STATE OF CALIFORNIA

CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION (CRC)

In the matter of:

CRC BUSINESS MEETING

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2021

9:30 a.m.

Transcription by:
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APPEARANCES

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

STAFF
Daniel Claypool, Executive Director
Alvaro E. Hernandez, Deputy Executive Director
Kary Marshall, Chief Counsel
Marian Johnston, CRC Staff Counsel
Tina Keller, Paralegal
Fredy Ceja, Communications Director
Cecilia Gomez Reyes, Communications Manager
Marcy Kaplan, Director of Outreach
Wanda Sheffield, Office Technician

PRESENTERS
Mike Zimmerman, California Farm Bureau
Martin Wilson, California Chamber of Commerce
Justin Hyer, Silicon Valley Leadership Group

TECHNICAL CONTRACTORS
Kristian Manoff, AV Technical Director/ Comment Moderator

Also Present

Public Comment
Renee Westa-Lusk
Lori Shellenberger, California Common Cause
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PROCEEDINGS

January 27, 2021

CHAIR TAYLOR: Good morning, California. Good morning, staff. Good morning, Commissioners. It is 9:30, January 27th, 2021, day 2 of the January 26th -- of the meeting that began January 26th of the California Citizens Redistricting Commission.

I am your rotating Chair, Derric Taylor, along with the Vice Chair, Pedro Toledo.

Can we call the roll, please, Ms. Sheffield.

MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Toledo.

Commissioner Turner.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: I'm here.

MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Vazquez.

Commissioner Yee.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Here.

COMMISSIONER YEE: Also here.

MS. SHEFFIELD: Okay. Commissioner Ahmad.

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Here.

MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Akutagawa.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Here.

MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Andersen.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Here.

MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Here.
MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Fornaciari.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I'm here.

MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Here.

MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Le Mons.

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Here.

MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Sadhwani.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Here.

MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Here.

MS. SHEFFIELD: And Commissioner Taylor.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Present. Thank you.

As a preview of where we -- preview and review of where we left off on the agenda, we stopped -- if you're following along, we stopped at agenda item number 6, the deputy executive director's report.

What is important to note for those that are following along is that today at 10 a.m., we're going to have a panel for agenda item number 12, the economic sector panel.

Also for those following along, it is important to note that tomorrow at 10 a.m., we're specifically going to address agenda item number 13, the language access recommendations by Commissioner Akutagawa and Commissioner Fernandez.
We're now going to open it up for public comment. Kristian, can you make the announcement, please, and invite our public for comment, please. Thank you.

MR. MANOFF: Certainly, Chair.

In order to maximize transparency and public participation in our process, the Commissioners will be taking public comment by phone. To call in, dial the telephone number provided on the livestream feed. The number is 877-853-5247.

When prompted to enter the meeting ID number, it is provided on the livestream feed. It is 97679349222 for this week's meeting. When prompted to enter a participant ID, simply press pound.

Once you've dialed in, you'll be placed in a queue, from which a moderator will begin unmuting callers. To indicate you wish to comment, please press star 9. This will raise your hand for the comment moderator.

When it is your turn to speak, the moderator will unmute you, and you will hear an automated message that says, "The host would like you to talk", and to press star 6 to speak.

While you are not required to give your name, if you would like to, please spell it for the record.

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

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

There are currently no callers in the queue, Chair.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. We'll give a moment for the live feed to catch up to us, so we'll give pause.

I thank all the Commissioners that joined us that are up north, that decided to hang out instead of fixing their fences and getting all the trees out of their yards and streets. So we know we have some unusual weather conditions. So thanks.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I'll just comment that I haven't had electricity since yesterday, and so I've been displaced.

MR. MANOFF: There are still no callers in the queue, Chair.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you, Kristian. We'll give it another minute or so.

All right, Commissioners. We do not have anyone in the queue waiting to speak. So we have a few moments before our panel joins us, and for the sake of continuity, we do not want to start with the deputy executive director's report, as there's going to be a lot of interrelated topics that is going to run longer than
the fifteen minutes we have before our panel.

So I would ask -- Fredy, go ahead. Director Ceja, go ahead.

MR. CEJA: No worries, Mr. Chair. We can present the communications report. It's fairly short.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Sure. Great idea. If you can fit it in, absolutely.

MR. CEJA: Well, since my microphone is working, I'm going to take full advantage of that.

I wanted to give Commissioners and the public an updated with regards to our website. The past two weeks have been grueling. We've been going back and forth between the California Department of Technology and NationBuilder, the host that would be taking care of our sites. It's just an issue between the two being able to port one from the other, so we're still figuring out solutions.

We get emails back and forth every day, so don't think that we're not on top of this; we are. It's actually -- I lose sleep over it every day, because this should have been done a long time ago. So fear not. We will have a solution soon, and will report on that accordingly.

The other thing that I wanted to share with you now is a posting schedule that we came up with in the
communications department, and we vetted it through the outreach staff as well.

So I'm going to share my screen, and this is to give you an idea of how frequently we're going to be doing communications activities, so you know what we'll be doing on a daily basis.

Can everyone see my screen? Yes. Okay.

So as far as media relations is concerned, I plan on doing editorial boards with a few Commissioners, February through March, where we'll be talking to editorial boards throughout the state, pretty similar to what you'll be doing out in education sessions, just, this is who we are. This is what we do. Be on the lookout for the work we're going to be doing between these months and the final deadline for when we have to certify the maps.

