STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION (CRC)

In the matter of:
CRC BUSINESS MEETING

Southern California

FRIDAY, JANUARY 21, 2022
9:30 a.m.

Reported by:
Peter Petty
APPEARANCES

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

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

TECHNICAL CONTRACTORS
Kristian Manoff, AV Technical Director/Comment Moderator

Also Present
PUBLIC COMMENT
-None-
## INDEX

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Call to Order and Roll Call</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director's Report</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications Director's Report</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outreach Director's Report</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chief Counsel's Report</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance and Admin Report</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lessons Learned Discussion</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long-Term Planning Report</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outreach and Engagement Report</td>
<td>131</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
VICE CHAIR YEE: Good morning. Welcome to a regular business meeting of the California Citizens Redistricting Commission. I'm Vice Chair Russell Yee in Oakland, and I'll be sharing the first segment of this meeting. Chair Isra Ahmad will be joining us later in the day.

Ravi, can we have roll call, please?

MR. SINGH: Yes, Chair. Thank you. Commissioner Ahmad?

Commissioner Akutagawa?

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Here.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Andersen?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Here.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Fernandez?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Presente.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Fornaciari?

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Here.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Kennedy?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Here.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Le Mons?

Commissioner Sadhwani?

Commissioner Sinay?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Here.

VICE CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Taylor sends his
regrets.

MR. SINGH: Okay. Thank you. Commissioner Toledo?

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Here.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Turner?

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Here.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Vasquez?

And Commissioner Yee?

COMMISSIONER YEE: Here.

MR. SINGH: You have a quorum, Chair.

VICE CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Ravi.

Well, quite a bit of business to transact today.

Let's go ahead and start with item number 2, Directors' Reports. And we'll go ahead and start with our Executive Director Alvaro.

MR. HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Chair.

And good morning, Commissioners. As you know, we have begun our operational adjustments, as we are now in the post map phase of the Commission. Our Outreach and Communications staff are now working with our Data Management team to code entries in our database. They're going through nearly 25,000 records, and adding codes or tags, if you will, to them, with various indicators that will be helpful as, you know, people search information. So that's what they're doing. Also, as you may all know, we'll begin the offboarding process, and we'll be
offboarding some of the staff at the end of the month.

Moving on to business meeting schedule. Given the feedback I received from the last meeting on the Friday, January 7th meeting, regarding Friday -- Friday meetings, I'm going to be proposing that we meet on Thursdays rather than Fridays in February. Specifically, the dates I'm proposing are going to be February 3rd, the 10th, and the 17th. And that will be up for discussion. I think that will tie into some of the other discussions we'll have later today. So I'm just throwing it out there for you to consider Thursdays instead of Fridays. Hopefully, that -- that will help with everyone's scheduling.

My initial business meeting projections for the budget purposes through June 2022, are as follows, without specific dates, but, obviously, three meetings in February, four meetings in March, two meetings in April, and two meetings in May, and two, I believe, it's two more meetings in June. Now, again, this is subject to change. This is my proposal. Based on our conversations later today, we can modify that and adjust those -- the number of meetings that we're having. And the reason for meetings in March is to accommodate the Lessons Learned. But, again, we need to have that full discussion before we can finalize the dates. We -- we are required to post the agendas ten days prior, so keep that in mind as
we're -- we're moving forward.

I also want to share a little bit about the database. I mentioned that our staff is working on updating or coding or tagging the records. The database team is now also looking at how to transition the data beyond Airtable and possible storage locations for the files, including the attachments currently linked in the database. So this is, again, part of the discussions that we're going to have later today as part of the Long-Term Planning. But I wanted to mention that -- that we are starting to look at different options and seeing what directions we -- we may go.

In regards to the budget, staff and I are working with the Finance and Admin Subcommittee to gather information for our expenditures to date. We do not have the actuals for December, as the reporting is delayed about two months, give or take. I'll defer to the subcommittee to discuss budget summary posted under the handouts. But in regards to invoices, staff has been reaching out to contractors and vendors to get any outstanding invoices and reconcile them. Most contractors' contracts are up-to-date. However, there are a couple that are a few months behind. And we're -- we've reached out to them and are asking them to provide them as soon as possible.
I also want to address TECs, Travel Expense Claims. Staff continues to review the TECs and provide additional feedback for corrections as necessary. As I have shared before, that we try to identify the possible errors ahead of time on yours and our TECs prior to sending them forward for review and processing by external agencies. It goes to two additional agencies beyond us. I have done TECs over the last twenty years, and even mine was recently returned, so it's not easy to do, unfortunately. There are a lot of details that must be checked and corrected; otherwise they get rejected by our external reviewers, and that causes further delays. And typical -- a perfect TEC would take six to eight weeks to go through the entire process with our external -- internal and external review process.

Moving on to our Post Operation Funds, our projections, that'll be discussed later as part of the Finance and Administration Subcommittee Report as well. We are -- but I also wanted to mention that we originally submitted a request to release post map funds and litigation funds back in November -- November 18th, to be exact, to ensure that we had the funds at the beginning of the year. This week, we received notification from Department of Finance to resubmit the request to release funds for post map operations with some changes; the big
change being that not requesting both the post operation
funds and the litigation funds at the same time.
Litigation funds will be released, should there be a
lawsuit filed, and at that point we would request those
funds be released. But at this time, the request will be
separating out the two different buckets, essentially.
I have included budget projections through June 20,
22 in the handouts that the subcommittee will discuss,
and these are just projections. As for long-term
projections, we'll defer to the Long-Term Planning
Subcommittee for further discussion on specific
activities that the Commission needs to address and what
those costs will be. We'll -- we'll evaluate those at
that point. At this point, that concludes my report.
Are there any questions?
VICE CHAIR YEE: Would you like to actually settle
the February meeting dates here and now?
COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah, I guess I'll just
say -- I guess one, no matter what date we're going to
pick, whether it's a Thursday or Friday, I think it's
going to end up being not great for somebody. I -- I can
already tell you I have standing meetings on Thursdays,
so that'll make it really challenging for me. But I
guess with that said, are we going to also move to other
dates in March and April, or is this going to be like, you know, what we'll continue to do?

MR. HERNANDEZ: I think at this point, it's up to the Commission to decide what dates to select that, you know, work for the majority of the Commission. I have not penciled in any specific dates on the March through June calendars.

VICE CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fernandez?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Thank you, Chair. My comment from last time was having the meetings on the same day every week, so I was kind of hoping like to not have it on this -- like every Thursday or every Friday, like it could be different days of the week, because different activities affect certain dates. So that's -- that was my only hope, in terms of switching it around. Thanks.

VICE CHAIR YEE: I'm also thinking the February 10th date, I believe that's the deadline for any legal challenges to our maps. And I believe folks have till midnight that day to -- to file such challenges, so I mean a date after that might be useful.

Director Hernandez?

MR. HERNANDEZ: So depending on the -- the meetings, I also wanted to share that we have a chair rotation plan that we'll be posting shortly. And Commissioner -- Chair
Yee can -- can address that, if he'd like.

VICE CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Sinay?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I agree. And we're never going to find a date that works for everyone. I understand kind of shifting at different dates, but I have found that it's better for my -- for my clients and -- and, you know, to be able -- they -- everybody to know Wednesdays is a nonmeeting day, because I have a Commission meeting. So I do like having it on one day. But as always, I will go -- I support whatever works for the most people.

VICE CHAIR YEE: Any proposals, Commissioner Andersen?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes. I say let's pull up our calendars, and pick those days in February right now. And I -- you know, I can -- I have to run to the next room to get my calendar, so that's why. But I would -- I would suggest we do that. I appreciate the -- it -- it is, and I say, okay, Tuesdays will work, and I understand, sometimes like, oh, except that Tuesday. So I understand that. So what -- if we all have our February calendars, why don't we do that now? And then I would suggest we do the same ahead of time for March and April so we can avoid as many conflicts as possible. So with that, I'm going to get my calendar.

VICE CHAIR YEE: All right.
Commissioners Sinay and then Commissioner Turner.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: But this is more for Director Hernandez. Instead of, you know, publicly going through our calendars right now and taking that time, can we just do a Doodle poll and -- and then let staff choose the dates that most Commissioners can participate in versus doing it in -- right now?

MR. HERNANDEZ: I'm definitely open to that.

VICE CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Turner?

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you, Vice Chair. I'm -- I am certainly open to do a poll. That'll be quick. I was one of the, I think, ones that kind of expressed some discontent at Friday meetings every week. But now that I'm looking, if we start to move them on to other days, I -- I don't think there is. Yeah. So particularly for -- and when we move them, I'm hoping we'll move them further out, because two weeks' notice to move it off of Fridays is kind of close for me.

And so, I'm hopeful that whenever we schedule, we're scheduling -- we maybe -- I would say that maybe we stick with Fridays for February since we're just now changing, or at least the first half of February, and then look at whatever we choose to do March. And going forward, whatever day, move them around, keep them the same, but not so close, because we're, I think, just two weeks from
February. And I'm not speaking so much about the time requirement for the Commission as I am to our personal calendars and perhaps plans that's already been made -- schedules that's already been created.

VICE CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Commissioner Turner.

I'm also thinking a Doodle poll will help, because we have several Commissioners not on the call right now, so you might catch them as well. So why don't we have a Commission Hernandez go ahead with that, a Doodle poll or some other way of getting available dates, and we'll get those dates set. Let's see. Is there any other discussion of any of the items already mentioned by the executive director. If not, we do have a proposed draft chair rotation. Let's see. Did it make it into the handouts for today, or do you have that?

MR. HERNANDEZ: Not yet, Chair. I'm getting it.

VICE CHAIR YEE: Oh, okay.

So the idea was to go to a monthly term through the end of June this year and then to go to a quarterly term thereafter. We actually have all 14 Commissioners up for the I'm going to serve as chair. There is the further variable of our Bagley-Keene exemption from meeting sites not guaranteed past the end of March. So keep that in mind as well.

In the rotation, I have Commissioners Vasquez and
Sinay up fairly soon, since they're joining or rejoining the rotation. They basically set out folks roughly, roughly in the order that last year ran so that folks, especially who served November, December, don't come up again too much later in the rotation. And if we do this monthly through June and then quarterly afterwards, the whole rotation runs through the end of 2024, if you can think that far ahead. So -- let's see. Is it available to folks or? I don't know how to proceed, unless we can actually look at it.

MR. HERNANDEZ: Chair, if I may, I can share the screen, and you know, we can take a look at that.

VICE CHAIR YEE: Oh, sure, yeah. Of course, we can do that.

MR. HERNANDEZ: Okay.

VICE CHAIR YEE: Meanwhile, Mr. Fernandez?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I was just going to say I'm supportive of that plan that you've come up with, and I thank you very much for carrying this on and shouldering this for us --

VICE CHAIR YEE: Sure.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: -- since our inception.

VICE CHAIR YEE: Sure. Commissioner Toledo helped early on, yeah.

So right now, Commissioner Ahmad through the end of
this month and then I'm up for February with Mr. Vasquez and then it just goes on from there. So I'm thinking, you know, the -- the -- the former policy was a policy we voted on, and it is in place, so I'm thinking this actually does need to officially replace that policy. I mean, I would be happy just having a consensus around this. But I'm -- I'm thinking since the former policy was a formal policy approved by vote, then we probably need to vote on this as well.

MR. PANE: Chair, I think that's a great idea, if you're -- if you're open to that. But I think that's certainly recommended.

VICE CHAIR YEE: Thank you. Thank you, Chief Counsel.

Commissioners Fernandez and then Kennedy and then Sinay.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I will make a motion to approve this chair rotation schedule.

VICE CHAIR YEE: Thank you.

Commissioner Kennedy?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: My only question is, I mean, did you -- what -- what is changing as far as policy? I -- my sense is that you've developed this in line with the existing policy. I mean, are we -- are we voting to change the frequency of the rotation? Is that the -- is
that the issue that we're -- that we're being asked to vote on?

VICE CHAIR YEE: Yeah, that's an excellent question.

Length of term was actually not part of the original policy. So -- so that's actually just a -- just a consensus matter as well. I think it's the order that is -- that constitutes the policy, because the order was what we voted on last time. And so we're approving, yeah, this order. I mean the, you know, the question is, do we need further policy refinements in case we need substitutions and so on and so forth? I didn't think that far. We seem to do fine with just having vice chairs and occasional substitutions. Commissioner Toledo?

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: It might be good to just look at what we had in the policy before. If I remember, it was on party gender, and there were a couple of other things that we considered and location. It is -- I'm just curious, are -- are we -- to Commissioner Kennedy's point, are we still following that -- that thought of guidance or are there things like that prevent us from following our previous policy?

VICE CHAIR YEE: Right. Good question. The policy did not -- the former policy did not specify those, but the order did set them out. And this new order follows
the same principles. So generally preferring mixed
gender pairs, although that's not entirely possible
always, because we're not evenly split. There are more
women than men on this Commission. Always having two
different party flavors, yeah, that's all still follow.
And so, it's not a strict rotation of party flavors, so
that -- that becomes our third rank criteria of that
policy the other two. Would the Commissioners prefer if
we did spell all those out, those other factors?

Commissioner Toledo?

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: What I'm hearing is our policy
with respect to rotation, not -- not the -- you know,
there weren't specific party or gender or other items,
so -- so maybe it is just that we -- I -- I'm fine with
the -- the orientation we have set out, and I'm fine with
the Commissioner -- I'm happy to second Commissioner
Fernandez's motion. But I also -- I believe we -- our
line feeders are not working, so I don't know if we need
to take a break.

VICE CHAIR YEE: Oh. Oh, dear.
Okay. Commissioner Fernandez?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Thank you for that. We can
take a break right now and see what we can do about that.

VICE CHAIR YEE: Okay. Very good.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Let's take a break, and
everybody be back here in -- let's give us a full fifteen on this. So that'll be -- what is that, 10:05?

MR. MANOFF: Is -- is everyone else's volume okay?

Can you all hear? It's real -- seems like it's real low.

MR. SINGH: Low, it's very low.

VICE CHAIR YEE: Yeah.

MR. MANOFF: What's low? Coming from the room?

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Coming -- coming --

VICE CHAIR YEE: No, the volume coming from the room and in general.

MR. MANOFF: Oh, in general.

VICE CHAIR YEE: Hmm-hm.

MR. MANOFF: Oh, that's --

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: The only one I heard was Alvaro, I could barely hear. But everyone else I'm hearing. Except, Christian, I hear you very strongly.

MR. SINGH: Well, yeah. Now. So Alvaro --

MR. MANOFF: You hear me very strongly. Okay, good.

Well, we've got that going for us. Let's take a break, and we'll figure out what's going on with the stream, because I'm getting reports of that also, and we'll come -- we'll come back into session here. If everybody could be back, let's say 10 -- let's go 10:20, please.

(Whereupon, a recess was held from 9:53 a.m.)
Vice Chair Yee: Thank you, Kristian.

Welcome back. We apologize for the technical problem with the live feed, but we believe it's working now. Again, where we left off, we were in the middle of a discussion of proposed chair rotation going forward. We have a motion on the floor to approve the rotation — proposed rotation, which will have monthly terms through the end of June this year and then quarterly terms thereafter. We'll have all fourteen Commissioners in the rotation. There are always a mixed pair politically, chair and vice chair, and a preference for mixed-gender pairs. So that motion has been made and seconded. Further discussions? Commissioner Toledo and then Commissioner Fernandez.

Commissioner Toledo: Thank you, Chair Yee or Vice Chair Yee. I was just thinking, in terms of succession, since we probably should just, as part of -- just include something around succession, and I -- I would just keep it very simple. The -- the next in line would -- if -- if there were an issue, then the next in line, and so the vice chair and the person that -- thereafter would -- would would take over as chair temporarily or -- or whatnot. It would be my proposal, but I have no (audio interference).
VICE CHAIR YEE: Yeah. That's a good -- good idea, but I -- I have to double-check to make sure that doesn't lead to same party pairs. It -- I think it could in some cases.

