involvement in the process otherwise. Thanks.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Thank you. Any other comments regarding number 4? Commissioner Andersen?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. I do have one comment -- it's also regionally. A lot of these different groups -- I have quite a few of them that I -- Commissioner Akutagawa and I were charged with the Sierras and a lot of these groups really don't have meeting groups in those areas.
And we didn't have a great deal of applicants from say up north, the Sierras, there are different other areas where we didn't have a lot of applicants. And I think geographically we should also consider how we can again support the state auditor to get that information geographically out there as well to different groups, like, just don't sort of assume, oh, we contacted that particular nonprofit so therefore we got the whole state covered.

There are a lot of other groups that -- there are a lot of other people -- individuals who don't really belong in the groups but we still want to get them involved in the whole process. So that's one other item I would like to add to that, please.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: So maybe what we can do that on one is on the first list when we talk about how to support the recruitment process, maybe add some days there more than we have right now. I think right now, we have twelve days per commissioner. Maybe we can add some days to that effort so that --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: -- okay.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: That's exactly my thought, thank you.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay.
COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. Sorry, sorry, I'm trying to write fast, I need this right. All right. Any other comments on that one? Okay.

So then we're going to move on to -- Commissioner Turner, this is your area. I don't want to forget it's the incarcerated individuals related. And so number 5, 6, and 7, well, I guess we can do them separately. One was the incarcerated individuals voting rights in terms of commissioners' activities associated with that whether they would be under the review of the commission.

The first one was the Voting Rights Act and Commissioner Akutagawa and I felt that was beyond the scope or the realm of the commission.

And number 6 and 7 have to do with prison gerrymandering. And again we felt that was also outside the scope of California -- I mean of the commission and there is a piece of it, I believe, we put it in the legislative. Legislation is considered at the state level, I believe it was when Commissioner Sinay and I were on the subcommittee is right now, the government code language. The legislature asked that we deem the state incarcerated individuals, reallocate them to their last known residents prior to incarceration, and we'll have to see if that's possible for us to make that a
permanent decision for future commissions.

Commissioner Turner?

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you. So yes, so number
4, excuse me the first one number 5 incarcerated
individual voting rights. I see that can be on a line to
as far as voting in rights but as far as the ability for
incarcerated populations to be counted I think that our
requirement to ensure that each person, every person, is
counted at least once makes that fall under something
that would be our mandate.

And so I just wanted to lift that because we have it
currently. We hadn't had the full discussion about it as
listed as something that's not our mandate and I see that
it is very much. So something that we should be pushing
to ensure that all California's whether they're within
state or outside of the state that we're doing what we
can to move forward legislature conversation, awareness,
et cetera, to ensure that when 2030 rolls around, those
individuals are automatically counted at their place of
residence.

And we're not having to fall back to excluding
anyone that's really in any state but for sure
California.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes, so in terms of for
California, so you and Commissioner Kennedy are leading
that effort for the federally incarcerated population which is great. And hopefully, we can solve that or at least come forward with some sort of way to address it for 2030 and future commissions.

And then at the state level for the state incarcerated population we will have further discussions on that in lessons learned in terms of if we want to move forward legislatively to make that -- make the request from legislature permanent for future commissions.

And then the other piece of if that you mentioned was outside of California and so that would be a different -- like we could probably split these out -- oh, that would be like number 7 in all fifty states. So that I definitely see different and outside of our scope but what I'm hearing from you is is you feel that it is within our scope. So thank you for your feedback.

Commissioner Andersen?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you. Actually, I agree with Commissioner Turner on this. This is an item that we -- I thought we had already actually spoken that this is for legislation required because we went through the pluses and minuses and there are no minuses on this.

And I thought we'd decided back when we voted that we would indeed also do what the whole rest of the state is required to do that we were going to change the
legislation and the reason why that's so important is because that affects the timeline.

We would need to extend the 2030 commissions by a month because that took us an extra month and that was never considered in the original voter's act as far as the timeline goes. So I think that's extremely important.

Then I understand and I agree that beyond California that's sort of a different thing except that again, we want to share this education with all the states because if California can do this other states can as well.

And it's an item that many people would not even consider and the first kind of information they might get is all sort of convoluted and it can affect things really differently, wait, wait, that's going to take money out of the counties when that's not what happens. So I think this is a little bit of our -- I do see this as accessibility you know whether you're disabled, you are incarcerated, their access is the same issue to all of these items because we want people to be able to vote.

And we want their votes to count properly and that's, I think, our totally our mandate. So however we need to add portions of these items into our legislative and account for that in the budget I'm completely for that and I would like to make sure that under -- on the
other sheet under legislative related that the prisoner, well, I don't know if you'd call it gerrymandering, is an item that's also in there for legislative purposes.

Thank you.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. Thank you. And just to be clear so you said nationally you also feel that it's --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: The education nationally but again that's more like in our public education. I don't know -- there are lines where we would -- I could see where we could possibly go beyond the scope.

It's sort of a -- it's a little bit, quite frankly, we're going to hear about our -- are we promoting just across the entire nation for independent redistricting. This is sort of accessibility, unfortunately, is also a similar item that I see. But I still think our education, sharing the education across, if we're called commissioners how did you do this. I think that indeed should be in our budget and that's across the nation.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. So just -- I'm sorry, I'm just trying to make sure that I understand the difference between like Commissioner Turner is saying and what you're saying. So you're more if you're requested you provide feedback on it versus actually actively going out and --
COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN:  Well --

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ:  -- advocating for.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN:  Well, it's one of those where you need to tell people about it so they would know to ask.  So there's a fine line there of so if you just know everything but don't tell anybody when you would never be asked to help promote this.  So I think -- this is where I'm having an issue -- as soon as I come up with some proper wording I will send it to you.  But I --

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ:  Okay.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN:  -- this is -- this is my issue here.  So --

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ:  Okay.  And my partner in this Commissioner Akutagawa.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA:  Hi.  Sorry, I'm back.  I think I wanted to just ask for some clarifications.  So I hear what Commissioner Turner said and I agree that's what Commissioner Fernandez and I are thinking.  I think there's some overlap in some of the things that we're already accounted for.  So one is I think the intent was -- as I heard Commissioner Fernandez say, (audio interference) I think it's a legislative solution to ensure that instead of asking every year that the prison gerrymandering is not going to happen.  And that the commission will continue -- featured commissions will
continue to do what was requested and what we also did
and what was done previously and then also to account for
that time that Commissioner Andersen was also referring
to.

We also are looking at a timeline change as well too
and there's going to be some legislative work that's
going to be needed around a timeline change to account
for possibly you know that having to reallocate the
prisoners, those who are incarcerated. So that's one.

I think to which -- and I think whether they're -- I
think whether in California or if they are a
Californian incarcerated in a federal facility I think
that our intent is -- my understanding is our intent is
that we want to try to include all of them in that any
Californian should be counted. I think with that said, I
think there's some steps that are (audio interference)
was were a little further behind on the federal side
because we weren't able to get the numbers.