One-on-one meetings with reporters, we plan to do that continuously. Pitching of stories, that will mainly be my function, trying to get coverage for the work that we're doing, trying to find angles, so that reporters cover what we're doing. So I'll be doing that daily.

Media alerts and press releases, I'm going to do this once a week, so have one major announcement go out a week, in hopes that we'll get coverage for the work that we're doing as well.

Press conferences, as needed for major
announcements. So once we select the line drawer, I
would hope that that would be newsworthy enough to have a
press conference, or any other milestone as significant
as that.

Being on television, having a Commissioner or one of
you on television twice a month is our goal, in print
media at least twice a month, on the radio at least once
a month -- and these are at least, so this is not where
we're going to -- where we plan to stop, for any of these
milestones or goals.

As far as the website is concerned, we want to do
updates to the website daily, so that content is fresh
and that people have the latest information, and don't
have to dig around for it, and hopefully, even the
documents that we share amongst ourselves will be updated
on the website, so that we have one place for all of us
to go.

Content sliders on the website. If you remember,
there's three content sliders that keep revolving. That
can be used for pertinent information, to catch the
visitor's attention. Say we have another, like, the RFA
for outreach grants. That would be a great place to
place it, so that people see it as they visit our site,
and those content sliders can change as needed when we
have other updates.
We do want to do an events calendar on the website, so I know, in our conversations about outreach, we have been asked to let the public know when we're going to be doing redistricting basics presentations. So we want to -- as you start securing those, we want to start including those on the calendar, so people know where we're going to be presenting, and so that they can log on and see you all doing your work with our community partners.

As far as social media, I'm so grateful that we have Cecy. She'll go into detail about her social media platforms, but Facebook, we plan to post three times a day, Twitter twice a day, Instagram three times a week, and YouTube as needed, once we have videos.

We have a videographer that we just put on contract, so we'll start chatting with him on Friday about the layout of our initial introductory video, and then a shorter, thirty-second or one-minute video that we can use for our website and social media, and then, in addition to that, we're going to start doing smaller, thirty-second videos and vignettes to put on social media to get our word out. So those will be housed on YouTube as our content, as well as our website.

Then, social media ads. We did carve out a budget to do this. So prior to each community input meeting,
once we start gathering community input, we want to start publicizing that on social media. So that will take money to do, through ads, advertisements, and we also want to use those monies for general public relations and increasing our audiences. Right now our channels are somewhat lacking in audience, so we want to build those up, so that our voice can reach deeper into the state.

As far as e-blasts, we want to do a newsletter once a month, recapping what we've done the prior month, keeping the public informed. And as far as announcements, we'll be shooting e-blasts as needed, as we've done with RFPs or any major announcements.

And then videos. Because we do have a videographer, we want to aim for once a week, shooting out an educational video or something that keeps the public's interest at large.

So this is what we're tasking ourselves to do for the remainder of our time together. If you all have additions or changes or suggestions, we can chat about that, or you can email me directly if you have ideas of other things we should also be focusing on. We value that input, and we'll integrate it into this plan.

I'll stop sharing so you can see your audience, Mr. Chair.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.
Commissioner Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair.

Two things. One, I would like to -- I realize that you've said that those are only minimums, but I really would like to pitch for a higher minimum on radio. In areas such as this, you know, radio is probably the best way to reach people out here, and it is very important. There's a lot of radio listening going on where there aren't newspapers circulating, for example. So I really want to pitch for more focus on radio.

Second of all, you know, thank you for sharing the media list for our outreach zone. It's not complete. I mean, our radio station in Joshua Tree is not listed. Our newspaper in Yucca Valley is not listed. So I don't know where that list came from, but there are holes in it, and I'm happy to share with you all of the research that I've been doing into media in San Bernardino and Riverside counties. So I would encourage colleagues also to do as much as possible to help Fredy build out the media list, so that we really do have a comprehensive list. Thank you.

MR. CEJA: If I may, we do have --

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

MR. CEJA: I'm sorry. We do have a subscription to Meltwater, which is a media monitoring service. So I did
pull together a media list for you, Commissioner Kennedy, for San Bernardino, Riverside, and then I plugged in Palm Springs. So maybe I need to add additional cities to capture the audience that you're going for, but if other Commissioners would like a similar media contact list, please send me over the cities that you're targeting, and I can pull that together for you.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you. This is great.

Thank you, Fredy, and I'm like you. I always write, at least, hoping to do more.

What might be helpful for all us as we're thinking about our zones is, if you're from that zone or as you're talking to folks, finding out what are the different -- the best vehicles. Like, in San Diego, I would say our local neighborhood papers get read a lot more, because they come directly to our houses, versus others, and so those are just the little pieces that are really helpful, as well as -- yes. But you know, I think all of us can help with that.

I had a quick question for Cecilia. Since you are our social media, when you do a -- Commissioner Ahmad and I are doing a Facebook Live tomorrow. Is that the same as Zoom? Will it look like Zoom, or what will it look
MS. REYES: So you're going to do a Facebook Live, like just a regular video? Is that what you're asking?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I think so.

MS. REYES: Yes. So it's not the same. I mean, you can integrate them, if you'd like. You can integrate Zoom, and then have it go live onto Facebook Live, which I recommend. I'm happy to kind of go with it over (sic).