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Well, I guess the question would be is that --

VICE CHAIR YEE: Yeah.

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: -- is that something that -- yeah, so I -- I -- I'm not as concerned as -- about that, but maybe others might be or for the public. Thank you.

VICE CHAIR YEE: Sure.

Commissioner Fernandez?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Thank you, Chair. Yeah, you could put, like, next in line that it -- that will not conflict with the whatever, you know.

VICE CHAIR YEE: Yeah, that's right. Sure.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: With the parties or something like that. But I did believe -- I think -- I think my thought before break was we were agreeing to not, necessarily like the time frame in terms of every month and then quarterly, but it was more of the order of the individuals as chair and vice chair. Because, you know, we do want the flexibility, as we did in November and December where be kind of changed it to a week at a time, because it turned out, you know, turned out to
be --

VICE CHAIR YEE: That's true.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: -- excessive, so.

VICE CHAIR YEE: That was true.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I -- I believe what we're approving is the rotation itself, not necessarily the length of term. But I'm fine with, you know, the one month and then quarterly also. Thanks.

VICE CHAIR YEE: Okay.

So I can go ahead and spell these things out in the -- in the final version? Any further discussion?

If not, Alvaro, do we have the motion ready for a vote?

MR. HERNANDEZ: Chair, I think we want to go to public comment first, before we --

VICE CHAIR YEE: Oh, I'm sorry. Of course.

Public comment.

I -- Kristian, can we ask for public comment, please?

MR. MANOFF: Yes, I can help you with that, chair.

Just a moment.

VICE CHAIR YEE: And while we're doing that, Alvaro, how about motion to approve the 2020 to '24 Chair Rotation Schedule?

(Pause.)
VICE CHAIR YEE: We do have Chair Ahmad back. And after we conclude this matter, we'll defer to her to -- for the continuation of this meeting.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Chair, I have a quick question first before we -- while we're waiting on public comment.

VICE CHAIR YEE: All right. This -- go ahead Kristian first, and then Commissioner Andersen.

MR. MANOFF: Okay. Just a moment.

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 livestream feed. It (877) 853-5247. When prompted, enter the meeting ID number provided on the livestream feed. It is 83282190178 for this meeting. When prompted to enter a participant ID, simply press pound.

Once you've dialed in, you'll be placed in a queue. To indicate you wish to comment, please press star nine. This will raise your hand for the moderator. When it's your turn to speak, you'll hear a message that says, "The host would like you to talk, press star six to speak." If you'd like to give your name, please state and spell it for the record. You are not required to provide your name to give public comment. Please make
sure to meet your computer or livestream audio to prevent any feedback or distortion during your call. Once you're waiting in the queue, be alert for when it is your turn to speak. And again, please turn down the livestream volume.

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

VICE CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Kristian.

Commissioner Andersen?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. Thank you, Chair.

Yes, just a quick question, because I just want to make sure that, given what the motion says, do we have any flexibility in this, or are we locking ourselves into this exactly?

VICE CHAIR YEE: So what I heard is that we are locking ourselves into the intended order, but with some stipulations about flexibility in case of needed substitutions.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: That, yeah, that's what -- and -- and do we need to say that, otherwise I'm concerned about this. Should we add that to our -- to the motion is my question.

VICE CHAIR YEE: I see. Well, we could add with -- with suggested edits, perhaps, to the motion, since that would be a change from the -- what's been posted.
MR. PANE: We just would want to make sure the --
that Commissioners Fernandez and Toledo are okay with
that.

VICE CHAIR YEE: Any objections?
Comissioner Ahmad?

CHAIR AHMAD: Yeah. Thank you. I think it's
going a little too granular at that point, because,
just like I did this morning, I was late, so I asked
Commissioner Yee to step in as chair. I would assume
that that type of practice is okay and to the -- to the
discretion of the chair. So I don't think we would
need -- I -- I don't think we're necessarily locking
ourselves into anything, right. So I think the -- the
motion was fine the way it is. I intend to approve it.
Thanks.

VICE CHAIR YEE: Any other discussion? Okay, let's
go forward with the vote then.

And no -- no public comment, Kristian?

MR. MANOFF: There are no callers at this time,
Chair.

VICE CHAIR YEE: Thank you.

Okay. Let's go ahead with the vote, please.

MR. HERNANDEZ: Just for clarification, we are going
to include with suggested edits; is that correct? I did
not hear Commissioner Fernandez or Toledo opine.
VICE CHAIR YEE: Any objections to the addition of
with suggested edits.

Commissioner Turner?

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you. I think I was in
agreement with Commissioner Ahmad that it was not
necessary for the additional edits. I think we have had
the practice of asking others to step in as needed,
our -- our vice chair or the next vice chair or previous
chair. And I think this allows enough flexibility where
I'm not certain you get in trouble. Unless Commissioner
Andersen has more about what the concern was, I think
this works for me.

VICE CHAIR YEE: Thank you.

Commissioners Toledo and then Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: I'm wondering if the -- if the
issue is with the word "schedule". Because I think what
I heard from Commissioner Fernandez and others was the --
we're approving the rotation, but not -- but we want some
discretion around the schedule, should we need it. And
so, if we're approving the schedule, it could imply that
we're approving the exact schedule for the -- the month
and -- or the -- the term, the actual, you know, whether
it's a month or a term, so maybe it should so we're
approving the chair rotation. And -- but -- well, I'm --

VICE CHAIR YEE: Okay, so striking the word
"schedule" then?

And then Commissioner Fernandez?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Thank you, Chair.

Yes, I agree with Commissioners Turner and Ahmad. It's been at the chair's discretion in terms of if they had to step away. And if -- there's been at times where the vice chair wasn't there as well. So I believe actually you, Chair Yee, filled in a few times when you weren't necessarily the -- the vice chair, the chair. And I think it's -- it really is up to the discretion of the chair to make sure that whoever they ask will not be -- well, I guess, at that point, if you don't have a vice chair, it -- it wouldn't matter. But it would be up to the chair to, you know, ask the vice chair. And if vice chair is available, they could ask another Commissioner.

So I don't think -- I think we've been operating fine. I'm not sure why we're thinking about this differently.

VICE CHAIR YEE: Yeah. Yeah.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: And we've actually gotten through the -- the more difficult part of our responsibilities fine.

VICE CHAIR YEE: Yeah.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: So let's not mess with a
VICE CHAIR YEE: Okay. Yeah, that has indeed happened, you know, usually briefly -

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yeah, so --

VICE CHAIR YEE: -- usually briefly.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yeah.

VICE CHAIR YEE: Yeah.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: So I would just motion to approve that the 2022/2024 Chair Rotation without "schedule". Thank you.

VICE CHAIR YEE: Okay.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: And I believe that's what Commissioner Toledo also --

VICE CHAIR YEE: Okay, sure. Yes.

Any further discussion? Okay, let's go ahead with the vote.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Sorry, Chair. I don't know if you can see my --

VICE CHAIR YEE: Oh, I'm sorry.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah.

VICE CHAIR YEE: I did not see your hand.

Commissioner Andersen.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Sorry about that. Yes.

Thank you very much, Commissioner Toledo, that was exactly what I was talking about. I was concerned that
we were locking ourselves into a specific schedule when
we had not been -- that had been rotated a little bit
before. But we're -- we're I really like this
modification. So I just want to clarify it. Thank you.

VICE CHAIR YEE: Okay. Very good.
And perhaps for the motion name, we could strike the
word "schedule" as well.

Okay, the vote, please.

MR. HERNANDEZ: Very well. We'll begin the vote.
Commissioner Ahmad?

CHAIR AHMAD: Yes.

MR. HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Akutagawa.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yes.

MR. HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Andersen?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes.

MR. HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes.

MR. HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Fornaciari?

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yes.

MR. HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Kennedy?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yes.

MR. HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Le Mons.

COMMISSIONER LEMONS: Yes.

MR. HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Sadhwani.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: (No audible response.)
MR. HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Sinay?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yes.

MR. HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Taylor.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: (No audible response.)

MR. HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Toledo.

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Yes.

MR. HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Turner.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yes.

MR. HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Vasquez.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yes.

MR. HERNANDEZ: And Commissioner Yee.

COMMISSIONER YEE: Yes.

MR. HERNANDEZ: Motion passes.

VICE CHAIR YEE: Thank you, everyone. I'll now turn
the meeting over to Chair Ahmad.

CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you, Commissioner Yee for
subbing in for me.

So we'll continue with Directors' Reports.

Alvaro, have we concluded your report?

MR. HERNANDEZ: Yes.

CHAIR AHMAD: Great.

Moving on to Communications Director's Report.

Fredy, are you on?

MR. CEJA: I am. Do you -- am I not on?

CHAIR AHMAD: Yes, you are.
MR. CEJA: Okay. Perfect. Thank you so much.

Thank you, Chair. I've posted my report along with two other documents; one being the social media report and the other being an FA2 that we created for your review. We've started the off-boarding for the communications manager. That position will be ending at the end of this month. We will keep the communications coordinator to work on data migration and relinking all documents on our website. I'll explain that a little bit later.

We've compiled a media report from January '21 through the present; but yesterday when I was working on the dashboard, I -- I somehow erased it on Meltwater. So I've asked them to recreate it for me, and I'll share that report as soon as I have it. We're having internal conversations about options for continued life of our website over the next decade. We will be reporting out those as we narrow down options. We've had one of several meetings, so we'll continue to update you on that issue as we move forward.

We're switching over from Google Drive to Microsoft OneDrive, which means that all documents linked on our website using Google Drive will need to be relinked, using a OneDrive link, including videos of meetings from BSSC. This is going to take quite some time, so it's going to keep our team busy; but just want to let you
know what we'll be working on for the next few weeks. All advertising contracts have been zeroed out and billed for. Like our executive director mentioned, we are working with Raul to get all those invoices in. They're all in for the contractors that we had under communications.

Compiling final reports, and we'll share a master final report once I receive those. We also produce, like I said, questions about new maps document that's on the handout, which is an updated figure for the public with some of the questions that we've commonly heard, including when do new maps go into effect? So we clarified that. Do I have a new representative? What if a representative resigns? Where can I see final maps? Where can I see current maps? Where can I find the final map report? What's deferred and accelerated voters? We actually had a handout from League of Women Voters that explains that. And why is my district drawn the way it was? So those -- those questions have been answered in that document. If you have additional questions you want to see in there, please email them to me. I'll set up this document to go out at the end of this week or -- oh, it's -- it -- it is the end of the week. Next week. I don't know what day I'm living in.

As far as interviews are concerned. Since our last
meeting, we had five total interviews with Black Voice News, Silicon Valley Voice, CalMatters. We did one with Talking Points Memo and then Silicon Valley Voice again.

As far as our website's concerned, we are at 21750 contacts. I actually started purging yesterday context in our database. I don't have email addresses, because our primary source of communication is e-blast and emails. Those that are on there without an email address are actually just taking up space and adding to our billing. So I've gone ahead and started to remove those so that we can get a lower bracket of billing with NationBuilder.

We had ninety-six thousands views of our web -- of our website during that time period from January 7th till today. Fifty-two thousands were visiting the final maps page and twenty-one thousands were to our home page. And e-blast, we did send out two during that time period. One was letting the public know that we now have a PDFs of our districts. When we uploaded those, that had a thirty percent open rate; so clearly people were interested in that. And then also the other email we sent out regarding a meeting being canceled earlier this month and then updating them about when the actual districts or maps go into effect. And that had a thirty-two percent open rate.
Our social media channels did not change much from the last reporting period, I did highlight everything here. We have two thousand seventy-seven likes on Facebook. Instagram has 527 followers. It only went up by two. Our Twitter followers went up by two to 3,228, and our LinkedIn followers went up by three to 380 followers, and our YouTube subscribers stayed the same. So a lot of that activity on social media has quieted down. Of course, our advertising on social media also stopped, so that -- that's going to have an effect on that. That's all I have for my report today. We'll take questions or comments.

CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you, Fredy. And would you like me to help facilitate questions to you?

MR. CEJA: Yes, please, Chair.

CHAIR AHMAD: Okay, great.

I see Commissioner Fernandez and then Andersen.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Thank you, Chair.

Thank you, Fredy. I really did like that email blast you did when we canceled the meeting and informed the public of all of this information that you have on the FAQs. And I wish -- I just wanted to confirm. So thank you for that, Fredy. It was great. And thank you also for the new FAQs. I just want to confirm that that will also be translated into the different languages that
we've approved.

MR. CEJA: We can certainly do that, yeah. I believe --

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Thank you.

MR. CEJA: -- the contract is still in place, right?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: It is.

MR. CEJA: Yeah. Okay, perfect. Yeah, we can do that.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Great. Thank you so much.

MR. CEJA: Great suggestion.

CHAIR AHMAD: Commissioner Andersen.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you, Chair.

Yeah, Fredy, I also agree this fax was very timely and -- and very complete. Thank you. I have two other questions, though. One, are you taking people off -- off our list who do not have emails? How did those people get on our list? Are they people who we reached out to or?

MR. CEJA: So people were visiting our website, they added themselves as contacts. And also, the way our system was set up is anyone that used social media was also migrated into our system with the hopes to have them continue being active with our website and then somehow getting their web, their email address. But for some of those that it didn't happen, so they were just taking up
slots in our database. And we can't communicate with them, because we don't have their email address, so. It's just adding to our billing at this point, so that's why we --

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Okay.

MR. CEJA: -- decided to purge them.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yeah, I was just wondering if we should be keeping just a document that -- a separate just single document that had those people in case they want to get back in touch with us. But I will certainly leave that to your prerogative. And my next question is, why are we going from Google to Microsoft One, and what is that going to entail for all our previous documents? For all our continued documents too, in terms of are we switching our entire website over?

MR. CEJA: Not the website --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I mean the --

MR. CEJA: -- but the storage mechanism for all those documents. And I -- I don't necessarily have that answer. Maybe our executive director does.

MR. HERNANDEZ: Yeah. We are at capacity with the Google Docs. There -- there -- we don't have any more capacity. It's been like that for a little while. And so, it's not as stable as merging over to the Microsoft One. So it will give us some flexibility in a number of
different ways, including our email. You know, right now we have been maxed at the number of emails that we can assign, basically. So we've had some of the staff create a separate Google email to -- to make sure that they're able to communicate with us. But that's one piece of it. It does provide a lot more storage than we currently have where we can put all our files in the one place. It is going to require a transition. That's what Fredy was referencing, that we've met to discuss those pieces and how we are going to move forward and communicate that to you all as far as what needs to be done and -- and when it needs to be done. So that -- more to come on that. We -- we started the initial conversations on that piece of it. And if you recall, we have been trying to get the Microsoft on board for a while now. It's finally come to fruition, so.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. So just -- just to follow up on that, that means our current -- our current emails, those are all going to switch to a different system.

MR. HERNANDEZ: Should be correct. Correct.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. Thank you.

MR. HERNANDEZ: The -- the emails where they're stored is what's going to switch. The email addresses will not switch.
COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Right. But our -- in terms of --

MR. HERNANDEZ: Because it's still ca.gov, so that will stay the same.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you.

MR. CEJA: Yeah, we -- yeah, in our meeting yesterday was -- Raul Rove told us that all documents will be automatically transferred over to the new system, and the only reason I brought it up was to let you know what our team will be focusing on for the next few weeks.

CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you, Fredy. And just want to jump in out of clarify. Nothing on our user interface will change, correct? It's all backend storage related items.