I think the next step in that is just trying to
ensure that we have something in place but we'll be able
to get the federal numbers. And if we can either move it
further along where that is also codified in our, I
guess, a legislative side that would be great. I don't
know what that means in relationship to the federal
government. That's that.
But so with said, I think Commissioner Andersen, I think Commission Fernandez did ask that clarification question and my -- I'll just say I think my discomfort with saying that we'll go out there and advocate to other states about what we did is -- I don't know how well it would be taken if we're actively -- if we as a commission are actively going out there saying, hey, Ohio, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, or any other state for that matter you know if we're going to them and saying, hey, you know, you should follow what we did because I think we're going to get a lot of push back from that.

And I think there is a fine line, and I think being invited and educated is one thing. I think for us to actively go out and say to somebody else, hey we did it the best, and or we did it well, and we want to tell you how we did it and we think you should follow us. I think that that gets into a rather tricky place at least that's how I'm seeing it. But if there's a different perspective on it or a different angle to it that isn't quite that then I'm totally open to hearing -- you know different perspectives but I just wanted to share that was kind of my concern around advocating to other states about how we did something versus if it's more we do it through an education where here's our materials, if we get invited to come and talk, great. If people want to
look at what we did, looked at our lessons learned
document, and learn from it, great. And if they have
follow-up questions, great.

That I think, is absolutely appropriate. But I am a
little wary about saying to others that you know others
should do it exactly the way we did it or even saying
that our way was better than someone else's way or -- I'm
concerned about we're just going to get a lot of push
back and that's going to create other issues. Thanks.

THE MODERATOR: And just a time check. We have
about two minutes --

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yeah.

THE MODERATOR: -- before our required break.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yeah. So I think we can
get to Commissioner Vazquez. And we'll listen to the
rest afterward. Thank you.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Great. Thank you. I
disagree that we should not be proactive in building the
image and the profile of not just our commission and the
work we did but independent redistricting as a whole.

I am concerned that we, you know, ten years from
now, twenty years from now, thirty years from now, will
have a congress and or an administration that is actively
hostile to independent redistricting. And I think the
more states that follow our lead, they're almost
certainly not going to do it exactly the way we did it.

But the more states that adopt independent
redistricting as their means of putting voting and
elections closer to the people, for me, is hugely
important to preserving our work and the work of future
commissions. It will be less likely though not certain
that we will get a congress and or an administration that
is hostile and works toward enacting policies and
executive action that undermine our work here in
California.

And so I don't think we should just be reactive and
responsive to invitations. I also imagine that even if
we are being proactive in building up the work that we
did and the value of the work that we did we may
encounter pushback or criticisms.

But I would imagine that we're not going to be
largely talking to folks who again are hostile to
independent redistricting but rather folks who are
curious about what it can mean for their state. So those
are my thoughts, thank you.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Thank you. Chair?

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Thank you, everyone. We'll
continue this discussion after our break. It's now 11:00
and we'll come back at 11:15. Thank you.

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

CHAIR YEE: Welcome back to California's Citizens Redistricting Commissioner, a regular business meeting. I'm Russell Yee, the Chair here with our Vice-Chair, Commissioner Angela Vazquez.

We are in the midst of a lively and important discussion of our ongoing work and the proper scope it should take. And we are in the middle of a discussion of how that work touches the counting of incarcerated persons and whether that properly falls under the scope of our work going forward. So if -- let's see -- we're looking for Commission Fernandez or Akutagawa?

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I have a few minutes.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Do you want to continue the discussion for us, Commission Akutagawa?

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Sure.

CHAIR YEE: And I believe Commissioner Turner's up next in line.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Sounds good. And I do believe Commissioner Vazquez also was the -- spoke last. So Commissioner Turner?

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you, Commissioner Akutagawa. Yes, so I'm trying to see, it's always bad to have me go right after a break, I'm trying to remember the conversation and exactly where we were. But I think
one of the things that I wanted to mention, Commissioner Akutagawa, you were asking or making some statement or asking questions this morning -- I think you said something which struck me about asking others to follow you know kind of being dicey asking them to follow and do what we've done.

I just wanted to name for me more so than doing what we've done I think it -- just again to repeat the point about equal -- about everyone having account -- at least one and I think also equal representation. And so I think it's important that people be counted in their places of residency no matter what state they're in.

When we look at federal population size, I'll hold it up real quick. I notice Texas has the most -- the largest -- based on what I pulled up and if some kind of way people ultimately are going to end up counting -- being counted within their place of incarceration I think that it can at some point also adjust representation numbers. So I just wanted to name that as well.

I just think that people having equal representation is important and it's not just important for California. It's important for people regardless of where they reside, what state in the nation, and if we feel that is the right thing and we feel strong about it for California for me I don't know who to feel differently
about it anywhere else.

I think that it is a matter of equity and fairness throughout the nation. I think along the same lines as someone mentioned right before going to break if indeed we rest with just California having the perfect laws and the perfect administration of redistricting -- I think it is too easy to be retracted later on and taken back.

I think we need to be moving forward and ensuring not that they just do what we've done because in that process if we find out that we're applied something incorrectly then I think we should be willing to make adjustments and changes too. But I think as we've gone through this process we've looked at it from all angles to the best of our ability.

I'm really proud of the work that we've done. I think that it was a fair and equitable process for all and so in every area of what we've done, I think we need to be lifting it up for the rest of the nation and proactively trying to ensure that there is equity for all Americans -- period. Thank you.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Thank you, Commissioner Turner and I know that Commissioner Fernandez is back on too. So Commissioner Turner, I mean, I think I don't disagree with you. I think it's just more a sense of spoken and how others would feel.
But I hear what you're saying and I hear what Commissioner Vazquez said. So what we could do is we'll just put it on to the budget request and just see what we can do.

I also noted that in the document it was shared that there is an organization that's also, I think, leading on this so I think the questions also then become (audio interference) more I think the question would be do you support or lead and so I think that could be then another conversation.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay, are you still good? Commissioner Akutagawa, okay?

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: No, Commissioner Fernandez (audio interference).

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yeah, you are going in and out a lot. But that's what you get when you're doing down Interstate 5.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fernandez, please. Yes.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Some of the places aren't so good.

CHAIR YEE: Yeah. Ms. Fernandez, please go ahead and continue.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. I did know, I believe Commissioner De Leon's hand was up prior to the break. I don't know if he still has any comments he'd
like to make? If so you can please, raise your hand.

Commissioner Andersen?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. Thank you. I actually -- I was going to mention to Commissioner Toledo. The one thing that I -- in terms of you know how our education -- and there is an issue are we doing this trying to -- we're not trying to tell other states what to do. But as I see -- when we're trying to get Californians who are in federal prison, which is certainly within our scope to try and get all the Californians, that is a natural educational experience where we're sharing what California has done.