The main difference between Facebook and Zoom is that you can allow for commenting, so you have to monitor the comments, too. You don't have to, but you can respond to them later.

But I'm happy to kind of go over it with you to see what the, I guess, game plan would be, and how you would like to address, you know, any comments, whether you'd like to address them live, or whether you'd like -- which is probably preferred -- or if you'd like to answer some of the comments post the live video. So I guess it requires a little bit of planning, and just kind of being comfortable with some of the things that may come up.

MR. CEJA: Cecilia -- I'm sorry. Cecilia has a short report on social media. So whenever you're ready for that, just let her know.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Actually, go right ahead.

MS. REYES: Okay. So actually, there's two things
I'd like to provide an update on. On the media training, so I'm developing a curriculum with Director Ceja. We wanted to do a training session.

So there will probably be at least two training sessions that you can sign up for, just kind of basics, especially for some of the Commissioners that are either comfortable, and just need, like, a little refresher, or with some Commissioners that are completely new or it's been a while that you've worked with media interviews and the like.

So then after the training, we're going to set up one-on-ones, where we can record you, kind of provide feedback, give you a little bit of suggestions or adjustments that you might want to consider.

On social media, we have three social media accounts. I saw in the chat that you asked about LinkedIn and TikTok. For now, we have Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. They're all at WeDrawTheLinesCA. I will send you the handles directly in an email, just to encourage folks to share with friends, colleagues, so we can expand our online presence. I can definitely help with that, for some suggestions.

For example, with Twitter, I went ahead and followed reporters, to build rapport with reporters, so they can follow us back, kind of keep in the know of what we're
doing on a regular basis. Same with Facebook and
Instagram, you know, follow folks, or ask folks to become
friends with our pages, or like our pages, so we can
develop that online presence.

So we are planning -- I have a content calendar
specifically for social media, so some planned content,
and then some spontaneous content that, you know, kind of
arises. Like, for example, yesterday someone wanted to
know how to watch the video, the livestream, so we went
ahead and posted that, things like that, but if there's
an article that maybe you're mentioned, or an article
that you really like, and want to make sure that it's on
our social media platforms, feel free to send it over,
and we'll be happy to share it.

I'm always open to feedback. If there's something
that you'd like to see, like Twitter or -- I'm sorry --
like a LinkedIn or a TikTok account, I'd be happy to
explore that, to see if that works for us.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Yee.

COMMISSIONER YEE: Thank you for this excellent
work. It's really exciting as it starts to come
together.

One bit of feedback from Zone B, up in the upper
northeast of the state. We heard that, you know, some
people actually do rely just on snail mail, you know, not
really using online things, even out of reach of radio. So you know, postcards, direct mail may be targeted when we do specific outreach events and community input meetings in regions like that, but it sounded like that was fairly important.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Akutagawa.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Just out of curiosity, and I'm sorry I missed this part, but is ethnic media included in, or is that just kind of like, just generally, you're just talking about media? And I'm asking about ethnic media because I know certain communities do -- you know, to Commissioner Kennedy's point, certain communities do rely, you know, more on, like, radio and TV versus, like, print media. So I was just curious if that was already included in as part of your overall plan.

MR. CEJA: It is, definitely. I think, living in California, it's hard not to include ethnic media, but I will dig up additional ethnic media lists, and then run those by the Commissioners, to make sure that we caught everyone.

Lastly, if I can -- I'm sorry -- for Facebook Live, Facebook Live is in addition to whatever Zoom meeting you're on, so it's used as a way to publicize your meeting on someone's Facebook account.
So what we want to get into the habit of doing is having all these meetings that we're hosting go live on our Facebook site, so that people that are online see, oh, you're going live, you have an event going on, and likely, when Commissioners are presenting at an organization's meeting, we can also go live and share that on our site, on our Facebook site.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Akutagawa.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I just want to follow up on ethnic media, Director Ceja. I just want to particularly note, in the black refugee communities, the Pacific Islander communities -- and I'm also -- while Hmong is not going to be one of the statewide recommended languages that we're including, I do know that they're also a community in which the oral traditions are very important.

So I know that radio and TV are important to all of those, and so we can -- I think, with all of our different contacts in our zones, we could try to identify what the appropriate media would be for those communities, but I want to particularly make sure that we include or have some kind of plan for radio and TV for those communities.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Any other questions or final word, Director Ceja?
MR. CEJA: No, just thank you so much, and we'll have a longer discussion on collateral materials in the outreach materials committee.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you very much.

So Commissioners, we are at 9:56. I see that one of our guests has joined our panel, so I'll turn it over to Commissioners Fornaciari and Sinay for the economic sector panel.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yes. Thank you. Let's see. I'm going to start with a little context here. So we've -- you know, the outreach team has brought in folks from various community-based organizations that we've heard from, and thought it would be a good idea to hear from various sectors, kind of an educational opportunity for the Commissioners to hear from various sectors out there, so that, when we go out and receive public input, we have a foundation of understanding of the perspective of these various sectors.

So as you know, we have what we call the "economic sector panel" today. It might be better termed "business sector panel", and as Commissioner Vazquez yesterday mentioned, we're bringing in a labor sector panel. We're thinking about a housing sector panel, education sector panel next time, environmental infrastructure panel, where we talk about water, transportation, and
environment.

So we're just looking, you know, kind of broadly, at what are the sectors who would be interested and impacted by redistricting, and so we can have an opportunity to hear from them and what their issues are, again, before we go out and begin to receive public comment.