MR. CEJA: (No audible response.)

CHAIR AHMAD: Got it. Thank you.

Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: My apologies. Do we -- will be creating kind of a long-term plan on just keeping people engaged on our social media pages and such, through, you know, twenty -- 2028/2029 when they start the recruitment for, you know, just, you know, we've -- we've done a good job of engaging folks. And just thinking through kind of what strategy can we do and how, you know, how can we do it. I know in 2010, a lot of that responsibility moved
over from staff to -- to Commissioners. But just
thinking through how we keep people engaged so that they
don't need to start from scratch. Thanks.

MR. CEJA: Yeah, I think those are part of the
discussions that we're having is also personnel needs for
the next ten years and also will be part of your
discussions as you look at what the Commission will focus
on and what staffing needs we will have. I know the last
Commission had a part time person or halftime person on
for I don't know how many years, to precisely do that, to
continue with e-blast and communication to the public.
I -- I -- I can't say what the needs are today, but we
can certainly have that conversation and then plan
accordingly. But yeah, that would be great to continue
mobilizing folks on our social media platforms and
definitely on communicating through e-blast and letting
them know what's going on.

CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you.
Commissioner Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Thank you, Chair.
Fredy, I just wanted to confirm or I'm not sure his
answer to this, so all of our emails and folders that we
have in our Google or Gmail will be transferred to
Outlook. I mean, I just want to confirm, or Alvaro you
may have an answer to this, so. All of our emails and
folders that we have in our Google or Gmail will be
transferred to Outlook? I mean I just wanted to confirm,
because that's quite a few -- that's a lot of information
some of us may have.

MR. HERNANDEZ: Yes.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: And a lot of times that
creating those folders.

MR. HERNANDEZ: That is my understanding. I don't
know the details of how that's going to get done.

Corina, our IT person, is going to be looking at how to
port that information and make it as seamless as
possible. So I will get additional information and share
that with all of you as I get that.

CHAIR AHMAD: Any other questions or comments for
Fredy? No? Seeing none, we will move right along.

Thank you so much, Fredy.

To the outreach director, Marcy.

MS. KAPLAN: Hi. Good morning, Commissioners. I
wanted to provide an update on some items that staff have
been working on. And, as noted, the outreach staff have
transition to full time tagging to all remaining input in
the database, and they will be rolling off on January
31st. We've been working with the data team to further
streamline this process to make it more efficient for
staff to get through. And I'm definitely seeing some big
strides over the last few days when we implemented some changes. Additionally, and our outreach manager has been finalizing written performance reviews for all outreach staff, and that will be saved in their state file and also provided to staff. This is really an opportunity to showcase the excellent work that staff have conducted during their tenure with the Commission and to highlight their accomplishments. And Ann has scheduled one-on-one meetings with outreach staff for next week to go over these performance reviews.

They also want to highlight that I worked with staff to prepare a summary update to the Language Access Subcommittee, which provides an overview summary of the non-English input received to the Commission, whether this was written, a video submission, or in a meeting with or without a translator. And so there were nearly 350 submissions like this. There's a document attached in the handouts for today's meeting actually under my report, because I believe this Language Access Subcommittee was dissolved. So we may need to revisit it in the future if necessary.

The document also includes which materials the Commission translated and into what languages, as well as information on language lines that we had provided during meetings and the number of listeners. And I also do want
to highlight that capturing the number of listeners on
the listening lines was a very tricky process. We were
not always provided the numbers from Verizon, our
provider, after numerous ongoing attempts to capture this
information. So just highlighting that document there,
and I'll be working with the subcommittee as needed if we
move forward on Lessons Learned to see what -- what else
may be helpful or recommendations for 2030 as well.

I also wanted to highlight that staff did review
questions that came in through our public database per
the request from the Commission at the last meeting, and
those were provided to Fredy to develop that FAQ document
that you had highlighted as well. Also highlighting that
I worked with the Outreach and Engagement Subcommittee
and posted the -- another handout, which is the public
input sorted by county and calculated the activation rate
during the various phases of the Commission's efforts.
So we thought it would be interesting to look at it
broken down by a few time periods. So if you look at
that handout, it starts with the population and then the
activation rate for the state, as well as then starting
with the time period when the Commission conducted public
education and COI input meetings; so essentially pre line
drawing activities. This was up through September 14.
And then next when the Commission started the
visualization and line drawing process, up through the approval of draft maps on September 15th to November 10th, and then after the draft map approval until final map approval, which was November 11th to December 27th. And then also just provided a total from January 2021 to December twenty-seven.

And just as a reminder, this is a recap of the Commission's Strategic Outreach Goal number 1, which was a goal of the activation rate of one per one thousand or point one percent of an area of either neighborhood, city, county, or region. And the information is based on the public input received by the Commission -- mentioned respective counties. So there were definitely numerous inputs submitted to the Commission that mentions multiple counties. So I think that's just really helpful to highlight when you're looking at this information. I also worked with the Outreach and Engagement Subcommittee, as well as Fredy to put together a survey to solicit feedback from the public about the redistricting process, and they're going to be discussing this further in their report.

It's also posted in the handouts under I don't remember which number. It's their subcommittee as well as help support the Long-Range Planning Subcommittee to put together the handouts posted, which they'll also be
discussing later in their subcommittee report under item 3K.

And that's it for my report if there's any questions.

CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you so much, Marcy. Does anyone have questions or comments for Marcy at this point?

Yes, Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you.

Marcy, this report is awesome, and I hope -- and it's inspiring, I should say, which is awesome just how much people got engaged. And I hope we all look at it, because I think it's just fascinating to look, you know, we -- we over exceeded our activation goals almost in every single county, which is really exciting. I still find it really interesting that, you know, San Francisco tends to be the lowest when you think of San Francisco as the most activist, yeah, city, county of activists. But -- but I just wanted to thank you for this, because I think it's really helpful. And I think it's a tool that if we would have had the numbers broken down this way from 2010, it would have helped us feel a little more secure as we were moving through the process of knowing, okay, this is coming up, okay, this is coming up. So great job. Thank you to you and -- and the whole team.
CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you, Commissioner Sinay.

Commissioner Turner?

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you, Chair. Yeah, I wanted to comment on this exact same report. Marcy, this is phenomenal. I feel like it's reflective of what we did what we said we would. Right? I think it has an excellent result and love and wish -- and perhaps that one of the Lessons Learned that will actually be able to spend some time to kind of really dig through it and see what all this report can tell us. Because even for some of the ones that have had a little bit of less activation or lower activation rate or engagement rate, could be that they just loved what we did throughout the entire process. I mean there's a -- there's -- there's ways to read everything, and it almost just feels like there should be some narrative associated with it, as far as we experienced it, and this is the result, and so, what are our thoughts? Why do we think this occurred?

That could perhaps be helpful. But I think all of the paperwork that came out and handouts, I think this was one that I was really excited to get and see, and particularly how you had broken out pre-engagement after the drafts and the final. I think it's very useful tool for the future. I think it certainly confirms the things that we worked on that we should feel really good about,
and I want to just thank you and your team for pulling it
together.

MS. KAPLAN: Thank you.

CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you, Commissioner Turner.

Any other comments or questions for Marcy and her report.

Yes, Commissioner Le Mons?

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Briefly, I just want to echo excuse me, the pride in that report and the hard work that went into it. I hearken back to the beginning of this process and us really thinking through and -- and grappling with how we wanted to approach engagement and the goals that we set for ourselves. And so, it was great -- you know, being in the nonprofit space oftentimes was hard to come by is evaluation and assessment of goals and objectives that are set out to do. So to have this close the loop and put a very nice bow on, I think, something that was a high priority for this Commission, and to see the results that we got, I read it with great pride. And thank you to the team for pulling it together. And I think we as Commissioners should be -- I know we get accused of patting ourselves on the back too much, at least I've read that in some of the comments, but, oh, well. Thank you.

CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you, Commissioner Le Mons.
Any other comments or questions? All right.
Seeing none, thank you so much, Marcy, for that report out.
We will jump over to our Chief Counsel's Report with Anthony.

MR. PANE: Thank you, Chair.
And good morning, Commission. Just a brief update for legal updates. As you know, Government Code Section 11133 allows state bodies to meet without having to publish the particular location. That was sunsetted for the end of this month, then there was a governor's executive order that came out that extended that sunset date until March 31st. I mention that because currently for the month of January, our agendas will refer to Government Code state statute as that is what is operative. And then starting February 1, it will additionally reference the Executive Order, but I just wanted to highlight that point for all of you. And then with that, I'm happy to answer any questions anyone has.

CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you, Anthony. Any questions for our chief counsel?
Commissioner Le Mons, is your hand up from before?
COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yes, sorry, Chair.
CHAIR AHMAD: Oh, no worries.
All right. Seeing none, that actually concludes our
Directors' Reports. So with that, I will call for public comment on that agenda item.

And, Kristian, let's give folks two minutes per speaker to provide their comments.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Sounds good Chair.

The Commission will now take public comment on Directors' Reports. To give comment, please call (877) 853-5247, and enter meeting ID number 832 8219 0178. Once you've dialed in, please press star nine to enter the comment queue. The full call-in instructions are read at the beginning of the meeting and are provided on the livestream landing page.

And there are no callers at this time, Chair.

CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you, Kristian. Let's just wait a couple of minutes to give folks time to dial in.

While we're waiting, Commissioner Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Thank you, Chair. I figure while we're waiting for two minutes, I could talk for maybe not even half of that. But I believe both Communications Director Ceja and Outreach Director Kaplan both mentioned that some of our staff are off -- off-boarding at the (audio interference).

So I just wanted to thank them. And I think for communications -- that's probably Cecilia -- so definitely wanted to thank her for all her work. I
enjoyed her daily media clips to us which was very helpful and informative, as well as all the other information and social media. So thank you, Cecilia.

And then for Marcy, you and your outreach team -- absolutely phenomenal, as shown in the report. So I just wanted to make sure that -- just gave a big thank you to everyone. What a great team that you developed and established, and they were just there all the way to the end, and they continue to be with transitioning into the full-time tagging. So thank you, all, very much.

CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you for those kind words, Commissioner Fernandez. Kristian, do we have any callers in the queue?

MR. MANOFF: There are no callers at this time, Chair.

CHAIR AHMAD: All right. Seeing that there's no callers, we will move on to the next agenda item. And just a reminder for folks that we will have ample opportunity for folks to call in and provide their public comment on the agenda items that we are discussing today. So with that, we'll move forward to our subcommittee updates. We have four subcommittees who have items to report out. And I'm going to switch the order a little bit from our run-of-show document. So we'll start with Finance and Admin. Then we'll move on to Long-Term
Planning. Then jumping into Lessons Learned, and then Outreach and Engagement. And this reordering is really because of the conversations that I've had with our team in planning for today's meeting, and the overlap that we might see between the different report outs. So we can listen to that overlap in a consecutive order.

Hopefully, that will be helpful for our conversation regarding subcommittee report outs. So with that, I will pass it over to Finance and Admin.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. Oh, do you want to start? Or do you want to --

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Do you want to go? Or do you want me to go?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: How about if we just do it together; how's that?

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: So I'll just do like a high level of -- the first report is the appropriations, so that is basically the budget authority that we have been -- the Commission has been allotted. And it just breaks it down by the different Budget Acts of 1920 and '21, and it shows the varying amounts. It also shows -- we're different from other state agencies where we have to ask permission to have the funds released, so the expenditure authority area -- so these spreadsheets have
been posted. That would show what we have requested and
what has been approved and what we still have
outstanding. So that really just is the budget per se in
terms of what's been appropriated to us. Any questions
on that?

I'll let Commissioner Fornaciari take on the budget
one. No.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, if I --

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Oh, go ahead. Go ahead.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: -- could just jump in and
make a couple comments. So this is pretty similar to the
handout from a few months ago where we talked about the
expenditure authority. So what we did is, again, we
broke it down into pre-map and post-map dollars. And you
can see that the first column under pre-map is what you
saw in the last report. Subsequently, we asked for an
additional 4.869 million. That was approved, and we have
that budget authority. And that budget authority that we
have -- we have the authority to spend that money through
the end of this fiscal year, through June 30th, 2022.

Then, we look at the post-map. The first column is
our post-map operational dollars, 1.5 million. We've
requested it, but it has not yet been approved. As
Alvaro mentioned, the initial budget letter -- or the
request for authority letter that we sent in, asked for
both the litigation money and the operations money. The Finance Department requested that we just ask for -- submit a new letter, just asking for the 1.5 million, and that if, in the case that a lawsuit is filed, then we'll request the 4.3 million for defense. So it's not actually allocated yet, but they said they were going to allocate it, they just needed a new letter. So we expect that to be allocated fairly quickly. So if that kind of helps clarify that. Were there any questions on this document? Okay.

Then, with regard to the budget summary -- and this should be similar to documents you've seen in the past, too. So what we've got is different categories of spending, the expenditures to date, the projected additional expenditures, and then the projected total expenditures. And so that column, projected total expenditures, would be the pre-map expenditures. Then, Alvaro's put together a projection in the kind of light orangish column of what we're thinking the spending would look like between now and the end of the fiscal year, and that's 2.2 million. And that's salaries and benefits for staff, Commissioner per diem, videography, interpretation and operational costs. So that includes -- Alvaro, I forget exactly how many meetings is in that?

MR. HERNANDEZ: Sixteen.
COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Sixteen meetings.

MR. HERNANDEZ: Business meetings.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. And so I just want to let everyone know that it's about 14,000 dollars per meeting is the average cost. And so I just want to offer that up for us to think about how often we need to have these business meetings and moving forward. We have a -- this budget includes sixteen meetings -- if we do two a month, that's twelve and then that would leave four for Lessons Learned. It doesn't include Lessons Learned. I think we'll get more deeply into that conversation when we talk about the plan moving forward and what we want to do there. But just with the sixteen meetings and overhead costs we're at 2.2 million dollars through the end of the fiscal year. And so the next column sums up those two columns and compares it to the total budget that we have. So we have about 2.4 million in flexibility. And the final -- or the second to last column are the contract balances. And you can see that, for instance, the line drawer contract we went over and that's because we added more meetings than we'd originally put in the contract. We got all the invoices there except some travel invoices that we're expecting, so we estimated 75k for those travel contracts. You can see also that we're sort of thinking legal services
contracts we will be overspent. But that's really an estimate. At this point, they billed through September, so we don't have our token November-December billing from the legal team. And I'll just tell you, Alicia and I have been bugging Alvaro and Alvaro's been bugging Anthony, and we've been bugging Anthony to bug them to get those invoices in so we know how much we've spent. And so it's not for lack of effort that we don't have those invoices. We just haven't gotten them yet. So just to let you all know that that number could go higher. We had more meetings than we thought, and we had a lot of legal support during those meetings. But overall, I think -- I mean, my takeaway is we're in pretty comfortable shape with the budget we have. We haven't blown through the budget, and I don't think we need to -- I'm hoping we don't have to go back and ask for more. I don't know. Alicia, did you have any other -- anything else you wanted to add?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: No. I think you covered it really well. In terms of the spreadsheet, it is in more detail than you've had in the past, but we also felt it was important to provide that detailed information as we try to tie up the true cost pre-map. Because that information at the end, if you remember the government code section that we're under, we do have to submit a
report, I believe, to the Legislature or Finance -- I can't remember specifically, on our costs -- on our pre-map and post-map costs. So we felt it was important to provide more detail this time, and also I thought it was helpful -- maybe it's not helpful -- to kind of show you where all the calculations were. So I kind of lettered every column and those columns that were a plus or minus, I'm hoping that helps you in terms of trying to navigate through this spreadsheet that makes so much sense to me. But of course, we all make sense to the 99.999 percent of the rest of the world. So anyway, I think that probably covers it. So open for questions.