And our state as well as you know or trying to do federally -- and that's an area where it isn't, like, do this like we did. It's this is what we are doing. This is why we are doing this. And that certainly is within our purview. And I'd like to make sure we kind of write it like that because those are things that there's absolutely no reason why we would not be doing that, because that's again, trying to get all Californians. And it's a question of, were, you know, as you're doing that, it happens that you can then say, this is what we've done. So again, it's more of like an educational thing as opposed to a straight advocacy. I really prefer this is more like -- I think we frame is
more as education, which is what we're trying to do, at
where other people -- I'm concerned a little bit about,
if we get to much into straight being seen as advocates,
we're trying to tell people what to do -- no one wants to
be told what to do.

But when we say, this is why we're doing this, and
we are going into Federal prisons and trying to get all
the Californians, and trying to work through that -- I
kind of see it similar to, you know the military. They
don't live in all the different states, they live all
over, but they vote in the states where they are from.
And this is a similar issue.

So it's not that, you know, a radical, completely
different concept that people can get all riled up about.
Now, of course, politics brings all reasons to bring --
get all riled up about. But I think, I'd like to make
sure we keep this as -- this is not a political thing.
This is just a -- this is a voting. This is a
counting -- counting to be voted. This is universal. So
thank you.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Thank you.

Commissioner Sinay?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you. I'm in the car now
so I apologize. I guess I'm not -- I don't want to tell
states what to do, but I feel like we all believe in fair
and equal representation and that's not just for
Californians, but for all U.S. citizens and everyone in
the United States. So this whole idea of being afraid to
step on people's toes, I'm having hard time with that,
because if -- you know, fair representation is what we
have been promoting in California, but we're part of a
bigger picture.

And so I don't -- I think there's a difference
between this is how you do it versus this is what's
right. And I would hope that we all feel like what
Commissioner Andersen said, is that this is right. And
so if we are asked. Or even if we're not asked, that we
would continue to promote that all -- in all states, we
should end prison gerrymandering. And in all -- and that
the federal government should help, you know, by
providing the data so we can end prisoner gerrymandering.

And it -- I don't think in any of this it's how to
do it, but it's to say, this is what's right for fair
representation.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. Got it. And we
will, since no one's doing any budget numbers, we're just
going to throw out some -- we're going to try to
guestimate in terms of what this would look like in -- in
the future years. And what I see as the -- this prisoner
gerrymandering, and also redistricting nationally, I
actually see, if we do get approval to move forward in this area, I do see these efforts being maybe more so in the next few years because other states will have to go through their process, you know, before the 2030, be it, you know, legislation or going to the voters. So it's something that would have to be, you know, brought out in the earlier years before 2025 or 2026 versus later.

So just -- anyway, we'll, Commissioner Akutagawa and I will discuss how that -- how to do, try to -- I will keep that. Besides from this, anyone has some other opinions?

Okay. So with that, Commissioner Sinay?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Sorry, I was thinking about that as well, when would it come up? And I keep going back to the Voter First, you know, the legislation was in 2009. And then again in 2010. But they had to work, you know, by mid-year -- the mid-year is to get that all together.

So advocacy can happen at any time. So just to keep that in mind, that people may ask for help or may ask us to step in at different times.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Thank you. Okay. So with that, the last item, number 8, is Technical Assistant to Newly Created Independent Redistricting Commissions, Written Guides with Questions. And that we did receive
some feedback on. We talked about -- or the feedback we received was the Lessons Learned document that we did receive some comments about. Anything else would be beyond the mission.

And also Common Cause has redistricting tools. I think they also have a document as well.

Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thanks. I think a lot of this falls into the first category where we were talking about local redistricting commissions in the State of California. So it may be that a, you know, a government trying to put together a standalone redistricting commission and they call us. That's where the technical assistance was coming in.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: So there was kind of blended within the two.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay, okay. Thanks for that clarification. So that will make it easier to move forward. And if we don't have any other comments, I think that's all I have, other than what I mentioned earlier, Chair, with Commissioner Kennedy and I with the Wikipedia in terms of -- of moving forward with that. And then also Commissioner Sinay mentioned with the focus groups.
I guess maybe just -- I don't know, I mean, how are we going to make sure that we're all moving forward and that we're all, you know, because I can meet with my subcommittee and we can go off on some tangents. So I don't know if we need to bring new ideas forward before we actually start working on it or what the, you know, what the process will be.

So with that, I'm going to hand it back to you, because I think we're done with the long-term document for now. So thank you everyone, for your feedback. And as I said, Commissioner Akutagawa and I will plan to meet after this meeting to try to finalize this document, because the budget change proposal needs to be submitted, I believe tomorrow. So we want to make sure that it will have the most updated information, if possible. Thank you everyone.

CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Commissioner Fernandez, Acting Chair Akutagawa, excellent work and a lot of, in-the-weeds work. We appreciate all the time you put into this. So perhaps at the next meeting, February 18th, you can just report what the final product was. And may be where things stand then.

Okay, we are in the middle of sub-committee reports but I see that Director Ceja is with us. So I'm wondering if we might jump back to Agenda item 2,
Director's Reports, and take up his reports so we can close out that agenda item? After that, we'll come back to the subcommittee reports. I believe we still have Lessons Learned, Bagley-Keene, Website, and Materials.

So let's go back to Agenda item 2 and Director Ceja.

DIRECTOR CEJA: All right. Thank you, Mr. Chair, and hello everyone. Good seeing everyone. Wanted to start my report -- I posted a lot of stuff this weekend. A lot of reports. I was trying to pull together different data points that I had and try to make them concise report for you all to consume. But I wanted to start off by saying that -- I'm sure you mentioned this before, that we're working to place op-eds in battleground states to encourage independent redistricting.

I know Commissioner Kennedy talked a bit about that and we're getting together with a committee to identify commissioners that would best be the voice in certain states. So we'll share that information as we move along in the process.

We're also moving the conversation for the website, and I'm sure -- I'm not sure if Alvaro had any options yet for, you know, for website -- yeah, so we're still working on that to see what the best option is to continue the 2020 website. So we'll talk more about that
So I did post -- I wanted to highlight two documents that I posted. The first was the CRC Annual Media Report. So we did have a media monitoring service called Meltwater that pretty much allowed us to capture anytime that the Commissioner was mentioned, anytime that California Redistricting was mentioned, and we compiled that report dating back from January 25th to January 25th of this year.

So if you look at that report, it's titled again, CRC Annual Media Report. Give you an overview, high level of some of the major stories for this past month. Pay run for Daily Breeze, Pasadena Star News, focusing on redistricting. But if you jump down the slides to media exposure, it gives you a nice graph of our media exposure, how many times the CRC was mentioned. How many times California redistricting was mentioned, and looking at the entire year, a snapshot, we had a major announcement in April of 2021. I think that's when we got the -- the alert form U.S. Census Bureau saying, Hey, we don't have your census data. And it's going to be super late.

So naturally, that big spike that was over 1,200 stories written about in the State of California written about that. And of course, as you move down the year, in
August, we had another spike in October. And then a big spike again in December, which coincides with our finalizing of the maps and putting that information out.