So you know, in planning these educational opportunities, it's a bit challenging, right, because who do you pick? You know, it's huge, right, especially in California. So start with this business panel.

We chose three organizations that we kind of thought would be representative, the Chamber of Commerce, the California Farm Bureau Federation to represent ag, which is a big part of the economy, and then the Silicon Valley Leadership Group, which is an organization that represents the tax sector in the state.

You know, certainly there are a number of sectors who are missing, or business sectors we're missing, but you know, we had to settle -- choose three, and we thought this would was going to be pretty representative.

So I'll start by introducing each of our panel members, and then turn it over to them. They'll take a few minutes to introduce themselves a little more deeply, and then talk, you know, share their perspectives with us.
The first panel member we have is Martin Wilson. I think he goes by Marty. He's the Executive Vice President of Public Affairs for the California Chamber of Commerce. He's been involved in California politics for almost forty years, with election and reelection of a couple of governors, senators, and ballot measures, and public affair campaigns.

We have Justin Hyer. He's the Vice President of Government Relations for the Silicon Valley Leadership Group. He's done a lot of work at the Assembly, managing bills through the legislative process, and shaping communications strategy in the State Assembly.

Then we have -- uh oh. I am so sorry. I've lost Mike Zimmerman's bio here. I had it up, and somehow I killed it. So Mike, I'll let you introduce yourself.

MR. ZIMMERMAN: That's okay. There's nothing good on there, and you can't say anything bad about me now.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. Well, why don't we start with you, Mike. Thank you for doing it.

MR. ZIMMERMAN: I'm Mike Zimmerman. I'm the Political Fairs Manager for California Farm Bureau Federation. We represent over 30,000 farmers and ranchers across the state. I've been here since 2018. Prior to that, I had twenty-year-or-so career in the state legislature, and also served as a political
consultant for candidates up and down the state and across the country.

First off, I want to thank the Commission for reaching out. I was somewhat involved in the 2010 process, because of my role as chief of staff to the minority leader at the time. We were involved in the selection of Commissioners. So I'm aware of what you all are doing. I appreciate the willingness to reach out to important sectors of the economy, like agriculture and the others that are here on the call today. So you know, on behalf of our members --

CHAIR TAYLOR: I think Mr. Zimmerman froze.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. We seem to have lost Mr. Zimmerman.

Well, Marty, are you there?

MR. WILSON: I am.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Maybe you can go ahead and introduce yourself, and we'll wait for Mike to come back.

MR. WILSON: Okay. Hopefully, he unfreezes soon.

Well, thank you very much. Good morning. My name is Martin Wilson. As Commissioner Neal indicated, I'm the Executive Vice President of Public Affairs for Cal Chamber of Commerce.

Just briefly, the California Chamber of Commerce is a business services, compliance, and advocacy
organization. We have more than 14,000 private-sector employers from all parts of the state and all sectors of the economy. We've been around for more than 125 years, and we'd like to think of ourselves as the voice of business in California's capital.

On behalf of our 14,000 members, I'd like to say thank you for reaching out to our organization. This is a very important process, one that we take seriously. The job of drawing the political boundaries for the legislative, congressional, and Board of Equalization seats is very important.

As Mike indicated, and I'll echo, we're not new to this process. We were actively engaged in 2011, when the current maps were drawn, and Cal Chamber was an early and ardent supporter of Propositions 11 and 20, which is what brings us here today.

You have before you a tall order that will at times seem to be an almost impossible task, but we're confident you're the right people for the job. We at Cal Chamber stand by to assist you throughout this important process.

The California Redistricting Commission's outreach plan correctly views communities of interest that, among many factors, includes the sharing of common social and economic interests. Where people work, and in what types of business, is a critically important consideration when
you get about drawing the lines.

Employees and business owners have many shared interests, including how they get to and from work, and whether they have sufficient employment opportunities to provide a true skills marketplace, as well as access to the same sources of news and information. We hope that you'll take these into consideration when creating maps.

We believe that Cal Chamber is uniquely positioned to assist the Chamber -- or the Commission -- in its efforts to solicit input from the various economic players across the state. As I stated, we're a statewide organization, but within our network are over 200 local Chambers of Commerce that we will encourage to bring their perspective to the process, and speaking for the businesses that they represent in their communities.

We're committed to encourage these local chambers to engage, and become active in the process.

In addition to the Cal Chamber network, there's also a California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, which we spoke about the other day in a preliminary call, and I've reached out and spoken to their chairman, Mr. Robert Gutierrez. He was very involved in the process in 2011. The Hispanic Chamber of Commerce in California has more than ninety chapters, and so we hope that they'll be involved, and bring their unique perspective to the
process as well.

Speaking about this process, it's our observation from ten years ago that the Redistricting Commission's public input schedule may have just been a little too ambitious. Too many meetings maybe shed more heat, but not a lot of light, and it's important for the Commission to convene regional meetings in a virtual format, but not be weighted down by the lengthy process.

The most valuable input will come when the tentative maps are presented. Something for your consideration would be to develop draft narrative justification plans for public review at the same time these draft maps are released. This will assist the public with the understanding of the maps, especially the descriptions of communities of interest.

Seeking input from cities and counties will also assist in offering insights into communities of interest. As I've reminded our local Chamber colleagues, these local entities are going to go through their own redistricting process, and will certainly have useful data to share with the Commission. Among the many insights they will bring to the table may be how to avoid the unnecessary splits of the counties.