CHAIR AHMAD: Okay. Thank you so much. I will jump in to help you all facilitate questions. So Commissioner Toledo, Sinay, and then Yee.

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Thank you. And thank you for the presentation and for the work on this. Just a quick question for the Committee. In terms of the litigation funds and -- I'm just wondering if it might make sense to request those funds in anticipation of litigation, knowing that it -- and this might be your recommendation -- I might be confused there. And if that's the case that's great, but so requesting those funds, given that it takes a while to draw them down should we need them. And we don't want to be in a
situation where we're -- where there's a delay in getting those funds to be able to pay our vendors. So just appreciate that, and just curious if that's the intent or it was otherwise.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay.

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: I'm sorry if I misunderstood.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes. Great minds think alike, Commissioner Toledo. We had actually requested that. We had requested the funding for the 1.5 operational post-map as well as litigation, and Department of Finance requested that we hold off on requests for litigation until we're actually sued, so at that point -- it's a different way to look at it. I'm like you, I wanted to be more pro-active, and I actually -- trying to help out our staff as well, so now we're going to have to do -- per se three different requests. So that was our intention. That's what we submitted in November, and they just got back to us asking that we hold off on our request for the litigation funding.

CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you, Commissioner Fernandez.

Commissioner Sinay and then --

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I'm going to jump in here, but --

CHAIR AHMAD: Oh.
COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: -- it certainly does --
we'll have the letter ready to go for -- and pull the
trigger immediately once litigation comes in if it does.

CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you for that. Commissioner
Sinay?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Sorry. I've re-set up my
computer and it makes it hard to move around. Thank you
for this, and I'm going to ask a naive question. So
we've got --I love the alphabet on the top. It really
did help, so thank you, Alicia, that does help. And let
me just for clarity, H is from the prior report -- for
the prior side the amount of money we had? Is that where
we get H?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Column H -- is that what
you're referring to, Commissioner Sinay?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yes.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: So column H would be --
you're adding your pre-map expenditures of column F,
which is projected total expenditures, and you're adding
the projected post-map of column G.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: So I get it. It's that column.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Okay. Thank you so much. I
get it now -- I saw it. So we have gone over in a few
areas, and we're still not sure how far we've gone over.
Where are we getting that money from to cover those costs?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Right. So actually, if you wanted to do a -- most of the money is coming from our salaries and benefits because we were delayed in filling quite a few of our positions. So we do have a -- I guess if you would call it flexibility -- in that area that we're able to cover some of the additional costs that went over in terms -- unfortunately, like the line drawer contract and the legal services and also videographer contracts -- they have language in there that we can extend the amount so we don't actually have to go back out to our -- for RFP on those -- for those contracts.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: So I think initially back in March, was it, I believe, we sent in a budget request based on some assumptions we had at that time that didn't come to -- didn't completely come to fruition. Right. We had a million dollars in there for IT support because we thought we were going to have a contract for IT support. And there were some other additional monies that we assumed we were going to need but we didn't. And we made some assumptions on the number of meetings we were going to have. And the number of meetings went up, but those other items that we needed, went down. I think, so overall, we're going to be -- it looks like
we're going to be under our initially projected budget even though we went over in some areas because we're under in other areas.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yeah, and one more thing that -- Alvaro, thank you for reminding me -- is when had our -- when we did our -- the BCP, or Budget augmentation back in March, as Neal -- Commissioner Fornaciari -- was referring to -- we also went with the assumption that we would have map completion in January and that was pushed up. So there's --

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Right.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: -- reality versus where we projected.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Right. And so what we're working on, too, just to let you all know for a future meeting -- Commissioner Fernandez talked about this report that we have to put together. And part of that report is going to be kind of a timeline of the decisions that were made and the assumptions that were made and how those assumptions changed over time, so to help tell the entire story of how we got to where we are.

CHAIR AHMAD: Great. Thank you. Commissioner Yee?

COMMISSIONER YEE: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, subcommittee for this excellent report. Very helpful. I just wanted to add a little more detail on the legal
services contracts. So this is Strumwasser & Woocher, and they have been a little slow from the beginning in getting us their invoices, but when they come they are very admirably detailed, and this includes all the work by Mr. Becker and Ms. Gall. So Anthony has been forwarding them the detailed invoices to the Legal Affairs Committee for review and they certainly look fine when they finally do come in. But yeah, three, four months behind, it is a problem for everyone, including them getting their money. But they are in good shape when they do come, so.

CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you for that insight, Commissioner Yee. Commissioner Sinay?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you.

CHAIR AHMAD: Is your hand up again?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yep.

CHAIR AHMAD: Okay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: It's a follow-up to my last question. So will we be look -- will we be receiving a new budget now that we have -- we had approved the budget as it was, and now we have some flexibility to move things around. Will that budget come to us with the things that have been moved around to approve as well?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I'll respond to that, if that's okay. So we will also be having a Lessons Learned
discussion. So based on that discussion, we will go back and request costing information. And so with that we will probably more than likely move some of the funding around to reflect where our future costs hopefully will be. Thank you. And then, I just wanted to point out one more thing: the summary that we gave you -- it's actually a summary -- as most of you would know, there was quite a bit of scrubbing and research that went into putting this together, and I did want to thank staff for that. I don't want to be -- forget to thank them for all of the work that they put into it, and going back from the beginning to try to get all the numbers as accurate as possible for you. Thank you.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Alicia, I'm not sure I understood your response, so I apologize for -- oh, sorry, Commissioner Fernandez -- for asking again. So right now we have a budget that we approved, we've gone over, but we don't need to present a new budget to reallocate the -- like you all were talking about, the staff budget --

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yeah.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: -- moving some money from staff and other places so that the budget is equal? My experience in the nonprofit is that the Board need -- you need to present a new budget to approve being able to
make those moves -- that staff can't make those moves
without the approval. And I don't know what it's --
where our realm is here, and so that's why I'm asking.
And I hope that makes sense.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Right. So based on our
conversation later, we'll take that information and have
more cost-budgeting information that will be brought
forward to the full Commission. Yeah, we can't make this
decision -- staff can't make this decision in a vacuum.
It will all be brought forward for approval. Thanks.

CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you. Commissioner Andersen?
Thank you for waiting.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Oh, thank you, Chair. Yeah.
I just wanted to say a little bit more about in the line
drawing -- sort of thinking about the report that we have
to do for -- and that Financial has to do. There are
actual specific things we wrote into the contract to
facilitate us in this report, and the line drawers have
been kind of trying to set up in terms of their budget in
terms of how they were submitting things. It would help
us kind of separate out for 2030 which is the difference
between what were the exceptions that occurred in the way
we had to work this time, through the pandemic, the
census delay, things like that -- that can be itemized
because, as you know, we're hearing people go, oh, well,
the 2010 Commission did duh, duh, duh. And so the 2020, oh, my God. But they're completely different circumstances. And so we need to -- in terms of our Lessons Learned item -- and consider why things were different and what could they expect in 2030. And so the line drawing contract was sort of written that way in the billing. And I'm hoping that that, indeed, we are able to actually easily -- much more easily capture that because of the accounting. And I just wanted to kind of bring that up. Those are items that this report that they're kind of talking about -- the Finance Administration group -- has been doing a lot of work. Thank you very much. Really appreciate that. Thank you.

CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you, Commissioner Andersen.

Alvaro?

MR. HERNANDEZ: Yes. I was going to acknowledge that the information related to COVID or census delays, things of that nature, are required -- the Legislature and Department of Finance have indicated that needs to be identified in our final report. So we have been doing our best to track some of the information. And keep in mind that the Commission started in COVID. And so much of what was done was done with COVID implications or impacts, I should say -- not implications, but impacts. The census delay also -- that's all part of it. So we're
going to do our best to identify what was actually beyond
what a normal Commission would do versus what this
Commission did, given all the circumstances. Thank you.

CHAIR AHMAD: Great. Thank you. Are there any
other questions or comments for our Finance and Admin
subcommittee at this time? All right. Commissioner
Kennedy?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. I was not
entirely sure of where to raise this, but I'll go ahead
and raise it now. My reading of the relevant portion of
the government code is that the governor is required to
make adequate office and meeting space available for the
operation of the Commission. It doesn't, in my reading,
have a time limit on it. So my reading of it is that the
governor needs to make adequate office space available to
us throughout our term of office. We obviously don't
need as much -- or we obviously will not need as much
office space as we currently have. But since this does
have budgetary implications, I thought I'd raise it now
even though it may be relevant for some of our other
discussions as well. Thank you.

CHAIR AHMAD: Yes. Commissioner Fernandez?

COMMISSIONER: Thank you, Chair. I just wanted to
respond to that. You are absolutely correct,
associated with the facilities, which is great. I'd like to have a zero mortgage; that'd be wonderful. And that is something -- that is something that we are looking toward or going to be working towards and making sure that we understand exactly what that means and communicating that to whoever we need to communicate in terms of how long our needs for office space will be. But thank you for bringing that up.

CHAIR AHMAD: Any other questions or comments for Finance and Admin? Seeing none, we will move on to Long-term Planning. You have the floor, Long-term Planning.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. Just a quick second. Sorry about that. I need to -- oh, here she is. Here she is. I needed to let Commissioner Akutagawa know that we were on as well. I guess I'll start it and Commissioner Akutagawa does an amazing job of continuing it. There was two items posted -- so what we did is we compiled information that was forwarded from the Commissioners in terms of some of the short-term and long-term activities, and we compiled it into two different lists. The first list that is titled Activities Associated with our Redistricting Efforts -- those are activities that we felt that were within the scope and realm of our responsibilities or could be.

And then, the second list is a list of activities
that were forwarded to us that we felt the Commission
would have to make a decision as to whether or not that
was within the scope and whether or not we were going to
spend state -- or go forward to request state fundings
for some of these activities. So I'm wondering if --
Commissioner Akutagawa, do you think we should just go
through the first list first? And what we did is we also
numbered them to make it easier when we have our
discussions. And also what we tried to identify is was
it an activity for the current year? Which would be the
end of -- until June 30th of this year of 2022 -- or
short-term for next fiscal year, or some of those midterm
years or longer term in terms of, like, more associated
with, like, the census and redistricting efforts starting
up again with the state auditor.

There was something else I was going to say as well.
And we also felt, as much as possible, because we do have
some funding for this year -- if we could tackle as much
of this as possible this year -- because again, what will
happen, based on our discussion today, we will then go
back to our staff and have them come forward with some
costing information on the activities. And we also want
to identify the time frames and who will be involved and
meetings and all this other wonderful stuff. And we want
to make sure that we do identify the correct fiscal year
so that if and when we do go forward with a budget change proposal -- and that's what they're called -- for state agencies they submit budget change proposals requesting funding for future years -- additional funding for future years. So with that -- what do you think, Commissioner Akutagawa?

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I was also just going to add in terms of front-ending a lot of the activities as much as we can within this year and next year -- we're also concerned that once we get past next year, there's going to be less interest in supporting additional activities until it gets closer to the next Commission time. And so you'll see that that's also part of the reason why we're trying to move things in and load up as much as we can so that we could get a lot of it done.

A couple other things too, there's also things that -- I guess I'll just call it unfinished business. For example, like the federal incarcerated individuals issue, and we want to try to -- we know that that's going to take a little bit of a longer time than I think we wanted it to and that it's going to be the same situation for the next Commission. So we're hoping that we could try to wrap that up by coming to a hopefully a positive and successful resolution. And so that's something that we didn't categorize under something, but that's kind of
like under the unfinished business along with, like, the Lessons Learned kind of category there, so.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. So should we just go through the first -- oh. Should we share -- do you guys want to share the document? Marcy, can you share it for us? You're good at that stuff. And I also did want to thank Marcy. She did a great job of helping us brainstorm this as well and putting it all together, so thank you so much for doing that for us.

MS. KAPLAN: Are we going to want to, like, edit in the document, or should I just pull up the PDF?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: No, I think just the document that we have posted, and then we can --

MS. KAPLAN: Okay.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: -- go back and do the editing.

MS. KAPLAN: Sorry.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: And that'll probably be the quickest --

MS. KAPLAN: Which one are we starting with? So I can open --

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Let's start with the one -- Activities Associated with California Redistricting Efforts. The longer one -- the one that has seventeen items on it.
MS. KAPLAN: Okay. All right. Okay. Here we go.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: And again, as we go through this -- I mean, obviously, this is for the full Commission to participate, so please participate -- we want to make sure that, one, we agree that this is something that -- activity that we believe is within our scope, within our realm and that we've identified the correct fiscal years in terms of what our needs are going to be. Or yeah. And staffing.

Commissioner Sinay?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Just a quick question. I was caught off guard that names were put on the recommendations, because in the past, it was always Senate to staff so that the actual committee doing it does not have the names, because it's supposed to -- to make sure that we're not doing serial meetings and all that. It's supposed to be neutral. And so I was really caught off guard to see the names on here. So if you could just say why we kind of changed the way we did things. Thanks.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Sure. And there were no serial meetings. All of the comments went through our chief counsel and then he forwarded them to us. And the reason that we put the names there is because we wanted to know who forwarded it and then the discussion items
from them in terms of what they were thinking and if we
have further questions in terms of what they submitted.
They could provide the detail, because I'm pretty sure I
wouldn't be able to remember who submitted what. Short-
term memory, I guess, I should put on there. So thank
you for that question. So for the first one is the
Finish the Lessons Learned that Commissioner Kennedy and
Chair Ahmad have both been championing that effort since
our inception. And so what they have estimated is ten
days for each Commissioner, and I will -- correct me if I'm
wrong, Commissioner Kennedy and Chair Ahmad -- that
is for our brainstorming and meeting to come up with the
Lessons Learned documents and information. And then an
additional twenty days for subcommittee report drafting
and action items. And what that means -- it's not seven
days for each Commissioner, but it's just for the
subcommittee work. Commissioner Kennedy, did you want to
add anything to that? And it looks like the goal would
be to have that done by the end of this fiscal year. So
I'm going to turn it over to Commissioner Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Commissioner
Fernandez. Yes. I mean, the ten days per Commissioner,
I'm thinking that if we continue along the lines of
splitting it into two events -- and we may split it into
more depending on people's schedules -- but when I first
started looking at the draft outline and trying to put
the outline items into an agenda for it, it looked like
without time for public comment, the items, not including
litigation, would take a minimum of five days. So if we
add in time for public participation in the Lessons
Learned effort, I think we're talking seven to eight days
for that. And then litigation we could probably do in
one or two days, including public participation. So
that's where the estimate of ten days per Commissioner
came from.