If you move down to the other slides, some of the biggest sources that were reporting on redistricting, actually California --

COMMISSIONER TURNER: I'm sorry, Fredy -- this is -- where are you?

DIRECTOR CEJA: It's the CRC Annual Media Report.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah. So that requires a password, I have it. I clicked on it. And there is a list of some news articles. But I don't see what you're referring to.

DIRECTOR CEJA: Oh, yeah, yeah. So if you keep going down the presentation, there's bubble or circles at the right-hand side.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Uh-huh.

DIRECTOR CEJA: You click on the one under that. That'll take you to the next slide. Or if you just use your mouse and use the wheel --

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Okay.

DIRECTOR CEJA: -- to go up and down. So I'm on slide one, two, three, four.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Okay.

DIRECTOR CEJA: Okay.
COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah. It doesn't let me scroll, but those buttons do work. Yes, gotcha. Thank you.

CHAIR YEE: You're welcome to share your screen as well, if you'd like to do that.

DIRECTOR CEJA: Oh, okay. Yeah, let me do that. It's probably easier. Let me know when you see my screen. Is it up there.

CHAIR YEE: It's starting -- there it goes. Okay.

DIRECTOR CEJA: Okay. So let me take you back again to this graph here that shows the -- yeah, so this shows the media exposure of how many times we got stories. The blue here indicates California redistricting, just general stories about California redistricting. The green is anything that mentions the CRC. And then the yellow would be top U.S. headlines about redistricting, so on a National scale. And if you remove one of these, you'll see -- you can see the others directly.

And here, for the first time in December when we released our press release and hey, we finished the -- the maps, for the first time it eclipsed the number of stories for California Redistricting. So we had more stories about the Commission than we did about redistricting, which is really cool.

And you can -- you can play with this at your own
leisure and look at the actual stories that were in there. You'll be able to do that with this report. See, if you click on the actual stories, it'll take you to the stories themselves.

Now, let's -- talking about his, the top sources. So what is interesting to see that the California patch, which is a network of small, daily, local blogs that are in every community. They were reporting the most. They had 482 reports or stories about the Commissioner's work, followed by Yahoo News, MSN, Napa Valley Register, The Fresno Bee, and then California News Times Today.

Total media exposure was around 20,300. That was the inside of overall media coverage in any given time period. So roughly 20,000 was the average for our reports or our stories.

This is what I wanted to show everyone. And the reason I printed this report. When you look at the stories that we captured, just by working with members of the media, sending out press releases, sending out statements, we managed to get an advertising value equivalency of 622 million dollars. And pretty much free coverage of redistricting and the CRC. This is a number that, as a communications director, you want to tout because it only costed us one FT, one full-time employee to get this amount of ads or coverage for the Commission
on our redistricting work, which is pretty amazing.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Whoo-hoo.

DIRECTOR CEJA: Yeah. And 477 of those were California Redistricting. About 84 million were CRC alone. And then 61 million was commissioner -- anything that mentioned the commissioner in the story.

So if you look at the "Share of Voice," this is how much media coverage a brand or product gets based on competition. So if we wanted to look at census, we could have entered census into this dashboard and it would -- it would have gave us a comparison with regards to how much coverage we got for California redistricting versus census. Because we were only tagging commissioner editorials or anytime a commissioner was mentioned, anytime the CRC was mentioned and just California redistricting in general, you'll see the level of engagement here. California redistricting by far received the -- the higher number of coverage with the media.

So like I said, if you have time to click on to these, it'll take you to the actual stories themselves. So you can see what was covered. I actually did print out all the stories for 2021 and 2022. And those are listed with the links. So you can also click on every link in the handouts and you'll be
able to read the entire story.

So let me switch over to the other handouts that I wanted to share. And please let me know when that comes up.

CHAIR YEE: Looks good.

DIRECTOR CEJA: Okay. So this whole week I was working with the contractors to not only get final reports, but also to get the actual numbers of impressions, like, what does it mean, right?

So we dedicated X amount of dollars for advertising and billboards and radio. We also had a contact for social media. We had a contract for print advertising in local newspapers. And then we had an ethnic media contract. So when I pulled all these numbers together. There's -- these first tables here will show you the number of radio spots that every contractor managed to obtain with the allotted money that we had for them.

And so A, B, D was one contract. C -- Zone C was another. Zone E. F, G was coupled together. H, I, J was coupled together. And I, K was couple together.

Now, here what I wanted you to take a look at was not jut the total spots that we managed to get for the -- for our money, but the discrepancy, because California is such a diverse state, not every media buy was going to look the same in every region that we were in.
At -- billboards in San Francisco and Los Angeles was more expensive than billboards in San Luis Obispo or Monterey. So naturally, you'll see the differences and discrepancies in how they utilize those funds. If you notice here, some of the contacts actually started later because, like I said, we had staggered contractors coming on board, and not everyone started at the same time. But we were able to make sure that were spending down the funds. And some cases, November was the most busy month for advertising, because we just needed to get the money out the door by December.

So if you look at the number of impressions -- I wasn't able to get all of them. Some of the contractors were having issues getting the numbers of impressions from the radio stations and the billboard companies, but I'll share those as they come in. The biggest bang for our buck in radio for the contactors came from zones I and K, which was the San Bernardino, Riverside, San Diego, and Imperial counties with 7,1 -- 71 million impressions. Which means that's how many potential people were -- had their eyes or ears on our advertisements.

And then as far as billboards, looking at these, they would look very different, like I said. Zone E, which was San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura,
Monterey, actually had to do more billboards because they had limited radio stations in the coast. So they utilized their funds more on the billboards and bus shelter advertising than the other contractors.

If you look at I, N, K, which again, is San Diego, Imperial, San Bernardino, and Riverside, they, too, utilized a bit more of those bus shelters. And if you go up the state, like I said, the state is super diversified (sic), and so are the resources. So if you go up, like, very north California with Mendocino or Lassen or Shasta, the availability of billboards there are very small. So likely you saw those contractors focus more on radio advertising for those areas.

And the bigger impressions for the billboard and bus shelter came from, actually, the north, A,B,D, with 33 million impressions. Which were potential people looking at our bus shelters and billboards and bus advertisements on the actual buses.

For social media, I got a lengthy report with a lot of numbers. And so I tried to pull as best, the numbers that I could to tell the story of what we did with our advertising dollars here. It took us a while to get the -- all the media accounts on board, linked up to our contractors. So Facebook, Instagram, Google -- we were going Google ads. And so the first month was pretty much
just trial and error. Just saying, hey, redistricting is going on. Our message was very simple. But then when we moved into November, we changed our -- our message a little, saying, hey, we know that there's going to be one less Congressional district. So a Congressional district -- your Congressional district might change because of that. So I think that started getting people a little more engaged. The number of impressions when from 4.9, almost 5 million to 15.7. And then the number of clicks, that's actual people clicking on our message, trying to get more information, went from 30,000 to 191,000 from October to November.