The 2011 Senate maps split two counties among six separate districts, creating several districts that just
defied logic, and I bring this up -- and I think Mike
will echo it as well, and perhaps Justin -- I bring this
up because it's my day job to actually use these maps,
and understand these maps, to help elect members of the
California legislature.

We are bipartisan with regard to our political
activities, working equally hard to elect both Democrats
and Republicans to the Senate and the Assembly. Fairly
drawn legislative districts are a critical component to
ensuring that the greatest number of Californians have
their voices heard in the Capitol.

Again, thank you again for allowing me to be here
with you today, and if there's questions later, I'm happy
to answer them. Thanks.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. Mike, you back with
us?

MR. ZIMMERMAN: I think so, yes, and I apologize for
that. Like I said, I'm having to connect into my mobile
hotspot here. So if there continues to be issues, my
apologies, but I will try to get through a real quick
presentation and be available --

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: If you continue to have
issues, there should be a call-in number on the invite.

MR. ZIMMERMAN: Okay. I'll do that. Thank you.

Yes. If that happens again, I'll just -- I'll call back
in. Thank you.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay.

MR. ZIMMERMAN: So again, with the California Farm Bureau Federation, representing over 30,000 farmers and ranchers across the state. When we talk about outreach to agriculture, you know, as one of the largest economic sectors in the state, it's not hard to find us.

So our organization is made up of fifty-three country Farm Bureaus, fifty-three out of the fifty-eight. We do have some counties that have joined together to form one regional Farm Bureau. Our members, you know, stand at the ready to help you all make decisions, when that times comes, on, you know, communities of interest and things like that. Our county Farm Bureaus are similar to the structure that we have here at the state level. We have elected boards, and membership in each county. So our folks will be available to talk to you wherever you go, in any part of the state.

Our plan is to make our members, our board members, county leaders, executive directors, things like that, available to you for discussion and testimony when that time comes. So you can always use me as a resource to help find those folks once you start, you know, reaching out across the state and holding -- whether they be in-person or virtual meetings, we'll make sure that we
have those people available to you.

So California Farm Bureau, obviously, is just one ag organization in the state. There's a whole lot of them. We like to, obviously, think of ourselves as the best, of course, but there's also commodity groups, so folks that are interested in, you know, whether it be California Citrus Mutual, or Dairy, or Western Growers, or organizations like that, I certainly don't speak for them, or their desired level of involvement in this process, but to any sector of the ag economy, there are folks that can speak with you.

Also water, obviously, is a very important issue for us. There's, you know, elected Water Board members across the state, in every region. There's water organizations up and down the state, some that are, you know, headquartered here in Sacramento. We would encourage you to talk with those folks as well.

One of our biggest things is basically making sure that everybody understands -- I know one of your charges, obviously, is communities of interest -- that there are ag communities of interest. So there are obviously certain parts of the state that their economy, you know, relies heavily on ag; some of those, obviously, in the Central Valley, also in the Central Coast, down in Imperial County.
Those places obviously, you know, rely heavy on ag. So when we talk about communities of interest, understanding that there's, you know, demographics and things like that as well, but making sure that the voice of ag is heard during this process would be invaluable. Also understanding that ag is not -- you know, we have these umbrella organizations, but you know, there's obviously different needs depending on where you are in the state. That can be north versus south, that can even be east versus west, and sometimes those dividing lines really are pretty sharp.

You know, the difference in what's needed or what's wanted in San Joaquin County can vary greatly from what's wanted in Stanislaus County, and obviously, those are neighboring counties. So understanding those differences in the wants, needs, and challenges of ag in those areas is of critical importance.

When we talk about communities of interest, one of the districts that I talk a lot about -- and I'm not here right now advocating for any change. This is just an example that we use in the ag community right now, and that's the current -- and again, I apologize. I'm sure you have access to maps, but I have a slide ready for you.

Senate District 12, which is portions of Stanislaus
County, down through the Central Valley, and then it goes over into the Central Coast, into San Benito and Monterey. One of the things that's talked about with that district when it relates to ag is that people point to it and say, well, it's all ag, you know, it's all the same thing; when, in fact, it's really not.

What we grow in the Central Valley is vastly different from what's grown in Monterey and San Benito, the types of crops that are grown. The water challenges that you have in Monterey and San Benito are much different than what you have in the Central Valley.

So those are the types of things that we hope to be able to work on with you, and answer those questions, as you get -- you know, as Marty said, you really start to get these draft maps and things going. If you're interested in keeping those ag communities of interest together, those are the types of things that we would like to discuss with you.

Then, also one of the other things, obviously, is, you know, ag sort of versus this urban and suburban creep, I guess, that's happening up and down the state because of our growth, understanding, of course, that that's going to happen. You have to find population somewhere to create a district. We know that, but understanding, again, if you have certain ag-based
economies in certain areas where that population -- say, Fresno, for example, which is, you know, largely an ag-based economy -- trying to keep those communities whole as much as we can, so that ag can be properly represented.

Again, we're prepared to follow this process all the way through with all of you, and be a resource to you, whether it's myself or our elected board members or county officials. If we can ever be of service to you moving forward, please do not hesitate to contact us, and thank you again for having me today.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Thanks, Mike.

Last, but certainly not least, Justin. Thank you for joining us, Justin. Go ahead.