And then the report writing is going to involve an
enormous amount of synthesis and writing and revising and
so forth. So that was the additional twenty days that I
was looking at for each of the two subcommittee members
to come up with a draft report. I did not include time
during regular business meetings for considering the
report. I just figured that would be --

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Um-hum.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: -- included in regular
business meetings.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Great. Thank you. Okay.
So that actually makes it a lot clearer in terms of being
able to cost that information out. So thank you. So it
was twenty days for each of the two subcommittee members.
So got it. Any other questions regarding that first one?
And then Commissioner Kennedy, the goal was to have it done by the end of this fiscal year? Okay. Thank you.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yes. I mean, as I'd mentioned a couple of meetings back, memories start to fade and any time you're doing this sort of exercise, you very much want to tap people's memories well before the six-month mark because things just start to fade and you lose a lot of very useful detail if you go out any longer than that. So yes, I would very much like to see this completed by the end of June.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. Great. Thank you. So we'll move on to the second one, which, as Commissioner Akutagawa had already talked about, this is a holdover or something that Commissioners Kennedy and Turner continue to work, hopefully with the Federal Bureau of Prisons, to have an agreement or some sort of memorandum of understanding or whatever may be. So that when the 2030 redistricting efforts start, there will be an agreement by the Federal Bureau of Prisons to provide the last residency information for California individuals incarcerated in the federal facilities. Commissioner Kennedy, do you have any more information on that in terms of the time frames and like, your and Commissioner Turner's -- oh, my gosh -- time?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you for the question.
I don't want to be in a rush on this. I believe I did mention at a previous meeting that I have done some research and found that there are other states that have provisions in their laws requiring them to reallocate individuals in federal custody. So I want to do some outreach to those states and get some more information about how they handle it, and then we can -- Commissioner Turner and I will continue to follow up. I think that at this point, we're talking less about follow-up with the Bureau of Prisons, unless we do discover that those other states already have agreements in place with the Federal Bureau of Prisons. In which case, we will try to put in place something analogous. But otherwise, it may still be at the policy level, and that would involve working with Senator Padilla's staff, who have expressed a willingness to work with us to see if we can make this happen for the 2030 Commission. Thank you.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. So in terms of the time frame at least, are you thinking this fiscal year or next fiscal year? I mean, I know it's hard to say because with the federal -- if you're trying to work with the federal government, you just never know. But I'm just trying to see if we marked the correct boxes in terms of when we feel -- and of course, next year we will -- it's not like once you've decided you're done.
Sorry, you can't go back. We can always readdress the different activities that we have here.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yeah. I think that marking both columns -- the current year and next fiscal year -- I think that's reasonable.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. Thank you.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: One of the things that in setting goals, especially when it comes to advocacy, that I've learned and implemented with my clients, is sometimes thinking about when do we need to lead, when do we need to support, and when can we follow? Meaning, when do we have to take the brunt of the effort? When can someone else lead it and we support it? And when do we just pay attention? And the reason I bring this up is I think there's a lot of people who are working on this issue and we may want to talk to them and just figure out what -- we need a strategy around prisoner gerrymandering, both at the state and at the federal level.

I also wanted to remind us that we weren't done with the state issue with prisoner gerrymandering. We wanted to make sure that it was written into our -- kind of our mandate, so every ten years the Commission didn't have to vote if they were going to or not going to do -- how they
were going to handle individuals who are incarcerated.

We wanted to kind of make that that was just the way that business was done. So I don't know if -- that probably will come up in the Lessons Learned, but I just didn't want to lose that piece. And on this people -- well, I'll just leave it there. Thank you.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Commissioner Kennedy?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thanks. Following up on Commissioner Sinay's comment, I think the most important element of this in that regard is the redistricting timeline. I mean, if reallocation takes a month, that needs to be factored into the timeline for future Commissions. I mean, it wasn't really for us, but we would certainly want to advocate that it be taken into full consideration in the timeline for future Commissions. Thanks.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Thank you. And I think we have that discussion for the next spreadsheet. So that was very good. Okay. So then, we'll go on to the budget area, and I think Commissioner Akutagawa's going to -- we're going to swap.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yes. Yeah. And as Commissioner Fernandez just mentioned, on the prison gerrymandering, as well as the timeline, it is something that we -- it is on the next document that is for
conversation. So we made these grouping just for the sake of being able to read through everything a little bit more easily. You'll see that we have five different areas of which the fifth one has -- there's several subsets to it. I call them -- they're similar but they're still different enough that I didn't want to have it lost and so -- but it just seemed overwhelming to have so many, so we grouped them in this way.

So the first one is obviously for our activities is to get our next fiscal year budget ask together, and so you'll see that it's an immediate activity that we'll need to finish up before the end of this fiscal year and actually within the next I think, few weeks, we'll have to do that. The outyear plan is what I believe we're doing now, but we just wanted to acknowledge that this was feedback that was received, and then just determining what we're going to be doing following that.

After that, we talked about meeting cadence. And we started talking a little bit about it this morning, but I think it would be just helpful for us to just start thinking about what is going to be our meeting cadence. How often are we going to plan to meet beyond next fiscal year, most likely what are the -- what's the format that we'll be able to utilize and obviously, these are also interconnected with some of the other areas that we're
going to be proposing, like legislative changes. For example, around Bagley-Keene, hopefully so that we can continue to have the option to meet virtually. If there is known litigation, obviously -- these are more the questions. If there's litigation, I mean, obviously, the need for more meetings and other costs and other things related to it will be much different. And so we tried to put a lens of what are going to be the budget implications based on these different activities and meeting cadence and format is going to have. There's definitely going to be budget implications that we'll need to think about.

The next one after that -- and this came up as well, too -- is what are our long-term staffing needs beyond fiscal year 2023? And also the question is where are they going to be housed? Because that's also going to have a budget implication. We're going to have to -- we can't have them working out of their home. We'll need to have them housed somewhere. And I do believe that we're going to need at least one staff person, an administrative person to help just move things along. I think us as a Commission trying to work through all of the state processes may become a hot mess potentially, if I can say it like that. And I wouldn't want to put it all on Commissioner Fernandez to do it because she'd
probably be the best person understanding state processes. So those are our other considerations that I think we'll need to think about beyond not just this year and the next fiscal year, but even beyond that as well, too.

And then the last one is the one that we received multiple comments on. I think there's interest amongst Commissioners around -- so what is going to be done to ensure the maintenance of various systems -- not just website, but NationBuilder -- if we're going to maintain that. The Airtable database. Again, going back to having an administrative person, like administrative specialist to help ensure that our systems are maintained. We got feedback around making some kind of plan and being able to ensure that there's resources to ensure the longevity of our website as well as all the documents. And then also questions and concerns about what do we do about the videos? Where we're going to have it so that it is going to be available for the next Commission as well, too. I know that I recall that we heard from different individuals stating that they wanted to go back and see some of the 2010 videos and there was I think, some challenges with some of that. So we want to just make sure that while it's still fresh, we get these all squared away so that the next Commission also
will not be trying to figure out and probably cursing us because we didn't take care of it while we could. So I'll stop here on the budget-related items. See if there's any questions. I see Commissioner Fernandez?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I just wanted to -- out of the items in the budget-related, we do need some feedback on number five, the meeting cadence. Because in order for us to come back with some sort of costing information, that's something we would need. And at this point, it's with the assumption that there is no litigation. I mean, it's -- that may not be the case, but there's something -- we need to start somewhere. And again, this document and the budget information is fluid, so of course, if these change as we move along we would have to update our costing information as well. So we would like to get some feedback from the Commissioners in terms of the meeting cadence, not only for this fiscal year, but then for the following years. And probably, like, specifically from the 2022 to the 2028. Because then in 2028, '29 might have more meetings based on our collaboration, possibly with the census or depends on the next list, so. If you respond to this, if you'd please keep that in mind. Thank you.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: And just real quick. I think this may have been said, but I'll repeat it again.
What we were told and what I understand is that it's better if we come out with not only the next fiscal year budget request, but also give the Legislature an idea of what our anticipated cost for the entirety of our next, I guess, remaining eight years is going to be. So that's also why you're seeing some of these questions being moved up a little bit earlier than what we may have initially thought. And so these questions do become important in terms of being able to, I think, set the expectation for where there's going to be cost and also potentially -- I don't want to say advocacy, but I think at least giving essentially a heads-up so that we also know whether or not they're going to be receptive to the request that we're going to be making in the later years.

I see Commissioner Kennedy hands up?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yes. Thank you. Just to say that in the context of the website subcommittee, I had been in contact with an archivist in the secretary of state's office who is putting me in touch with people who handle archiving of California government documents and information. I've just sent him a reminder. I had sent him a reminder the day after we approved the maps, saying that we wanted to sit down and discuss with him or whoever, things like, how do we ensure ongoing access to the 2010 website, the 2020 website, the Airtable data, et
cetera. So I'm looking to hear back from him and am happy to continue working on that.

I also wanted to say in relation to some of this, that I've been in touch with the state auditor's office to ensure that we get them involved in the Lessons Learned process, at least on those items related to the setup -- the recruitment and setup of the Commission. Of course, we do know that the state auditor, Elaine Howle, retired at the end of last year. The office promised that one of the top items on the briefing scheduled for the new auditor would be the redistricting and the role of CSA in setting up and supporting the Redistricting Commission. So I am looking forward to hearing back from them on whether they need our involvement in briefing the new state auditor at some point. But the idea is that the state auditor's office would be involved in the Lessons Learned exercise, particularly in those items related to their role in recruitment and support. Thank you.

CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you, Commissioner Kennedy. I'm just going to jump in. We are up against our mandatory break. We will take lunch from now until 12:45. And then I anticipate us rejoining after lunch in closed session under the personnel-related issues item at 12:45. Hopefully, I'll schedule, Kristian, a half-an-hour for
closed session, and let you know if we need additional
time. So with that, enjoy your lunch, everyone, and I
will see you in closed session at 12:45.

(Whereupon, a recess was held from 11:50 a.m.
until 1:21 p.m.)

CHAIR AHMAD: Welcome back from lunch, and then from
closed session, everyone. I just want to report out that
the Commission did take action in closed session. The
Commission approved a five-percent salary increase for
the outreach director. With that, let's jump back in to
where we left off in open session with the Long-term
Planning Subcommittee.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay, so. Let me go back
to my (indiscernible, simultaneous speech) --

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I could jump -- yeah, I
could jump in.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. Great. Thanks.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I know that -- we left off,
there was some -- I forgot who it was -- I think it was
either Commissioner Turner or Commissioner Yee, I think
that had their hand up before we went to the break. And
we were on the budget-related areas.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you, Commissioner
Akutagawa. And I promise, if it's me that was too many
hours ago. Even being --
COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: You'll take advantage.
Might as well.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: I'm good. I'll have to wait and see what the conversation is again.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Okay.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: And I think part of it, too, is if I remember correctly -- you're right. I'm with you, Commissioner Turner. It was more than an hour ago. You shouldn't expect me to remember what I said. I think part of it is we do want to identify or have feedback from the Commissioners in terms of meeting cadence. If there is -- if we don't have litigation, what that will look like. Not necessarily this fiscal year, but for the outgoing year. So if we could get some feedback on that so that we can come back with some costing and budget figures for everyone that would be very helpful. Thank you.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Kennedy?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you. I went on to the 2010 Commission's website the other day, looking at their meeting schedule for the outyears. I don't know whether others have had a chance to do that, and keeping in mind that they did have some litigation. They did have the Ash grant from Harvard. Basically, if we get past the bulk of the litigation phase, there were two meetings in
2012, two meetings in 2013 -- two, four, six -- eight
meetings in 2014, two scheduled meetings in 2015, one of
which had to be canceled due to lack of quorum. Two
meetings in 2016, six meetings in 2017, three scheduled
meetings in 2018, one of which was canceled, and two
meetings in 2019. And then I know that they had a
meeting shortly before the first eight were selected. I
think it was in June of 2020. So it looks like
for general purposes, they got by with two meetings a
year, and there were a couple years with more meetings,
but that was because of either litigation or the Ash
grant. Thank you.

CHAIR AHMAD: I can jump in to help you all
facilitate.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. Sorry about that. I
was just writing up a note.

CHAIR AHMAD: I wasn't sure.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I see Commissioner
Fornaciari. And one other thing that as you're all
looking at this, too, we try to put the examples of what
would be -- what would be included. Like, for example,
in some of the recurring or ongoing costs -- if there's
anything else that you feel was missed or you have a
question on, then please feel free to also ask that, too.

Commissioner Fornaciari?
COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. I think that -- I did the same thing as Commissioner Kennedy -- looked at the last Commission. They met twice a year in the middle part. If we don't have anything significant going on I don't see that we need to meet more than that. I think, though, once we figure out what our -- what we feel like our contribution needs to be, what we feel like our level of engagement needs to be in, say '29 and '30. I would guess that they met in -- whenever it was, '19 or '20, to talk about the supreme court brief probably. I mean, but we had been talking about trying to ramp things back up with Outreach and Engagement and what that's going to look like down the road.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. And thank you for that, Commissioner Fornaciari. I think what I realized, too, is that while we're asking those questions, we may not have an immediate answer, like, right this second. I think some of it is also going to be contingent upon the other document that we have, which are the to-be-discussed by all of us, to whether or not, A, it's something that we as a Commission should do, as in, is it within our scope and within our purview and/or is it something that, as a Commission, like the previous Commission, we may want to try to search for some grant funding on maybe one or two particular areas that we want
to maybe put our efforts behind with the help of outside
funding, which could then also impact other -- these
other questions that we have as well, too.

Anyone else have questions on the -- thank you.
Commissioner Fornaciari?

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: So I have a question for
Anthony. If we get outside funding and we need to do
whatever the funding is for, I guess I assume it's a
Commission meeting at that point, right? Or are we just
fourteen private -- some subset of fourteen private
citizens doing something kind of outside of the
Commission's scope?

MR. PANE: Truthfully, I think we'd have to really
look at that because we get the funding -- we're supposed
to be getting funding from the Legislature as a state
entity, so I -- we would have to look and see if we get
funding from elsewhere if we could still sort of piece
this together and do all that.

I think that's a lot of -- that would be very
unorthodox, so we would really have to look and see if
there's any logistical or legal issues with that. So I
don't have a clear answer for you right now, and that's a
big sort of hypothetical, and frankly, I don't know that
that's been done in state government. We'd have to look
and see what the details are with it.
COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I think we were kind of thinking along the lines of what the previous 2010 Commission did. They got some kind of grant. I guess I'm not -- to be honest, I'm not one hundred percent sure how that worked out, and I think Commissioner Fornaciari brings up a great point. Commissioner Fernandez?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yeah. And Commissioner Fornaciari, he kind of led into this piece of this. If you receive outside grant funding and it's not necessarily within the scope of what our redistricting responsibilities are, then we also have to -- the next question is then does the -- if we have a grant, is the state going to pay our per diem, which would seem inappropriate because it's outside of our scope.

So I think it's this whole other conversation of you can get a grant, but what is that grant going to include and how much of that, if any of that activity, should actually be paid for by state funds or be funded by the governor's budget after whatever it's called. So it's kind of like a convoluted conversation, I think, and it's probably going to be a case-by-case basis.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: And I think those were some of the same questions that we had on the -- we need to discuss it with everybody because there's some grey areas on some of the suggestions. And maybe we're taking too
narrow of a look at it, but we were trying to be, I think, responsible and make sure that we stayed within our purview, too. So I think, Anthony, that's where also your counsel is going to be needed as well, too.

Alicia, I'm not seeing any additional suggestions at this time, and I'm suspecting that this is probably going to continue on as a conversation once everybody has a chance to digest this. I'm going to turn this over to you if you want to do the legislative-related.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. Sure. That sounds great. And I think we have enough, at least for now, to come up with some information on the budget side of it for -- in terms of meetings.

And so the legislative-related, that's going to be a difficult one maybe for us to really try to narrow it down right now because I believe this is going to be part of the Lessons Learned with Commissioners Kennedy and Ahmad.

So with that, if there's specific areas that Commissioners are interested in in terms of proposing legislation, then I think now would be a good time, possibly, to discuss it just so that we can see how much time possibly could be involved.

So I'm trying to look at it -- Commissioner Akutagawa and I are trying to look at it on the budget
side of it in terms of if it's ten different government
code areas that we want to amend or we want to add, then
what will that effort look like as well as not only that,
you also have to find a legislature that willing to
sponsor the language. So that's another piece of it.

So at this point, we didn't know the specific areas.
And I don't know if maybe we just have it as a
placeholder knowing that we're going to do something and
then maybe just try to guesstimate what that might look
like. That definitely is not -- it will have to go --
roll over to the next fiscal year because we won't have
all the information and the budget cycle is almost, like,
a year long.