And as far as views are concerned, that's how many people saw your message when they were online. Now, when we went to December, that number started to come down a little more. The impressions fell down to 3.4 million. But the clicks still stayed pretty steady at 90 -- around 90,000. Which means people were looking for information and the message was resonating. We saw our impressions on our website peak a lot during those last three months.

So the total number of impressions that we had for Google and Facebook were about 24 million. 311,000 clicks and 937,000 views, with all the advertisements we had on those social media pages.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Ceja (sic), why don't we
pause for a second, just to catch some questions here.

DIRECTOR CEJA: Yea.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Andersen and then Commissioner Turner.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. Thank you. Great work, Fredy. It's always very interesting to see these results. I have a question. I totally understand how you get impressions from the social media. That's pretty easy. How do you get impressions from radio and billboard, bus-shelters?

DIRECTOR CEJA: So those are -- and one of the contractors told me that the way that they're doing it now is a little different from how they used to do it in the past. They hire companies -- broadcasting companies, like, with the big media companies that keep track of impressions. But this year they were having a little trouble quantifying how they get impressions, right?

But every radio station and every billboard company will have their own metrics to let you know what their audience is and how they capture that audience. I haven't received those directly from the contractors, but I will and I'll share those with you so that we can make sure that these numbers that they shared were -- were accurate.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you -- yeah, thank
you.

DIRECTOR CEJA: And we can tell that story.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah, if you will do that, that'll be great. Thank you.

DIRECTOR CEJA: Okay.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Turner.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah, so first -- two questions. First one is similar. On the bus media, the bus -- if you go back down to that, well, let me see that page again, Fredy. I think you changed it -- it's a little bit. Yeah, billboard and bus shelters something and you got a check, et cetera. But I was wondering on the one's, for example, on C, that we had all of the numbers, but it didn't show any impressions. I was wondering if they just, like, park the bus and didn't go out or what happened with that one, the N/A? So maybe they can respond -- If you don't know, with that same kind of response for Commissioner Andersen, let us know. Yeah, why -- why were -- why are those an N/A?

DIRECTOR CEJA: Yea. So those did not include the impressions in the report. So I'm still soliciting that information from them. So as I mentioned earlier, there's still going to be another update to this once I get the final numbers.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Okay. And then, going down
under the Social Media -- October, November -- yeah, I wonder if a point to be made, we had grave concern concerning doing the work of the Commission through the Holiday period, what have you. So I'm looking at impressions of 5 million in October and then to 15 and then ultimately, you know, it looked like it was going up and then it dropped down to 3.

And so I was just wanting to point that out because there was less engagement, I mean, even from a click perspective from the 191 drop down to 89. And so it would be interesting to see what, if it picked back up in January -- or well, actually it was too late then, it wouldn't matter.

But, yeah, just looking at that one and if there was correlation -- so it would be a part of maybe a Lessons Learned or something we can point back to that there was definitely less engagement during December, which we believed it would be. And if is some evidence of that being the case. Thank you.

DIRECTOR CEJA: That's an excellent point. Actually, our advertisements didn't end until December 31st. So the number of ads that were going out or were being posted were the same. So that it does show that there was a decline in activity. And it might have to deal with the holidays and the fact that we actually
finished our maps earlier than anticipated. So all that, yes, definitely something we want to carryover.

I will put these reports, all the final reports into a drop box so that you can analyze them in your Lesson Learns activity. And once you see the after reports, it'll tell you a lot about activity and how people engaged.

And then our print advertising. So we used a California company that had connections with various community newspapers and daily newspapers. In September, they did 298 ads that went out in community newspapers. 596 in October, 608 in November, and 644 in December, for a grand total of 2,146. And their reach was about 4.2 million a week, because it was going statewide.

And they also did advertising in daily newspapers. 48 in September, 50 -- or 96 in October, 96 in November, 96 in December, for a grand total of 336. And that reach was 3.2 million a week.

So all together, we did 2,482 ads in local papers and daily newspapers, for a grand total of 17.4 million audience members a week that saw our message.

And I believe when we did the evaluation, one of the questions was actually, "How did you hear about the Commission?" And you'd be surprised that some people actually said a newspaper or online. So when we quantify
that information, it'll again tell that story about how
effective this program was.

Our ethnic media partners, let's -- so, so, so
amazing. They did ethnic briefings in ten languages, in
Arabic, Chinese, English, Japanese, Khmer, Korean,
Russian, Spanish, Thai, and Vietnamese. They had a total
of 141 media outlets join those sessions. There were
publishers, editors, reporters from across the state.
They had in total, seven briefings. These were
conversations that brought journalists and activists
together and the average citizens, to talk about issues
and how redistricting affected their communities
directly.

They did an advertorial campaign where they had
messaging go out through multiple languages and
multimedia platforms. So they did their own
advertisement for redistricting that they placed into
ethnic papers that we didn't have a read into. So local
communities saw that in their language to participate.

All together, we managed to 81 stories written about
redistricting. And that's in their final report. Again,
I'll share that with you. Also, you can click on it. I
don't know if you'll understand any of it, because it's
not in English. But all these stories, the majority of
these are in different languages. And their impressions
totaled out to 3.3 million with ethnic media outlets
messaging that reached millions of residence, like I
said, in their own native tongue, which makes them --
makes it that much more important for them to get
involved, when they hear the message in their own
language.

So this -- these are the numbers that I was able to
pull, like I said, for all the contracts. I have all the
final reports, which, like I said I will share with you
so you can look at them at your leisure and better
understand what these contractors did with their
resources and how they penetrated certain communities in
California.

CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Director Ceja. Fantastic
work. As, you know, our big, big, big state and big,
big, big place to get our message out, including one of
those billboards right in my own neighborhood shopping
district. It's always put a smile on my heart when I
drove past it.

Okay, any other questions or discussion of our
outreach efforts? We have -- the print advertising --
that, that did not include any direct mail, it sounds
like? Yeah, I know we discussed it --

DIRECTOR CEJA: No direct mail. There were actual
ads in the newspaper.
CHAIR YEE: Uh-hum.

DIRECTOR CEJA: Yeah. At the next go around, if you triple my budget, I'll do a lot more with it.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Commissioner Fernandez?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yeah, I just wanted to thank you, Fredy. You did an amazing job. And if you-- everyone remembers, the budget was increased towards the end. So you did a great job of getting the contracts up and running. And I'm always one for a bargain. So the 88 million dollars-worth, you did a great job. And you can go on a shopping spree for me one of these days and come back with some incredible items. But thank you for getting the word out and being a part of this process.

DIRECTOR CEJA: Thank you. Yeah, yeah, we did put together an RFP process from the beginning from scratch. We made sure to utilize small businesses in California, so the dollars went to mall businesses that did the work.