MR. HYER: Thank you, Neal. We really appreciate the outreach the Commission has done with our organization.

So just to give you a little brief on who we are at the Silicon Valley Leadership Group, we're a business organization that was founded around forty years ago by David Packard of Hewlett-Packard, and the nexus behind our organization is that we bring together the senior executives and CEOs from our member companies to discuss Silicon Valley as a whole, its infrastructure needs, its economic needs, and how to make it a better place to live
and work.
So we represent about 350 member companies that --
they range from everything from the big tech giants, as
mentioned, to high-tech manufacturing, to including even
major sports teams, hospitals, anyone that is an employer
in the Valley and has a footprint there.
So to give you some perspective on what this
actually looks like, our members provide, collectively,
one in every three private-sector jobs, and contribute
more than three trillion dollars to the worldwide
economy. Our members do make up a large nexus of how the
Bay Area is seen, if you were to pull it out as its
own -- as a country, let's say. You have a GDP that
would rival, you know, nations, in terms of how large the
economic output is of the Valley.
So we really appreciate being a part of this
conversation, just because the employers, obviously, have
a large stake in this matter, but additionally, I just
want to emphasize that when you look at a place like
Silicon Valley -- and I'll get into some of my comments
that I just opened, and up for questions along with Mike
and Marty at the end, but if you look at a place like
Silicon Valley, it really is so much more than just San
Jose and Santa Clara County.
I know there's a great representation on this
Commission from the Bay Area, so I apologize if I'm reiterating anything that folks already know, but the nine counties that make up the Bay Area have a workforce that extends even beyond those nine counties.

So our workforce for our member companies live -- they live as far east as Tracy. They live as far north as Santa Rosa. They live as far south as Salinas, and really commute into the Bay Area, and make up this large economy.

We represent, you know, a lot of local elected officials. We work in tandem with them on our public policy priorities, and so you know, I want to just put this all out there as a way to make ourselves available as this process unfolds, to continue discussions, because our member companies really are engaged on a lot of different fronts.

One thing I'll note, as you're looking to engage businesses, particularly in the sectors we represent, most of our members tend to be larger companies that have very sophisticated government affairs teams. These people are happy to engage in conversations like the one we're having today, and provide feedback that you're looking for. So please use them as a resource.

I've noticed -- and one thing I want to give props to the Commission -- is it seems like you guys are really
doing a lot more proactive outreach this year. I've seen
way more communication than I did, you know, ten years
ago, just in the broader sense, as well as the individual
communication that has come from Commissioners like Neal.

So you know, just a couple thoughts as -- heading
into this meeting today. You know, we, as an
organization, exist to kind of put together, collate, and
collaborate the thoughts of our members on whether it's
pieces of legislation, or local public policy, or
initiatives that are happening at the state or local
level. We gather folks. We're constantly meeting with
our member companies and having them deliberate and take
positions on things.

So when it comes to soliciting feedback from an
organization like ours, one thing that I've noticed, that
I just want to throw out into the ether for everyone to
take into consideration, is that, you know, we'll have --
like, say there's a public comment period for whatever, a
commission we're going in front of.

A group like SGLV will come forward and say, hey,
you know, our members have met. We've discussed. Here
are some of our thoughts. And say there's twenty-five
people that participate in that public comment that day.
We, as an organization that represents 350 member
companies, will be counted as one voice, alongside
twenty-four other, maybe, members of the public.

And I am all for public participation. I think it's great. I mean, it's the foundation of what we're doing here. But I just want to note that when a group like ours, or the Farm Bureau, or Cal Chamber, comes forward, it really is a voice of -- it's a collection of groups, and we're doing all the legwork of going and speaking to our members, soliciting their feedback, and then condensing it in a way that's hopefully useful for you all. So you know, please use us as a resource. We're constantly convening roundtables.

I'm really thankful that, you know, Neal and Patricia have both offered their time to come speak to our members, and whether that's in a more informational setting of just passing along information or soliciting direct feedback through a Q and A, our members appreciate it. They're willing to engage in this front, and you know, I think today's panel on this very issue is indicative that you guys are really looking for more and broader business participation, which is a good thing. So thank you again, and happy to answer any questions you have.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Well, thank you all for that. We'll turn it over to the panel -- or to the Commission -- at this point to ask questions.
Commissioner Taylor, do you want to facilitate this, or would you like me to?

CHAIR TAYLOR: I can, Neal. Go ahead. I can, Neal.
I got it.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Any questions from the Commission?

Commissioner Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Actually, well, kind of a question, but I did want to thank Marty, Mike, and Justin. This was a very good presentation, and it really does open it up in terms of what is out there, and it's just, you know, the start of it.

I wanted to reach out to Mike just a little bit, only because I am from the Delta area, so I am the ag -- I'm very familiar with ag. So I'm glad that -- I'm hoping you'll take advantage of some of our educational opportunities in terms of if you have meetings, and you want us to present, and actually, that's also for Justin and Marty, or Martin. I'm not sure how you want me to go -- how you want me to call you. But I think it's great.

I mean, it just really -- I appreciate you being here, and it's been educational for myself, although I am very familiar with the Farm Bureau Association, because that's kind of where I live. So thank you again. I
appreciate the information. I hope you'll take advantage of us going out there and speaking to all of your clients. Thank you.