So hopefully, we should get everything in and
someone sponsoring that language in the next fiscal year.
So unless anyone has comments on it, we'll maybe just try
to guess, but I do see Commissioner Yee has his hand up,
so maybe he can help us on this.

COMMISSIONER YEE: Sure. Well, it's already been
mentioned the need to try to add a month to the mapping
deadline to take account of the reallocation process and
how long it takes. There was also an idea that come up
I'll just mention. I'm not sure yet how I feel about it,
but the way the Commission is constituted. So five from
the largest registration party, five from the second
largest.

But there may come a point in the near future where no party preference is actually larger than the second largest. And this came up in one of the panels I was on. Shouldn't that be a - possibly a legitimate category for the second largest, no party preference because otherwise they never, ever have a shot at the five seats. So it's just something worth discussing, I think.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. Thank you. That's helpful. Commissioner Kennedy?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yeah. Decline to state, previously no party preference, have outnumbered Republicans for several years or many years, so I think we're well past that point. I mean, personally, my preference would be that we make it five, five, and five. I can certainly say from experience as one of the first eight that having a five, five, and five would have made the -- I think the selection process of the final cohort easier.

I think we could have addressed more desires had we had that additional flexibility. So I'm very much in agreement with Commissioner Yee that I think that would be a good topic for us to engage on, and hopefully, we would be able to reach agreement and advocate effectively. Thank you.
CHAIR AHMAD: Great. Thank you. Commissioner Akutagawa?

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. I think I read something about this in -- what I had read is that no party preference was not yet greater than Republicans yet. However, the article that I had read did surmise that by the time the next redistricting cycle comes around that, based on trends, no party preference will become the second largest, and therefore, I believe it's already automatically written into the statute for the redistricting Commission then the no party preference would become then the five seats, and then Republican's would become four seats. That was my understanding, but we could --

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yeah.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: -- check into that as well, too.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yeah. I think you're right in terms of how the language reads. Whoever is second gets five and whoever's third, I guess -- or other neither one is then third gets the four.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: But I would support the five, five, and five, too.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Um-hum. Yeah.

Commissioner Kennedy?
COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: I would disagree with that reading. I think the reference is to the largest political party and the second largest political party. Decline to state is not a political party, and so I think the five for the Democratic Party, five for the Republican Party is pretty solidly in there. I don't foresee that we would have much chance of success in changing that. I do see a road to success in making it five, five, and five. That's where I am. Thanks.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. And so that's -- I'll had that to the list. Obviously, it'll be further discussion, but at some point, we will probably have a subcommittee maybe that will come out of Lessons Learned that will talk -- that will work on these legislative potential updates and then come forward to the full Commission. But I think we can add some sort of budget information for that line item.

And then item number 19 is -- that one came from me because we all saw how frustrating it was to work through the RFP process and the length of time it took. And because we're only here -- normally, we would only be here for a year, so by the time you get started initially on a process, you're halfway done. And my recommendation in terms of trying to either change the language --

COMMISSIONER TURNER: What number?
COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I'm sorry. It's number 9.

So it's --

COMMISSIONER TURNER: 9.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: -- exclusion from the California State Procurement and Contracting Regulations, right now we do have the exclusion for hiring personnel. We don't have to go through the process, but I would like to see language similar to what the census doesn't have to adhere to the State Procurement and Contracting, it's my understanding, and it would be great to be able to issue grants, and we weren't able to do that this year.

So anyway, that was something that would require probably legislative action on that piece of it. Are there any comments or anything else associated with number 9? Okay. Then we'll move on to -- ope.

Commissioner Vazquez?

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yeah. Sorry if I missed this discussion or this part of the discussion but was wondering in terms of legislative-related goals, I do think it would be important to at least have on there so we don't lose sight of Bagley-Keene and accessibility for Commissioners and the public to virtual Commission business.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Actually, I think I'll --
COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: And that's in the next area.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yeah. It's the segue.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yeah. But that's great.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Perfect.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: So now I'm going to had it back to Commissioner Akutagawa.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yes. So thank you Commissioner Vazquez for teeing us up for that. We did look at whether or not we should fold it in under legislative-related, but we thought it would be important to call it out separately partly because there is a committee with you and Commissioner Kennedy and also because specifically the Bagley-Keene reforms or fixes.

For example, it was brought up about supporting the Little Hoover Commissioner, but we did feel that that -- that thus was reflected from an access-related kind of activity or to-do, and so we grouped it under that but it does connect to the legislative. So as we've said earlier, I mean, there's a lot of interconnections between different areas where it falls under more than one category.

And so with that, under the access-related, I do want to just identify that we have two particular ones that we wanted to raise up for the Commission to work on
over this next -- remaining fiscal year and the next fiscal year. And one is to identify and implement the best practices for disability access to maps and visualizations. That one is already in process with Commissioner Vazquez and Commissioner Kennedy. We are happy that we were able to do that, but I think we want to make sure that we continue to be on the forefront of making sure that it's as accessible to all Californians as possible.

And then the second part is really looking at working with the Legislature to be able to reform the Bagley-Keene legislation so that it can support access and accessibility for people who have different abilities, for example, including Commissioners who may or may not be able to travel to a central location. And as we found, we expect that the technology is going to change, but we want to make sure that we're not too far behind. And Zoom was very much, I think, a welcome tool for all of us, not only during the pandemic, but it also ensured that Commissioner Vazquez was able to continue to participate, too.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Commissioner Sinay?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Just on accessibility and Zoom and all that, I think it also is an equalizer for those who can't afford to travel because, honestly, we've
talked about this. We're all several thousand in the
total waiting to get paid back, and not everybody can do
that. And hopefully, no one right now is doing it in
debt and paying interest on that debt because they put it
on a credit card.

I mean, so I think that's another piece of this. We
haven't talked about compensation and -- but maybe that
also goes with Commissioner Fernandez was saying about
how we need to be in another system just for
reimbursements and all that as well. If it's really
about making this -- being able to serve on this
Commission accessible to all, there needs to be some
changes as well.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Thank you, Commissioner
Sinay. And I think you also brought up a good reminder
is that it's not only an equalizer for us as
Commissioners but also for all of the Californians who
were able to participate because they didn't have to show
up to a physical meeting location. And so it was, I
think, reflected in the inputs that we received
throughout the state.

So Commissioner Kennedy?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you. Just a reminder
that after I spoke to the statewide voting accessibility
advisory committee meeting last year, I reported back
that there was someone in on the Zoom call who said that she was blind but -- and had been interested in applying for the Commission and didn't. And I encouraged her to consider it again for the 2030 Commission. So I really do want us to do whatever we can.

I think the visual -- the audio captioning of the maps is certainly a significant step in that direction. I've encouraged Fredy to really publicize that, even look at drafting a feature piece that we could shop around to publications that might be interested in the topic. But I really want to encourage us to -- to make sure that the Commission or Commission work is accessible, and from the inside, not just the outside. Thank you.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Great. Thank you.

Commissioner Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I'm not sure to raise my hand or not as part of the (indiscernible) committee, but I just wanted to make sure -- so for those two items, 10 and 11, we noted in terms of impact or budget implications would be for this fiscal year as well as next fiscal year. If anyone feels differently, I think right now when the topic is still fresh, I think it's a good time to work on these efforts. So if anyone feels that it's beyond that, then just please let us know so that we make sure that we do take that into
COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: All right. Great.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. Okay. So this next one, number 12, so the next three areas are operations, administrative-related. That should not require -- the first one might be a little bit more sensitive, but we've all struggled with the state auditor's office in terms of what we thought was fully functional versus what they believe was fully functional, and that language is actually in the government code section, so we could either address it one of two ways.

We could either try to work with the state auditor in terms of what we feel is fully functional, or we could actually try to change that in our legislative changes where we actually define what we believe fully functional is so that -- I believe most of us, if not all, would agree having a little bit more support -- and I don't even want to say a little bit more support.

When we were first -- eighteen were first appointed, it -- in terms of we had two half-time retired annuitants, and it would have definitely been helpful to all of us to get us started. Almost like we had the training wheels on for a long time, and it would have been helpful to have that support. Commissioner Kennedy?
COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you. Yes. I've been advocating on this since the very beginning. To me, what we need to look at is the implementing regulations, which is where most of the definitions are. And I've spoken with chief counsel about this on one or more occasions.

We need to find out who would be able to put -- to insert something into the implementing regulations. It's not necessarily -- it doesn't necessarily require legislative action to insert something into implementing regulations.

But California Code of Regulations Title 2, Administration Division 10, California State Auditor's Office, Chapter 1, Redistricting, Subchapter 1 is definitions, and Section 60856 talks about administrative support for the first eight members. So this section of the CCR basically is from the perspective of the auditor's office and to guide the auditor's office.

There are apparently no implementing regulations beyond the selection process, which I find to be a huge gap. We've encountered it at multiple points along the way, clarifying what the definition of a day is for purposes of some of the deadlines that we were dealing with and so forth. So I think there's a broader question of how do we build out the regulatory framework that sits below the legal framework, the laws that have to be passed by the Legislature. Thank you.
COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Thank you. Commissioner Vazquez?

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yeah. I am not opposed to going the administrative regulatory route. However, I will say that I think I see a case to be made for pursuing both legislative and building out our own regulations.

My concern with not pursuing legislation around some of these key, very -- in my opinion, squishy definitions is that we potentially leave room for future Commissions or future state auditors to have wildly different definitions, and then it's sort up to our individual counsels to work it out between them. And I just -- I think we would position future Commissions in a stronger way if we pursued legislative updates to some of these terms.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Great. Thank you. Commissioner Yee?

COMMISSIONER YEE: Yeah. The three areas I'm recalling that really could have used the most attention, one was technical support with the website. That was a real hinderance to us early on for many months. Second was getting paid. I remember the per diem payments didn't start until well into 2021.

And the third was that whole matter of the auditor's
office preemptively trying to be helpful by posting job
descriptions for, I think, executive director, chief
counsel, and was it communications director, and we
ourselves had very mixed feelings about that. Some of us
thought it was great. Some of us thought that as
terrible because we didn't write those. But some
clarity, some direction perhaps on which was to go for
the next Commission whether the auditor's office should
try to do that again or not.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. Great. Those are
great. And I do remember another one that Commissioner
Kennedy had brought up and that had to do with a lack of
communications or being able to do any sort of public
releases because we didn't have a communications person.
And I believe it became very apparent that we wanted to
respond when the first eight there were no Latinos. So I
don't know if, Commissioner Kennedy, you wanted to talk
about that one also.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: If I could briefly. It
wasn't so much the issue of lack of staff. It was we
were advised that the first eight could not issue a
statement because the Commission as not complete with
fourteen members. We definitely would have been out with
a statement, even if we didn't have staff, but we were
told that because there were only eight of us, we
couldn't make a statement. And so yes, I'd very much like to resolve that for the 2030 Commission if we could. Thank you.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. Good. Thank you for clarifying that. Commissioner Turner?

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah. Thank you for that. Thank you. And Commissioner Kennedy, I think the way it was just so structured in the way that it was worded, that our only duty, our only -- the only thing we could do was to hire to balance of the Commissioners, which did make it too restrictive to be able to do things that just would have been -- would have been -- I was going to say common sense to be able to just put out something, respond, but it just tied our hands too much.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. I'm trying to make sure I capture everything. Okay. Anything else on that? Okay. Oh. Commissioner Sinay?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thanks. I mean, and I think one of the things that was kind of a struggle, and I don't know if this falls into this, but they were -- at the beginning, they wanted to put everything on that one PR firm that was charging an arm and an leg and wasn't doing very much versus using some -- their PR -- yeah, using the state auditor's PR person or something, and that might be along the same lines. But they thought
that we had a solution, but it really didn't work for us.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes. Thank you. And

Commissioner Akutagawa?

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. I'm just going to
jump on this communications bandwagon here. I think one
of the things that I did find that I thought was
interesting, and this connects to what I think
Commissioner Turner and Commissioner Kennedy mentioned.

They weren't able to respond about the first eight,
but what I thought was interesting is that I don't recall
that there was any kind of statement or press release
when the entire fourteen was seated, and I think that
would have been -- even though it might have been late,
it would have been a way to really celebrate how --
ultimately, we were able to -- that a diverse slate of
Commissioners was seated, and I think that that was a
missed opportunity.

And I'm not saying that it's the state auditor's
fault, but I think those are the kind of disconnects that
maybe were missed opportunities, and if we could try to
set it up for the next time, that would be, again,
another piece from the communication side that hopefully
we can strengthen.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Great. Thank you.

Commissioner Turner?
COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah. Thank you. I thought there was a communication that went out for the full fourteen.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: There was. I think we lost it, though.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah. But I wanted to say and I was kind of hesitant because I was not -- I was trying to remember every time Commissioner Kennedy says we need to have a conversation before too much time passes, and I'm like, yep, he's talking about me. That's right. We need to.

So there was also -- speaking about the state auditor, there was some relationship or connection with statewide database that I think, for me, caused some levels of discomfort or lack of clarity as far as decisions that felt like was either made or decisions that was maybe ongoing still that felt like it rubbed up against a little bit of what the Commission should be doing as opposed to decisions that were made by the state auditor with statewide database.

So I think I would like some more clarity or conversation around what exactly is that relationship and how that can be either some light shown there or we get really clear on where those lines or responsibility are.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Great. Thank you. I just
have to be a little flashback right now, Commissioner Turner, our very first meeting of the 14th. I'm so happy we have the hand raise because I remember you having the Post-It that had everybody's names. So anyway, I just wanted to do a little flashback as to why didn't we use this hand feature so long ago?

Sorry. I tend to digress a few times, but you know, times are -- things come up. Okay. Anything else on that, on number 12, which is work with the state auditor, and which will encompass more than just fully functional. Commissioner Akutagawa?

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. I just wanted to also note that the point about the statewide database, we do have that on the to-be-discussed portion about our relationship with them and getting some clarity there, too. So thank you for bringing that up, too.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes. Thank you. So the next two, number 13 and number 14, Commissioner Akutagawa and I talked about it, and it's probably something that we would probably just attach to the Lessons Learned document, and that would be to develop and revise our specs for our executive team, and then also any other specs that we have, like, for the rest of the communications team and outreach team, and then also share with them -- either develop or revise our request
for proposal specs on the different RFPs like legal
counsel, litigation, VRA.

We just feel that this would be helpful to the next
Commission because, again, they can choose to use it, not
use it, but at least -- had we known what we know now, we
probably would have rewritten those RFPs or we would have
maybe changed some of those job specs. So that'll be an
effort, but again, that would probably coincide with
Lessons Learned.

Commissioner Kennedy? Commissioner Kennedy, are you
there? Okay. I'll wait for him to come back. If no
other comments, then I'm going to pass it on to
Commissioner Akutagawa for the future years.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: All right. So what we --
so this document here, and I know we've been saying it a
lot, these are the things that we feel we do need to do.
There are some things in the future years that we feel
that we should be doing, we need to do, and that also
fall within the scope or purview of what at least -- for
Commissioner Fernandez and I thought are within the
purview and the scope of the redistricting Commission.

So number 15, 16, and 17, you'll see that those are
much further out, closer to the time when we begin the
transition to the next Commission. But we received quite
a bit of suggestions from multiple Commissioners around
not only supporting -- excuse me -- not only supporting
with the recruitment process for the next redistricting
Commission but also finding a way to engage,
collaborate -- I'm not sure what the correct wording
would be, but we use engage -- so that then there's more
of a smoother transition.

Because I know that -- I think we've had -- we had,
as a Commission, conversations about ow it would have
been nice if we were able to have done some -- maybe some
coordinative work with the census teams, especially as we
go out into outreach at the very beginning so that
there's more of a transition from the census teams to us
as we do our outreach to start getting the words -- the
word out about communities of interest.