And I wanted to let Commissioner Kennedy know, because I know during my interview I said, hey, there's certain billboard companies and radio stations that have to provide free PSAs in the community, they actually did. So in the reports, they noted where they got value-added spots for billboards and for radio stations that were added onto our contract. So we didn't pay for those, they were free.
CHAIR YEE: Okay. Well, thank you so much, Director Ceja. We are so grateful for all your work and efforts and this great report. And we will miss you. We certainly wish you the best on your new endeavors.

Okay. That closes out Agenda Item 2. And I think we need to take public comment then on agenda item 2, Director's Reports. Kristian, can you help us with that?

THE MODERATOR: Katy's here to help us today, Chair.

CHAIR YEE: Oh, great. Katy, missed you.

PUBLIC MODERATOR: Hi, Chair. In order to maximize transparency and public participation in our process, the commissioners will be taking public comment by phone. To call in, dial the telephone number provided on the live-stream feed. It is 877-853-5247. When prompted to, enter the meeting I.D. number on the live-stream feed, it is 886-7594-4175 for this meeting. When prompted to enter a participant I.D. simply press the pound key.

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

If you would like to give you name, please state and spell it for the record. You are not required to write your name to give public comment.
Please make sure to mute your computer or live-action audio to prevent any feedback or distortion during your call. Once you are waiting in the queue, be alert for when it is your turn to speak. And again, please turn down the live-stream volume.

And I believe -- we do not have anybody in the queue at this time, Chair.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. We'll wait just a moment. After any calls, we'll return to subcommittee reports. And I believe we'll start with Lessons Learned.

KATY: We will let you know when the instructions are complete.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Just checking, Commissioner Kennedy, are you with us? Commissioner Kennedy?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: I am here.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Stand by for Lessons Learned in a couple of minutes.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Very good.

KATY: Chair, the instructions are complete and we do not have anyone in the queue at this time.

CHAIR YEE: Very good. Thank you so much, Katy.

Okay. That completes Agenda Item 2. We'll return now to Agenda Item 3, subcommittee reports and to the Lessons Learned subcommittee, which is Commissioner Kennedy and myself.
We had alerted you to some possible dates in March for the Lessons Learned exercise, six days in March, two consecutive weeks. Possibly March 9, 10, 11. Or 11 -- or 10, 11, 12. So the question there, whether Commissioners are interested in meeting on Saturday.

And then likewise for the week after, March 16, 17, 18 or 17, 18, 19. And Commissioner Kennedy, you want to add anything to that?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Well, that -- at this point, we will try to make it through as much of the outline as possible during those two, three-day sessions. And then if we find that we need additional time after that, we'll come back and schedule additional sessions as we need it.

CHAIR YEE: It's likely that we won't have as much time as we really would hope to have to give a real thorough look at everything. Also, it's likely that we'll have to use at least a little bit of those days, those six days for business, as they take up so much of the month. So a little bit of pressure there. In March, Commissioner Vazquez will be the chair. And so right now the big question is, which of those dates to land on. And I think we'd like to hear any strong preferences about Saturday for starters, whether that's a good idea or a bad idea. To go a Thursday, Friday, Saturday or really stick with just Wednesday, Thursday, Friday.
Commissioner Turner?

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yes. I'm going to, of course, be flexible in whatever, but because it took a little bit longer, my preference would be now to not have the Saturday because when you delay, other things get put in that time slots. So that's my preference.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Commissioner Fernandez and then Andersen.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I will ditto Commissioner Turner; I prefer not to meet on Saturdays, but I can if the majority of the commissioners wish to do that.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Commissioner Andersen?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah, I'm also the same. Also, I could -- I can do the Friday morning the 18th, but that's it, I'm out for the rest of that day.

CHAIR YEE: Yeah. And by -- we realize that it's unlikely all of us will be available for all of those days, so we're just trying to do our best.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. Thank you.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Commissioner Akutagawa?

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah, for me I guess I'm just go opposite of everybody. Saturdays are better for me. I'm still working and so yeah, Saturdays would be preferable so that, you know, at the end of the day, I feel, like, this is still a volunteer activity and so
Saturdays --

CHAIR YEE: Right.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: -- would be preferable.

Thank you.

CHAIR YEE: Sure. And of course, we can split the difference. We can do one of the Saturdays.

Commissioner Andersen?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. Sorry, I forgot to ask a very important question. These are still remote, is that correct?

CHAIR YEE: Yes.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Or are these in Sacro?

CHAIR YEE: All Zoom, still, yes.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Then I can make it.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Any other thoughts?

Commissioner Akutagawa, you had more to say or no? Okay. If we do split the difference, is Saturday the 12th better or the 19th?

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: If I --

CHAIR YEE: Go ahead.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Oh, forgot to I raise my hand.

CHAIR YEE: Yeah.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: For me, the first week is a lot better for me, so I think if we had to split the
difference, then the second Saturday would be better. I can make the first week, the Wednesday, Thursday, Friday work. But the second one is a little bit tougher.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. So you'd prefer the 19th then, for a Saturday?

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Is that the --

CHAIR YEE: That's the third Saturday --

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: -- what -- what's the second --

CHAIR YEE: -- the second Saturday is the 12th, the third is the 19th.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yes, yes. Then, that's correct.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Commissioner Andersen?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Sorry, I'm exactly the opposite. I couldn't -- I cannot do the 19th, but I could do the 12th. Basically, I can't do the 19th. But again, we can't all be there, so.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Turner.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you. Yes, I'm unavailable on the 19th.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Judging from the initial trend, then, I'm thinking we may have to stick with the weekdays then. So that would be March 9, 10, 11. And then March 16, 17, 18. Is that the -- and that may be the best we
can do. Commissioner Turner again and then Commissioner Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I'm sorry, the 10, 11, 12 won't work? That's the Thursday, Friday, Saturday? If we do the first week of a Thursday, Friday, Saturday? I think Commissioner Akutagawa said that March 12th was fine too.

I -- I was just trying to split the difference --

CHAIR YEE: Right, right.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: -- honestly, for me, I'm more flexible with my time. So personally, I just prefer not a Saturday, but I can do Saturdays, so not a big deal.

CHAIR YEE: Yeah. Commissioner Akutagawa, I thought it was the opposite date.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I mean, I mean, I can make Saturday the 12th work. I mean, having a Saturday would just be helpful, but I will tell you that, I guess I'm just trying to understand, are we doing both weeks or are we doing one or the other, because if it's one or the other, then the week of the 17, 18, 19th or even, I guess the 16th -- 16th, 17th, 18th, that week, those days are really bad for me. So if we're choosing one week over the other, I can make the 9th, 10th, 11th, which is a Wednesday, Thursday, Friday work. I could make the 10th,
11th, 12th, work. The following week is just going to be much harder and they're probably going to be days that I just won't be able to attend.

CHAIR YEE: Yeah. We actually are trying to find six days of both weeks, yeah. I mean, the other -- we could go 9, 10, 11, 12, four days one week and two days the next. Oh, I see a big head nod there.

Commissioner Fernandez?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes. I actually like that. I was thinking of that. Why don't we do four days the first week and then two days the second week. I kind of like that.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: That would work.