MR. WILSON: Thank you. We appreciate that, and you know, in the Delta, obviously, the tunnel issues and the water issues that I spoke about, obviously, we have different opinions in our membership and beyond. So I know you're very familiar with that.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Andersen.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: First of all, thank you all for the panel. This has been great, and it's a good smattering of a variety of economic interests. If you all could please send your contact information to, you know, Commissioner Fornaciari, so we can all actually reach out to you.

I actually, with Commissioner Akutagawa, have been what's called Zone -- let's see -- G, I think it is. Anyway, it's the Mono, Inyo, Alpine, Amador, essentially gold country and over on the other side of 395 -- the other side of the Sierras, I should say, and so I can tell, you know, who is putting their hats on and go, yes, we have people out there.

We need contacts in those areas, because it's, as you know, just thinking of the variety from gold country, across from the other side of the Sierras, radically
different areas, and very different interests, and so if we can get a little contact information from you, that would be great.

Then, Justin, also with the Silicon Valley, I know -- since I live in Berkeley, I'm intimately familiar with everything your group does, but I'd also like to know in terms of contacts across the state, because I know everyone tends to think that Silicon Valley is just in Silicon Valley, which, clearly, it is not.

So if we could -- if you could kind of use your organization to help us, you know, give us contacts in all our different areas of the state, that would really, really be helpful, because I think some of us might not even be aware of the resources that your three groups have, you know, so we may not know to reach out to you, so if you could please give us a little more information. You could funnel that through Commissioner Fornaciari or any one of our directors. So thank you very much for the presentations.

MR. HYER: I mean, I'll speak for myself, but I think this applies for Mike and Marty as well, that we'd be happy to provide that contact information, and please do look at us as resources that you can use throughout this process to facilitate those introductions. We're happy to make them.
MR. WILSON: Yeah. I'll echo what Justin said, and it's a great question, and I think, when we think about, you know, the representation of the business community, you know, our Chamber network, they represent Chambers of various sizes.

You know, we have a very large, what we'll call a metro Chamber. It's in San Francisco or Fresno or San Diego, and Sacramento has a metro Chamber just down the street from us, and then we also have a lot of local regional Chambers. So in that, you know, you need outreach into the business community up in the gold country. They'll be a more regional organization that's unique to that area.

MR. ZIMMERMAN: And the same goes for the Farm Bureau. We have members in every county. So even in those far-flung places like Inyo, Mono, and others, you know, they can help you guys navigate, you know, the interests of those communities. We'd be happy to do that, and are prepared to do that.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: What I'd like to do, so that you all don't get bombarded by fourteen of us, is Neal and I will put together a packet to send to all of you on where you can find the contacts, and -- your local contacts, just like we did with the Census Bureau, and
Community Aid Foundations and United Ways were the ones that kind of went -- so the Chambers, and we'll try to -- we'll also get a list of the ethnic Chambers and special interest Chambers, because there are a lot of Chambers. In San Diego, I know we've got the LGBT Chamber. We've got, you know, the black Chamber, the Hispanic Chamber, as well as the API/Asian Chamber. So we will create kind of a cheat sheet for you all, so that you can try to find your local contact and make those outreach efforts.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Sadhwani, and then Commissioner Yee.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Thank you. And you know, thank you, both of you, for putting together this great panel, and my appreciation to the panelists for coming today and sharing with us. I found that really helpful, and I think Commissioner Sinay, the comment that she made about the various Chambers, really was touching on a piece that I kept thinking about.

Obviously, California is the fifth-largest economy in the world, and of course the economic interests of this state are an interest for all of us, as Californians. We have, however, as a Commission, spent a lot of time thinking about our outreach strategies to various hard-to-reach communities.

We are also very well aware, and received training
just yesterday on our obligations, both through the state constitution as well as the federal Voting Rights Act, to ensure, you know, our acute attention to communities who have faced historical discrimination.

As all of you were talking, it really kind of brought home that there's this intersection, I believe, between the various organizations that you represent and the people who are actually a part of the businesses. My husband, for example, is a business owner, and he's part of his local Chamber, I believe, for the City of Industry down here in California, but he's also a business owner of color, and I am interested to hear from you all how that intersection between the representational interests of the business community coincide with your members or with the workforce of your members.

I know, for example, Justin, you were talking about, you know, San Jose, and the broader reach of Silicon Valley. Certainly those are very diverse communities. What advice might, perhaps, do you have for the Commission as we move forward, weighing all of these really important considerations when it comes to drawing the maps?

MR. HYER: Commissioner, I can take a stab at answering it. You know, again, I'm probably going to
sound like a broken record here, but use us as a
resource, because one of the things that we are focusing
on as an organization is diversity and equity issues, and
so our members companies are deeply involved in this.

We just launched an initiative that's called "25 in
25", where our member companies are taking a pledge that,
by 2025, they'll diversify twenty-five percent of their
executive leadership for underrepresented communities,
and if they're already meeting that goal, they can then
take it to a further twenty-five percent by 2025.

So these member companies -- this is a board-driven
initiative. Our board is incredibly diverse, and very
focused on this specifically, because we, as an
organization, look at these as not just the moral
imperative, but also business, bottom-line issues.

There's study after study that show that when you
diversity your workforce, it increases your profit
margins, and that's a language that all businesses speak,
and it's a language that actually speaks to, again, the
moral imperative of what we're working on today. So this
is an issue that -- I mean, we have an entire staff team
that is focused on diversity issues within our member
companies and their workforces, and then, obviously, as
it relates to the community.