And so you'll see that, again, on these, they're
related but they're slightly different, and so I wanted
to -- we wanted to make sure that we captured all of
these. 15 and 16 are more related to the recruitment of
the next Commission, and number 17 is really ways in
which we can work with the next census teams.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Commissioner Kennedy?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you. So two things.
One, on that specific point, that raises the question of
whether we should discuss, consider, recommend a change
in the start date of the term. My recollection is that
the legal framework says that the Commission should be formed no later than August 15th in a year ending in zero. I don't recall whether there's a no earlier than. And so we might want to look at moving that date back to at least January of a year ending in zero.

That also -- I mean, it could even go earlier. I mean, there have been some mentions occasionally of, well, would it make more sense to facilitate that engagement with census planning and messaging if the terms went from years ending in eight to the following year ending in eight, ten years later, or nine, something along those lines.

That also brings up the bigger question of at a certain point, in some way, we are going to want to engage with partner -- community partners and legislators in more than just a this is our process, you're welcome to call in with your comments and suggestions. I'd like us to find channels and means to really work substantively with both legislators and community partners on some of these big questions, issues that we may settle on before the 2030 Commission takes office.

Thanks.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Thank you. Commissioner Fernandez?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes. And Commissioner
Kennedy brings up a great point, and I just wanted to, I guess, remind everyone if there -- if the Commission does such a proposal where they would want to start -- or they would recommend that the next Commission, the 2030 Commission start earlier, we'd have to work closely with the state auditor because all those dates in there because that would obviously impact their recruitment efforts and outreach efforts as well. But so thank you for that.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Any other comments? If not, we do thank you for your comments and engagement on this part. And I think we're taking up a lot of time, but we do have the next portion, which is the topics that we felt fall in a grey area. They're not clear-cut within the purview of the current Commission as it is formed right now.

I think some of the legislative changes that we are considering and are -- will be discussing could potentially change some of these, but we wanted to reflect all of the suggestions that we got, and perhaps just at least identify are any outright yeses, outright noes, if any are maybes.

You'll see one -- item number 5, which is technical assistance to newly created independent redistricting Commissions with a written guide. We put a note that it
could possibly actually come in the form of our Lessons
Learned document that could be shared with other
independent redistricting Commissions. And so that may
not require additional work beyond what the Lessons
Learned document is going to be.

Commissioner Fernandez, I think I'm going to just
turn this over to you to present. And I see that --
COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Oh. Okay.
CHAIR AHMAD: -- Commissioner Sinay had her hand up,
too.
COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. So I'll just add a
little bit more of what Commissioner Akutagawa said is at
the end of the day, we've done what we were set to do in
terms of what our mission, what our goal was. And what
we were concerned with is to ensure that we don't do any
sort of scope creep and we don't jeopardize anything for
the 2030 Commission where we try to do more than what
really is what the realm of our responsibilities are as
the 2020 Commission to draw the maps, to do the
redistricting for the State of California.

So with that, we will go with the -- the first one
that came in, number one, was the continuing advocacy
through independent redistricting and there were a couple
areas in there. One was nationally, and nationally why
independent redistricting is critical, and I think this
is where the last Commission, I believe, received a
grant, something in this area. I'm not sure.

Commissioner Yee.

COMMISSIONER YEE: Yes. Thank you. Yes, they did,
although I still have not heard clearly what they're
doing with their grant. So if anyone has that
information and can point us to that, that would be
great.

Yeah. Number 1 is connected with number 11. So
Commissioner Sinay and I had the idea of what if got some
kind of gathering together of as many different states'
independent redistricting Commissions as we could and
just compare notes and encourage each other and maybe
compile something that would be helpful to advocate for
independent redistricting elsewhere.

And so we actually got in touch with Common Cause,
and our friend Jonathan Mehta Stein as well as Helen
Hutchison from League of Women Voters and floated the
idea, and they're actually very exciting. And we
actually have a meeting set up for next week. This was
something we think they would take the lead on. They
also got our friend Kathy Feng, the godmother of our
Commission, on board as well.

And so the question would be the question we were
discussing. So if we were to get involved, would it just
be as independent citizens who happened to be Commissioners or would it be some kind of official effort by the Commission, and if so, what could we contribute, if anything, staff time in support of Commissioner time, whatever.

Yeah. That's a meeting we're going to have, and we'd love to come to them with some sense from this Commission about how they feel about the idea. I am noticing for number 11, so now we picked up a no vote already. I'm not sure exactly where that came from.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Well, no. The no vote was because of the information that we received, it read that with -- that you two were -- with the understanding that that would be separate, it wouldn't be part of the Commission. That's why I noted it, the no --

COMMISSIONER YEE: Oh. Okay.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: -- on there.

COMMISSIONER YEE: I thought that was something to be discussed, but.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Well, no. In the email, it was there for just informational purposes. It wasn't as -- but I wanted to go ahead and add it.

COMMISSIONER YEE: Sure.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yeah.

COMMISSIONER YEE: Okay.
COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Then we'll go --

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I think it was -- what we wrote was that there would be -- we don't think CRC would have to pay for it since it was a budget question. So I don't know if the no means it's no problem because it's not a budget issue.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Commissioner Kennedy?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you. Yes. That's very exciting. Even before my bingo ball dropped, I was talking with a former colleague in Maryland who was also applying to be on a local redistricting Commission in Maryland and we started talking about the idea of a national association of redistricting Commissioners or redistricting advocates. So I would certainly be interested in seeing that move forward, would love to be involved in that.

As for the Ash grant, Ash Center grant that the 2010 Commission got, my understanding is that they did use it to cover travel costs to other states when they were invited to speak about the experience of the California Citizens Redistricting Commission and the advantages of citizen redistricting Commissions.

My one lingering question is that at the time that -- at least the time that the first eight took over, those funds had not been completely expended, and rather
than passing them over to us, the 2010 Commission somehow
found a way to continue with the -- with that funding for
the 2010 Commission as a former body rather than passing
the funds onto the 2020 Commission to complete. So I --
for whatever, that's my understanding of how things
worked out. Thanks.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Thank you. Communications
Director Ceja?

MR. CEJA: Yes. Thank you so much. In addition to
promoting and advocating for independent redistricting
nationwide, I would also suggest that we look at locally
here in California at counties and cities. That seems to
be an area that still needs attention here in California.
Even though we have a model at the statewide level, the
local level is not -- that's not the case.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Thank you. And I put
myself in the queue. Personally, I do not believe this
falls within the scope of the redistricting Commission.
I feel that this is advocacy group, and if anyone is
interested in pursuing that, it would be done as part of
their individual advocacy groups, which is -- I'm doing
that, but on my own because I do feel it's out of the
realm of what we were directed to do and responsible for.
Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I think I tend to agree with
you, but I just wanted to hear a little bit more on how
your -- a little bit more about what you're thinking. I
mean, is -- to me, when it comes to nonprofits, there's
this thick wall between advocacy and nonprofits. It's
stronger, it's built harder than it needs to be.

But is it your thinking is these are things we would
do without charging our time to the Commission, without
having staff time, but we could use our Commission title?
Just a little bit more -- I just wanted to understand a
little bit more where your thinking was versus just
saying it's not.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Right. In terms of what I
was looking at it is there's nowhere in the legislation,
nowhere in the mandates, nowhere does it talk about us
being an advocate for redistricting. So in terms of me,
personally, if I wanted to do this, I would reach out and
be involved as much as I can -- and I'm still a
Commissioner.

I wouldn't be using -- I wouldn't be charging my
time. I wouldn't be charging my travel. I wouldn't be
using staff to help with any of the, maybe, work or
whatever was needed, but I'm -- we're still
Commissioners. We're still Commissioners and that can't
be taken away until the 2030 Commission is seated. So
that's how I see it. It's on my dime, my time, but we're
still a Commissioner. That's how I see it. Commissioner Akutagawa?

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. I would agree with what Commissioner Fernandez just said. Commissioner Sinay, I think you made an interesting distinction. I think we were thinking that we would not -- we should not use state resources, staff resources. However the use of our title as a Commissioner, I think, would be appropriate if we choose to go and do something more because we're invited but also if, I guess, if we -- let's say we get a grant and we're out there, we want to help promote this. That's one thing.

I think I wanted to also make a distinction that I want to be sensitive to the fact that we don't want to go out and tell people, hey, you should follow our example because who's to say that others may think we were really the model. But I think if we're invited and people want to have a discussion with us, I think that that is something that would make sense, and maybe that's the -- kind of the grey area where if that's the case, if we're being invited, is that something that should be supported through our state funds.

I think that that could be up for discussion and distinction as to, like, if, let's say, somebody comes and asks two or three of us to come and speak on a panel
somewhere else to talk about why independent redistricting is good. That's different from us going to another state saying, hey, we think you should do independent redistricting and here's how to do it because this is what we did. I think that that's a -- that can be slippery slope and I don't know if we're really the ones that should be saying that.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Thank you. Commissioner Turner?

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Um-hum. Thank you. Yeah, I think I'm coming from a totally different perspective. I think that -- I think we created something phenomenal and beyond just the maps itself. I mean, the -- and even we had structure, we had rules, we had guidelines, but there was something -- I want to say for lack of a better word -- I'll say magical, even, about the way that we were able to interact and discuss and show respect and hear and listen and give-and-take.

And I think that when we all signed up -- or for sure, when I signed up or agreed to be and was sworn in as a Commissioner, part of it was to ensure that we did the best we could so that independent Commissioning -- Commission -- the work of the inhibition -- the work of the independent Commission would continue. It's something that I believe in. I believe it's the right
thing to do, and I think we have a lot of evidence that
it did work and it can work, and we have a lot of
instances throughout our nation where it is not working,
where there are some hiccups and what have you.

So now if I were to go and promote myself, if we as
individual members were to go and promote ourselves
because we didn't have anything else to do to just pick
up a whole bunch of gigs and want someone else to pay for
it, that's one thing. But as we're being sought out, I
think it's a responsibility that we have, and I don't
feel that in that responsibility that there should not be
a way to pick it up.

I would expect to charge the CRC or funding from the
CRC or a grant or somewhere else. I don't think -- I
think it different than a casual conversation that I was
having or at a ladies luncheon or something that I was
attending and they asked questions, and yes, I'm a
Commissioner. Let me tell you about it and why you
should participate.

I feel like this is something different, and I think
it is of value to our entire nation based on what we were
able to do. Every Commission that comes in afterwards
will be independent. They will need to figure out their
own way, their own mojo for making it work, but to be
able to invite this body in, our Commission in, to be
able to say, so what was your take on it, and any one of us can only speak from our own personal perspective, but for the -- for you, what made a difference. And to be able to convene with others at the table like individuals that served on other Commissions that perhaps also had success or perhaps got stuck in some places, to be able to just talk that through.

I was very intrigued by this as an idea of a convening, and to me, it feels like it is the work. We labored hard to ensure that our maps were accepted, that they were successful because we believed in the process. And to me, the process is broader than just the delivery of a product. It's trying to ensure that we continue with the whole thought process of independent redistricting, and I think it's a great way to do that by just convening and talking about what was as well as the beautiful report that we'll leave behind. Just my thoughts. Thank you.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Thank you. Commissioner Vazquez?

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: I agree with everything that Commissioner Turner just mentioned. And so I'll add that I think -- in very concrete terms, I think when we as -- when we speak as a whole Commission, we should be looking to build the profile of the Commission and the -- sort of
build -- inspire confidence in the public as to what we have produced and the way that we produced it.

And so I think by engaging in efforts to educate the broader public -- educate and inform the broader public, policy makers, community organizers, et cetera, across the U.S., I actually think one of the concrete deliverables that the Commission as whole gets is a stronger sense of confidence from our community members in California in the work that we have done because other -- as other states and as other localities adopt independent redistricting, that ratifies the work that we're doing in California for independent redistricting. So for me, I see a broader sort of public education value in it, but I also see some concrete benefits for this Commission and the work that we have done to date.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Thank you. Commissioner Sinay?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thanks. First of all, this was -- a lot of this that says I -- we were just brainstorming. We got together and we had already set up a meeting to kind of talk about some of this stuff just based on both of our experiences and just stuff and dreaming big. So it wasn't that necessarily we would do it. It was just us brainstorming and then going -- then sending it in like we were asked to by the subcommittee.
But I think I'm a firm -- I mean, I kind of disagree that when we were put on this Commission, it wasn't to advocate because I think the whole purpose of this movement -- redistricting and independent redistricting Commissions is a movement, and so I just feel that that -- being put on that -- sharing or wanting to let -- share, what-not, it doesn't matter which way it goes.

In this case, Commissioner Yee and I did approach Common Cause and others to say, hey, is this something nationally you all would be interested in, and they said yes, versus them coming to us and say, would you be interested in this? I don't think that -- I think that we have stories to tell. All of us have stories to tell, and you can't always wait -- sometimes people don't know the stories you have to tell. As Commissioner Turner was saying, not everyone realizes that there is a huge story that we got the finish line together and we agreed. I mean, that's -- and why and how, especially during COVID.

The other piece I just wanted to be clear is that there is a lot we can do. On that one on technical assistance where it says Lessons Learned document, we don't know what the Lessons Learned document's going to look like. Lessons Learned is -- could be backwards, what -- backwards-facing or -- depending on who your audience is, how something is written.
And so this was more in general technical assistance both to the state and national level, any independent redistricting Commission that comes who wants -- Commissioner Fornaciari went to New Mexico and shared with them at the very beginning of this process. But it's about what questions to ask, and I'm going to go back to that.

As a consultant, there's nothing I hate more than someone who tells you how to do it, they already know. But where the value comes in is someone knows how to help you think through what are the questions you need to ask to create your own, what works for you. And that's different than Lessons Learned or any of that.

When you're hiring an executive director, do you want an administrator versus -- there's just certain questions to pull out, and that was more where that technical assistance piece was coming in, a written guide with the questions to ask. And then if people need -- just all those things.

So I just wanted to clarify that we still are using Lessons Learned very broadly when last meeting we said there's the piece of looking back and then there's a piece of looking forward, and they may or may not be the same.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. Thank you. I'm
going to pass it onto Commissioner Akutagawa for a minute.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: All right. So I just to be -- I know that we've essentially, I think, really talked about number 1 and 11. I just want to be conscious that we do have more, however, we do -- I know that we have several other committee reports that do need to be made, and so I'd like to ask or suggest, if everyone is comfortable, unless you think we can get through the remainder pretty quickly or if there's any in particular anybody wants to really speak about together now, I'd like to suggest that -- I'd like to ask all of the Commissioners to review both documents, and if there is anything else that you did not have a chance to weigh in on or if there's anything in particular about this particular that we're showing, which is for consideration, would love to get your thoughts, agreement, disagreement. Do you think it's a yes? Do you think it's a no?

If you could give us that then -- and if you're comfortable with delegating to the Commission -- or the committee, Commissioner Fernandez and I to then move things forward so that we could get things budgeted, we can continue talking about some of these things, but in particular, we're also conscious that we're trying to get
the budget going. And we're at 2:26, so I just want to
also just be mindful of the time that I think others will
need, too. So just wanted to bring this up and see what
the will of the Commission and also the will of the
Chair.

CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you, Commissioner Akutagawa. I
would second your recommendation where folks can please
communicate with the subcommittee through staff off-line
with any additional recommendations or suggestions you
may have. As it was mentioned, this document is a
living, breathing document. There will be changes. Of
course there's budgetary implication once we get to that.
So there's a lot of time to make those suggested changes.
Commissioner Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes. Thank you, Chair.
And yeah. I agree with doing it this way. And if you do
submit feedback, and we'll probably do that through our
chief counsel, many of the items on this page are vague
in terms of trying to determine what does -- what's that
going to look like? What will the resources be? So if
there's any way to also provide information in terms of
what that might look like so that we can get some costing
information, that would be super helpful.