CHAIR YEE: If two days the second week, which two days then? 16, 17, 18, 19 --

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I would leave it up to those that are have the busier schedules. I'm flexible.

CHAIR YEE: So anyone with a definitely preference. The third week, then 16, 17, 18? Commissioner Andersen?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah, I would hope not for Friday, the 16, 17.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Yeah. Commissioner Akutagawa?

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: The 17th, 18th, Thursday, Friday is better.

CHAIR YEE: We need to clone you two.
COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I could be there the morning of the Friday, but then I'm out.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. So half a day might be better than none, though, so. Commissioner Kennedy, how are you thinking about this, then? Four days, 9, 10, 11, 12. And then it looks like, possibly 17, 18.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yeah, I'm fine with four days one week and two the other.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. And a good St. Patrick's day. So it looks like that's where we're landing then. Four days, March 9, 10, 11, 12. That's Wednesday through Saturday. And then Thursday, Friday, the 17th and 18th.

Okay, going once, going twice.

Commissioner Akutagawa, you had another thought?

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: No, sorry.

CHAIR YEE: Okay, and so those will be our usual time, 9:30 to 4:30 each day. And if we have any business, we will have a minimal amount, but -- then, the other question is, any other business meeting in March, Commissioner Vazquez and I wanted to propose March 30th, that's Wednesday, for the one other meeting in March. So that would be Wednesday the 30th. If you could pencil in for now? Commissioner Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Just a quick question. You probably already said this. I apologize. So the days
that we have Lessons Learned, it'll be like a regular
schedule in case we have other business to discuss,
right?

CHAIR YEE: That's right.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Well, thank you so much. We, of
course, been waiting a long time to -- actually we talked
a lot about the Lessons Learned exercise, and we look
forward to actually sitting down and going through that
with you. Thank you for your patience and we'll look
forward to that. Anything else for Lessons Learned?

Commissioner Kennedy?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Nothing from me.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. So look forward to some prep
material that we'll get out. See you for that. Look
forward to our discussions. Okay, let's move on now,
then. Let's see, we'll have the Bagley-Keene/ADA
subcommittee and then Website and then Materials.

So Bagley-Keene/ADA, you're up. I believe that's
Commissioners Vazquez and -- somebody remind me.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Kennedy.

CHAIR YEE: Kennedy, okay.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Is Commissioner Vazquez with
us?

CHAIR YEE: No. She had to step away.
COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: She had to step away, okay. She warned me that she might have to. So two things. One is we first had a meeting with staff of the Little Hoover Commission to get just their sense of where things have been, where things stand. They have issued a report basically calling for modernization of the Bagley-Keene legislation. Bagley-Keene was passed decades ago. It has not undergone significant change in that time. And so they were basically thinking a position that with the changes in technology, with the changes in society, that the legislation generally requires updating.

We also then met with a staff member of Assemblyman Quirk from the Bay area. He was the one who had introduced a Bill in the previous session to modernize Bagley-Keene. Unfortunately, that Bill did not get a hearing and died at the end of the session. He introduced a new bill last Monday I believe it was, the 31st of January. That is Assembly Bill 1733. So I would invite all of you to take a look at it and that has not yet been referred to a committee. That is something that would likely happen within the next month or so. Then once it is referred to committee, we might have some more updates. My sense is that would be an appropriate time for us and other commissions that are affected by the legislation to weigh in with any thoughts we might have.
So again, I would invite everyone to take a look at
Assembly Bill 1733 and be prepared to discuss it sometime
within the next four to six weeks. Thank you.

CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Commissioner Kennedy. And
just as a reminder, our current emergency extension runs
through the end of March; is that correct?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: That is correct.

CHAIR YEE: Yeah, okay. Okay, thank you so much for
that good work and good report. Any discussion or any
questions? If not, let's go ahead and move on to website
subcommittee.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Okay. Website subcommittee.

Commissioner Taylor and I had a very good meeting with
staff from the state archives regarding how to ensure
ongoing access to materials on our website. Both through
the website itself, as well as through the archives.

Because a lot of material that are accessible through the
website will be handed over to the archives.

Raul is already in contact with the state archives
about the process of turning over materials. And one of
the things that we ask them to do is, they're going to
share with us an inventory of all their holdings related
to redistricting. Both the 2020 -- the 2010 cycle, and
the 2020. And I guess, conceivably, going farther back
before the creation of the commissions.
In any event, they'll share with us an inventory of what they have regarding the redistricting, along with instructions on how commissioners or members of the public can access materials that are in the possession of the State archives. We will then take those instructions and put them on our website so that people have easier access to understand what they can access and how to do so.

So we -- we appreciate staff from the State archives taking the time to meet with us last week. We're looking forward to working with them moving forward. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Commissioner Kennedy.

Commissioner Fernandez, I'm wondering if that website, those details match with the budget projections you had for ongoing website maintenance and all the plans --

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes, we do --

CHAIR YEE: -- yeah.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: -- oh, I'm sorry. Yes, we do have some funding in there in terms of the ongoing maintenance. As well as activities associated with ensuring that the information for both commissions will continue to be available. So --

CHAIR YEE: Great.
COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: -- Commissioner Kennedy, if you don't mind, if -- when you reviewed the list, I don't remember you offering any suggestions to add any additional days or funding. I think we covered it. But if not, just -- if you can send me -- or send Anthony an email, that would be great. Thank you.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Okay. I guess I -- I was under the impression that communications was taking care of the budgeting part of the website. But I can certainly take a look at it, Commissioner Taylor can take a look at it. We can confer and come back with any recommendations that we might have.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Very good.

Commissioner Andersen?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah, this is just a quick question about, you know, Anthony is not in and we need to get this information to you ASAP.

Commissioner Fernandez, should we copy our Counsel Chris Stevens so he can get that information to you?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I think we can -- that, that's fine. Yes.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Just wondering if that, you know --

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yeah.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: -- logistics for today --
COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yeah, I wasn't sure, like, how unavailable he was. He's usually pretty quick. But, you're right, he's not at the meeting today, so.

MR. STEVENS: This is Chris weighing in. Anthony should be available later on this afternoon.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. Yeah, thank you.

MR. STEVENS: Yeah. But, you know, if you want to cc me to keep things going, please do so.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. That sounds like a good -- a good solution. Thank you, Chris.

MR. STEVENS: Okay.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Very good. Then we have, finally, the Material subcommittee. And I believe that is the last item we have for today, unless anyone knows of anything else, so. Material subcommittee, go ahead.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Commissioner Kennedy, was this when we were going to talk about the Wikipedia?

CHAIR YEE: You guys are working hard today.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: No. We actually haven't been working on anything. But Commissioner Kennedy did float the idea of obtaining the information that's in Wikipedia, updating them both for the 2010 and also for the 2010 Commission. I believe this is what he wanted to talk about. I don't see him on here. So I guess it's just, you know, moving forward. If it's something that
the commission, you know, we don't want to do in terms of commission funds, that's fine. I think Commissioner Kennedy and I would still do it regardless of being able to charge our time. But that's what we were planning to do is update that information.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Andersen

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. I totally agree. Thank you very much. Greatly appreciate that. I think it should be covered, because that's certainly an educational thing that unfortunately a lot of people look at, for better or for worse. But, yes --

CHAIR YEE: It's the first place people look, in fat.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Often, it's the very first thing that comes up. That's what they click on. So yes. Even though in the high schools, they're told, don't use Wikipedia as a reference. If you, you know, I understand they, you know, if you get an A, you could have had a B. If you, you know, if your sources are Wikipedia.

CHAIR YEE: Yeah. And even checking the links there because that's often how people will get to our website, so.

Commissioner Sinay?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I definitely agree. And I had actually sent a note over to Director Ceja, just say, can
we update the 2020. I would be hesitant to touch 2010 though, the 2010 Wikipedia page. I mean, if it's redistricting in general, yes. But it's -- all right.

CHAIR YEE: Yeah, I believe it's all one page.


Commissioner Fernandez?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: And actually what we, you know, we've talked about it briefly, and we did talk about having maybe two separate -- a 2010 one and a 2020 and they can, you know, we'll have links to each other -- so it wouldn't be necessarily updating the 2010, but right now we were trying to include it with the 2010, but I'm thinking our -- a better approach might be to have two separate ones. Thank you for the feedback.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yeah, actually the idea is to have three pages. One a general page on California Citizens Redistricting Commission with minimal information about how it was established. And then links to separate pages for each iteration of the Commission. And so the -- the material that's currently on there regarding the 2010 commission, you know isn't going to be edited so much as it's going to be just set up in a
separate entry referring specifically to the 2010 commission. And that as Commissioner Fernandez said, we would have a separate entry specifically on the 2020 commissioner. And that way, you know, the umbrella article about the commission in general would have links to 2010, 2020, 2030, 2040, et cetera. So that -- that's where we're planning to go.

You know, I had gone in and added our names and our term of office -- or at least the start date of our term in office to the existing entry on Wikipedia. But it does seem that, you know, if you go there and you see our names, but there's essentially no content about the 2020 commission. All of the content is either generic regarding the establishment of the commission more specific to the 2010 commission. That's why we're proposing to -- to work on this and set up the different entries, looking at the long term. And then how to make sure as much information as possible is available to the broadest public possible. Thank you.

CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Commissioner Kennedy. That would be interesting to see who authored the current -- the current article. Of course, Wikipedia is opened to the public for editing.

Okay. If that's all for Materials, I believe that is it for agenda items 3. So why don't we go ahead and
take a comment on agenda item 3. Katy, if you're available. That's the subcommittee reports.

COMMENT MODERATOR: Absolutely Chair. The Commission will now take public comment on Agenda item 3. To give comment, please call

COMMENT MODERATOR: Hi, Chair. In order to maximize transparency and public participation in our process, the commissioners will be taking public comment by phone. To call 877-853-5247. And to the meeting I.D. number, 886-7594-4175 for this meeting. Once you have dialed in, please press start 9 to enter the comment queue. The full comment instructions have been read at the beginning of the meeting and are provided in full on the live-stream landing page.

We do not have anyone in the queue at this time.
And we'll let you know when the instructions are complete.

CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Katy. While we're waiting, a couple of general announcements. One is, you should have received your W2's from Betty. So take a look at those. I know I was a little surprised at how the deductions were handled. You might double check those for your own tax situation.

Also, you might remember there was the question of counties contacting Q2, our mapping contractor over very
small issues in implementing our maps. It was a question of whether they could receive help. And whether the CRC would be able to contact or that or perhaps the Secretary of State. As it happens, that conversation is still ongoing. And so I will be meeting with -- with Karin and Director Hernandez to continue that discussion to see if we can still help with that or whether that will, in fact, end up at the Secretary of State's office or somewhere else.

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

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Very good. If there's no -- is there any other business for today before we take general public comment?

COMMENT MODERATOR: One moment, Chair, we actually do have a caller.

CHAIR YEE: Okay, very good.

COMMENT MODERATOR: Caller 2829, if you'll please follow the prompts to unmute. The floor is yours.

MS. LUSK: Hello Commissioners, this is Renee Westa-Lusk. I've been listening to the Committee reports and there was a report regarding future activities for the Commissioners during the next eight or nine years and I wholeheartedly agree with those commissioners that support being open to educating other states or other
groups that are outside of California. I -- I feel strongly about this. I think the 2010 commission was right in being creative and seeking grant money to pay for their cost when asked to come give talks or educate other states or other entities on -- on the citizens redistricting commission process, et cetera.

I think California is definitely an example to the rest of the nation. And I think it's also an example of the rest of the nation of good government, high standards, and protecting voting rights and democracy.

And I think it's very important that you make yourselves available for those commissioners that want to educate outside of California. And I think there's nothing wrong with asking the State legislature for funding for this because it's very important. Thank you.

CHAIR YEE: Thank you so much, Ms. Westa-Lusk. We so appreciate and admire your ongoing attention to our work and interest in the work of redistricting generally.

Are there any other calls?

COMMENT MODERATOR: That is all of our callers at this time, Chair.

CHAIR YEE: Okay, very good. We could have -- if we could have a call for a general public comment, then, Katy?

COMMENT MODERATOR: Absolutely. The Commission will
now take general public comments for all items on the agenda. To give comment, please call 877-855-5247. Enter the meeting I.D. number 886-7584-4175. Once you have dialed in, please press star 9 to enter the comment queue. The full comment instructions are read at the beginning of the meeting and are provided in full on the live-stream landing page.

And at this time, we do not have any callers and we'll let you know when the instructions are complete.

CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Katy. While we're waiting, our next meetings are schedule for Friday, February 18th, our usual times, 9:30 to 4:30. And then -- so that was Friday, February 18th. And the next one after that is then Wednesday, February 23rd -- that's Wednesday, February 23rd. And then not again until our Lessons Learned exercise starting on March 9th.

COMMENT MODERATOR: Chair, the instructions are complete and we do not have anyone in the queue at this time.

CHAIR YEE: Okay, very good. Any final announcements or comments.

Commissioner Sinay?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yeah, I just wanted -- because so many people are in their car or not here or there's just so many moving parts today, can we please make sure
to send out as soon as we can, the calendar invites for
the Lessons Learned, since we've gotten that finalized?
Get that to everybody.

CHAIR YEE: Will do. Ravi is already on it.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: You're awesome. Thank you.

CHAIR YEE: Great. Okay. Well, if there's nothing
else -- oh my goodness. Still time before lunch. It's
been good spending the morning with you.

With that, this meeting is adjourned.

(Whereupon, the Citizens Redistricting
Commission Business Meeting adjourned at 12:26
p.m.)
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 14th day of February, 2022.

_____________________
PETER PETTY, CER-493
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 14, 2022
SAMANTHA STEWART, CDLT-253