Again, this information, it'll be used to develop a
costing information, and whatever as we agree to as a
Commission would then become a budget proposal that would be submitted to the Department of Finance and the legislature. And again, just because we submit something to them doesn't mean it'll be approved. My experience in the past has been you submit something and you're hoping you'll get half of what you asked for. And again, they have a chance to look at it with their eyes and determine whether or not it's appropriate or not. So just think of it with that lens.

Okay. So I'll follow up with our chief counsel, and then we'll send something out to everyone. And if everyone could forward their comments to us maybe by next -- what do you think, Linda -- maybe Tuesday, end of Tuesday? That should be enough time? Okay. End of Tuesday. Thank you, everyone, for the discussion.

CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you to the subcommittee for a very thorough discussion and a very good outline of what we are to expect in the future. With that, we will move on to Lessons Learned subcommittee. That's myself and Commissioner Kennedy.

At the start of our report, I wanted to ask and announce that I would like to retire from Lessons Learned subcommittee. I have some other competing interests in my day job that I have to tend to. So if there are any other Commissioners who would join Commissioner Kennedy
on this effort, please do speak now if you are interested
and we can make some switch-around.

Commissioner Sinay, you have your hand up.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yeah. Are we sticking
different parties and different geographic areas, if
possible?

CHAIR AHMAD: I think sticking to different parties
probably sounds appropriate given that's been our
practice. So we're looking for someone who does not
currently identify as a Democrat. Currently, right?

It's a spectrum. Who knows?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Really?

CHAIR AHMAD: Yes, Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I would like to nominate
Commissioner Yee.

CHAIR AHMAD: Are there any other volunteers before
we ask Commissioner Yee about nominations? Commissioner
Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I will second that
nomination.

COMMISSIONER YEE: Oh my goodness.

CHAIR AHMAD: Commissioner Yee, speech, speech,
speech.

COMMISSIONER YEE: I am interested and willing.

CHAIR AHMAD: Okay. Great. With the wave of the
magic wand, I will switch myself out and bring in

Commissioner Yee. So the Lessons Learned committee is
now Commissioner Yee and Commissioner Kennedy.

Commissioner Yee, just letting you know, Commissioner
Kennedy has done majority of the lift to date. He has
organized all of the thoughts that folks have brought up
through the last year and a half and is a great partner
to work on this effort with.

So with that, I will turn it over to you,

Commissioner Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Commissioner
Ahmad, and I would say that you've played a more active
and important role in organizing all of the input than
you give yourself credit for and I want to thank you for
that. You've also been a great partner and particularly
in sharing your energy in wanting to see this move
forward successfully. So I really want to express my
appreciation for that.

At this point, I think the one thing that I would
like to take a little bit of time on is to get any
further input on the outline that was distributed in
advance of the January 7th meeting. Colleagues have had
more of an opportunity to review that outline. I've
taken a few notes from that meeting when it was first
introduced, but if colleagues have any other thoughts.
Beyond that, I think the only other thing is to ask Executive Director Hernandez if he has given any further thought to potential dates, particularly now that we have the governor's executive order extending the exemptions from some of the Bagley-Keene requirements. Is this something that we want to schedule for March at some point, or late February, and just whether he's given any further thought to that.

MR. HERNANDEZ: Chair, if I may respond? Okay. I have given it some consideration, and if you recall on the March time frame, I've added some additional days, four days, but we can move some of the days, add some days. That as kind of my thought is have it sometime in March.

Now, that given that we have the executive order, I'm thinking it would be mostly remote, so location wouldn't be a consideration at this point. Makes it a lot easier in that sense. But specific dates, no. Obviously, we were discussing -- and a Doodle thing, whatever you call it. I don't what that it is. The Doodle was sent out by Ravi inquiring on what dates are available for you in February. I believe we will do something very similar for that as a possibility.

But again, I'd like to ask how many consecutive days are we looking at, or are we looking at spreading the
days, two and two or something like that? If you have any thought on that, that would be great.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: As I mentioned earlier, I think at least for the prelitigation items on the outline, we'd be looking at five days without adequate time for public input. So I think we'd be looking at least seven or eight days total if we wanted ample time for public input on these topics. And we have had a discussion, and I know that there are colleagues who would prefer to break this up into smaller chunks. I'm fine with that as long as we get it done by the end of June. Commissioner Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: No, I was just going to -- in terms of if it is five days in March, I really need to have that scheduled soon because I've got other things I'm trying to schedule as well, and I'm sure that's probably with most of the Commissioners. Trying to find five days is going to be challenging. But thank you.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Okay. I'll work with Ravi to put out an inquiry to folks as to their availability and preferences for dates in late February and through the end of March. On the actual outline itself, are there any comments or suggestions that folks want to put on the table at this point?

As I had mentioned earlier, the idea would be to
take the various points in the outline and start
developing actual discussion questions for most or even
each of those points in the outline so that it's not just
a single word or phrase, there are actual questions for
us to discuss, and I can get with Commissioner Yee and we
can start working on that. Commissioner Fornaciari.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Oh yes. That was my
question. I mean, how are we going to move this thing
forward? So is the committee going to be developing
those discussion questions for each of the topic areas,
or do you want other Commissioners to help with that,
or -- so the committee's going to do it is your plan.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: That would be my idea. I
mean, we can -- I would be happy to bring these back, but
I don't see it as the best use of the full Commission's
time to try to do it in plenary.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. I wasn't thinking
of that, but I just thinking if you wanted to assign
different topic areas to different folks, I'm willing to
help out. So if you --

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Okay.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: -- you guys feel like you
have too much going on, let me know. I'd be happy to
work on some of it, too.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Okay. And I had also
mentioned that one framework that I've used successfully in these exercises is modifying a SWOT diagram and starting out with strengths, weaknesses, and then talking about innovation. So what has changed since the 2010 process, and then recommendations, what should change going forward for the 2030 process. Commissioner Fernandez?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Actually, I was just going to agree with Commissioner Fornaciari, if you want to break it up because some of these fall into subcommittees that we've had. Because this is going to be a huge task for you and Commissioner Yee, so thank you so much for doing that, and if there's any way that we can help a little bit --

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Great.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: -- so willing to help.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: No, I think the idea of engaging the subcommittees is a good one, so Commissioner Yee and I will speak and then we'll be back to folks by the time of the next meeting. Okay. Sheriff, thank you. Again --

CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: -- thank you for your service alongside on this subcommittee. I will miss you and I hope to continue to benefit from your energy from where
you are sitting.

CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you so much, Commissioner Kennedy. And thank you, Commissioner Yee, for filling in and taking on this new leadership role. As we've always with Lessons Learned, keep them coming. Or I guess not anymore. Please don't keep them coming anymore. I'm just kidding.

We do have break at 2:50. I want to see if we can try to wrap up our remaining agenda item, which is the Outreach and Engagement subcommittee wanted to bring forward a survey tool for discussion, and then we also have to take public comment for the agenda item. And that is all that is left on our agenda for today.

So I will pass it over to Outreach and Engagement to please review your item that you want to bring forward for discussion.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. So we got with Marcy and Fredy, talked about a survey, wanted to get a survey out there as soon as we can. I mean, this has come up in previous meetings, but we wanted to get a survey out there and get some -- close the loop with the public, get Lessons Learned and feedback from the public on how things went, what we can do to improve the process.

We want to keep it really simple, so it's just a few
questions. It would be a designed of -- on the Airtable platform, and folks could -- some of them are drop-down questions like what county do you live in is a drop-down box kind of thing. Otherwise, they can provide feedback.

And we would send this out to the -- to our contact list to get that feedback. And the idea would be we would like to send it out by Monday and have it due, I think, we said the 2nd. Is that what we said, Marcy?

Okay. And so we'd send out an email on Monday and then a reminder on the 1st, I guess, and then -- so we could gather feedback together and take a look at that and have that be ready for a Lessons Learned exercise.

So that was the thinking. I don't know if Fredy or Marcy or Patricia, if I'm using first names at this point, has anything to add. Director Kaplan?

MS. KAPLAN: Thank you. I just wanted to add that we -- the questions will not be required, so anyone filling it out can be anonymous. And so just wanted to highlight that as well.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: And I think the only thing I would add is that we're looking for input both from individuals who participated as themselves as well as organizations. So this -- they can let us know which they are.

What we're really looking -- as Commissioner
Fornaciari said, we're trying to kind of close the loop on public input and public engagement and making sure that we get their thoughts on what we did well and what can be better in 2030. Those are really the two questions. What worked in 2020 and what could work better for 2030?

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Commissioner Kennedy?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you. Just wanted to check with you and find out, you want comments now live or did you want written comments on the questionnaire?

What's going to work better for you?

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. Either way. You can go now.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Okay. I understand the desire to keep it simple. I think, though, that we can get some useful information by adding a few things to it. First of all, I would take question 10 and put that before question 7. So how did you hear about it before asking how did you participate in it.

And then on the how did you hear about it, are you asking or is the intent to find out how they first heard about it or how they heard about it on an ongoing basis, or both. Both of those could be useful bits of information, how you first heard about it and how you followed it on an ongoing basis. And if you are asking
about when you first heard about it, I think it would be
very useful to find out when they first heard about it
because some people only heard about it very late in the
process. Some people heard about it very early in the
process. So those are a couple of things on that
question.

On 7, provided public input. Again, I think it
would be useful to get an idea whether people only
participated late in the process or participated early on
and in the middle and at the end, whatever mix of phases
they participated in. So maybe splitting out the --
particularly the provided public input by phases could
generate some really useful information. And watched or
listened Commission meeting, we might ask them how many.
They can be ranges. We don't need exact numbers, but it
seems like that would be useful information for us. And
finally, asking about people's use of the access centers,
I think, would be helpful.

Another question, since I believe Commissioner
Fernandez was -- or maybe I'm getting confused. If we
are going to -- no, I guess that was on the FAQs. But if
we're going to do this in multiple languages, also we
might want to inquire whether people availed themselves
of the language support, and if not, why not. Thank you.

CHAIR AHMAD: Commissioner Fornaciari and Sinay, do
you want me to assist in facilitating questions, conversations, or are you all taking it? Okay. I saw Marcy's hand up.

MS. KAPLAN: I was just wanting to get a little more info on some of your feedback. Thank you. We do actually have this information, so I'm not sure if it's more trying to get a sense of -- trying to figure out why they engaged at a certain point, but we do have the stats on how many people listened to the Commission meetings. We do have the stats on how much input we got at any time period also. So I'm just thinking through how we want to frame these questions if there's something else that you're hoping to get out of that as well.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yeah. I mean, the stats are very useful, but they don't tie to specific individuals and answers to actual -- to other actual questions. So if we're doing a survey or a questionnaire, it's useful to be able to tie particular answers to particular demographics, et cetera. Speaking of demographics, now in survey research, we generally ask things like age and gender also. You might, you might not, but those are typical demographic questions in survey research. Thanks.

CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you. Commissioner Turner.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you. I no longer had it
up, but what I was thinking, Chair, and for those that's
working on the survey, when I looked at it in just
preparation for this meeting, there's a question there
that says, for sure, is there anything else you want to
tell us.

That could cover it, but I was looking to see if
there was a way we could word a question that said what
do you -- either what did you learn through the
experience of participation or was there something that
you now know that would have been helpful with the
process. Something along those lines, which I feel like
has a slight different -- there's a slight distinction in
just saying is there anything else you want to tell us
about.

I'm curious in knowing what was problematic about
their participation? What was hard? What were the ah-
has that they had? If I knew this ahead of time, I could
have. So questions that might get at that.

CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you, Commissioner Turner. And
we are right up against our mandatory fifteen-minute
break, so we will go ahead and take that. Just an FYI
for everyone, Chris on our team is here filling in for
Anthony for the duration of the meeting. And after we
return from break, Commissioner Yee will be subbing in
for me. So let's take our fifteen-minute break and
return at 3:05.

(Whereupon, a recess was held from 2:49 p.m. until 3:05 p.m.)

COMMISSIONER YEE: Thank you, Kristian. Welcome back. We continue with our business meeting for the California Citizens Redistricting Commission. We are currently discussing a draft outreach survey and receiving comments on it.

After this, we'll be asking for any agenda items for our next meeting, which is scheduled for the 28th. It may or may not happen depending on whether there is business. And then taking public comment. So for the outreach survey, further discussion? Commissioner Fernandez, is that you? You are?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Wow. That was good time. I think my phone must be off or something. I'm just always a minute behind, so I apologize for that. And I'm trying to remember what I was going to -- oh. Thank you for the survey. That'll be great information.

I did just want to echo what Commissioner Kennedy said in terms of, like, if they gave a time frame of where they heard it because that would also help us in terms of with Lessons Learned of maybe some of the more effective outreach strategies that we used. So I just wanted to echo that, and I think that was it. Thank you.
COMMISSIONER YEE: Thank you. Any other feedback on
the outreach survey? Okay. Thank you to the Outreach
and Engagement team for your work on this, and we look
forward to hearing the responses we get back.

Okay. That completes agenda item 3, but why don't
we go ahead and combine 3 and 5. And are there agenda
items anyone has for our next meeting currently scheduled
for the 28th but not set in stone? That would be the
last meeting for Chair Ahmad for this round. Nothing
that can't wait till February? Everyone's shaking their
heads vigorously.

Okay. Well, we'll keep an ear to ground just in
case anything comes up. But if not, please stay tuned in
case we do, in fact, cancel that meeting. Okay. Is that
any other business for today before we go to public
comment?

MR. STEVENS: Commissioner Yee, this is Chris
Stevens, you may want to take public comment on the
actual agenda item before you go to general public
comment.

COMMISSIONER YEE: Could we take both together?

MR. STEVENS: I would separate it just to -- out of
an abundance of caution.

COMMISSIONER YEE: Okay. Let's go ahead then.

Kristian, if we could take public comment on agenda item
number 3, committee and subcommittee updates.

MR. MANOFF: You got it. The Commission will now take public comment on agenda item 3, subcommittee updates. To give comment, please call 877-853-5247 and enter meeting ID number 83282190178 for this meeting. Once you've dialed in, please press star nine to enter the comment queue. The full call-in instructions are read at the beginning of the meeting and are provided on the livestream landing page. And there are no callers in the queue at this time, Chair.

COMMISSIONER YEE: Very good. We'll wait a minute. Okay. Very good. We'll wait a minute, and if there are no comments, we'll go straight to general public comment.

MR. MANOFF: Very good, Chair. And those instructions are complete on the livestream.

COMMISSIONER YEE: Okay. Why don't we go ahead and go to general public comment then.

MR. MANOFF: The Commission will now take general public comment for items not on the agenda or items on the agenda. To give comment, please call 877-853-5247 and enter meeting ID number 83282190178 for this meeting. Once you've dialed in, please press start nine to enter the comment queue. The full call-in instructions are read at the beginning of the meeting and are provided on the livestream landing page. And there are no callers I
the queue for general public comment, Chair.

COMMISSIONER YEE: We've suddenly gotten so unpopular. Just as a reminder, everyone, the Doodle poll has gone out for our February meeting dates, so please fill that in.

MR. MANOFF: And those instructions are complete on the livestream, Chair, and there are no comment -- no callers at this time.

COMMISSIONER YEE: Okay. Very good. Well, if there's no other business, I will see you either next Friday or next in February. So thank you, everyone, for your attention to business today. I call this meeting adjourned.

(Recessed at 3:10 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 1st day of February, 2021.

PETER PETTY
Certified Court Reporter
CER-493
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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.

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I certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript, to the best of my ability, from the electronic sound recording of the proceedings in the above-entitled matter.

LORI RAHTES, CDLT-1089

February 1, 2022