You know, you look at a place like San Jose, and
there are very specific -- even neighborhoods that are
heavily, you know, one demographic or another, and the
folks we work with on the San Jose City Council, within
the community, the other organizations that we partner
with, these are all part of the conversations we're
engaged in.

So if there's any specific questions on that kind of
front, you know, any time you want to reach out, if we
don't know the answer, we can at least direct you to
someone who can. So you know, thanks for bringing that
up. It's a really important point.

MR. WILSON: Yes. I'll echo what Justin said, in
that Cal Chamber also has a very diverse board. It's on
our website, and certainly has several initiatives to
help our companies understand diversity issues and
integrate, you know, people of color into their
workforce, and we do a lot just in the training area.

That's, frankly, one of the hallmarks of what Cal
Chamber does, in terms of training the workforce on these
kinds of issues. In that you need more specifics,
there's people in our organization better able than I to
talk about what we do and how we identify people that
avail themselves of these services.

MR. ZIMMERMAN: Thank you. I'll echo what they
said. That's a fantastic question. Thank you for
bringing it up. I mean, our workforce, you know, feeds
the world, quite frankly, and it's something that's very
important to us. I mentioned earlier, you know, the
challenges that you all have in understanding the
different layers of communities of interest, right?
You know, I mentioned just, you know, ag as an
economic community of interest, but obviously, our
employees and owners, growers represent different
communities. There's obviously challenges in that within
our workforce. We have language barriers. Obviously, we
have, in certain areas, very heavy Latino populations,
you know, some of the areas I mentioned, Central Valley,
Central Coast, Monterey, San Benito areas.
It's all very important to us, obviously, and I
think that, once again, once you layer all of that
together, you can start to understand a little bit better
the challenges that face these communities. So we're,
you know, happy to help facilitate those conversations
with, you know, any other organization in those areas, to
help you all better understand what really makes us go.
So thank you for the question.
CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Yee.
COMMISSIONER YEE: Yes. Thinking of the 2011 maps
and the ten years that have passed since then, I'm just
wondering if our panelists would like to highlight any
changes in the state's, you know, demographics or
economic sectors that they want to, you know, put a seed
in our heads to think particularly about as we think
about the 2021 mapping process.

We haven't starting doing any mapping yet. We
haven't drawn any lines. But would welcome any thoughts
you have on particular developments or regions or, you
know, communities of interest that have developed in the
intervening time that you'd like us to think about.

MR. WILSON: Well, I kind of, you know, touched on
it briefly, and I mean, in terms of the maps, and having
to, you know -- my livelihood, I guess, for want of a
better word, is dependent upon, you know, who represents
which district, and you know, we clearly come at it from
the perspective of the employer community, and our
friends in labor, you know, will have different
perspectives.

You know, the way I looked at the maps early on, you
know, in the Assembly, in the House, where House
representatives were less involved. You know, there
seemed to be logic to it, but the Senate, you know, I
think, was a problem. You know, part of it is a
challenge because you've got what, fifty-four
congressional districts, but only forty Senate districts,
and so that's a lot of population. I sort of analogize
You've got ten pounds of information that you've got to put into a five-pound bag to try to make sense of that, but I think, you know, putting a little bit more time into the Senate seats would be -- is important. Certainly something that you might consider is nesting, where you have two Assembly districts contained within one Senate district. There's things like that, you know, that the Commission should consider. I'm not saying that's the way to do it, but you know, otherwise it was my view that the Commission in 2011, you know, for the most part, did a fine job, and you know, we've been able to function and stay in business, you know, throughout this process.

MR. ZIMMERMAN: I agree with Marty. I would also say that, you know, I understand the challenges, particularly when it comes to ag communities, because there tends not to be, you know, as much population there. So the challenge that the Commission has in certain parts of the state, obviously, is keeping communities together, whether it be whole counties or cities or whatever it is, but also finding the population to make a district, right?

So you look at some of these districts in the far, you know, northern part of the state, and you have assemblymembers and senators that represent, you know,
five-plus counties that have varying interests, right?

So you know, that's a challenge.

I think population growth in the Central Valley, obviously, has maybe changed so much that there's not as much of a need to maybe go into the Bay Area counties to find that population, so East Bay, for example, obviously, large growth, and Riverside, and places like that that are around heavily populated areas, whether it be Los Angeles or Orange County, that can largely, you know, probably stand on their own now, because they're large enough.

So I just think you have -- you know, with the population growth in certain areas of the state, you have an opportunity, maybe, to keep some counties and areas whole that maybe the previous Commission didn't, and we're happy to discuss that moving forward as you guys start to draw these maps.

COMMISSIONER YEE: Thank you.

MR. HYER: I don't have too much to add, just because wasn't involved in this process ten years ago, but what I will say is that something I noticed during the COVID pandemic, you know, we shut down the economy overnight, and if someone didn't know their elected representatives, which most of our members did, but there were some that weren't acquainted with them, they got
acquainted with them really quickly.

So I was constantly providing the chain of command of, here's your city, your county, your state individuals, and I quickly realized that there's a lot of -- I mean, in the Bay Area particularly, you know, might have headquarters here and a manufacturing plant here.

I'm dealing with, like, five different sets of individuals that they need to contact, and so just, again, Marty had touched upon the nesting component, but it does make things easier if constituents are able to reach out to, you know, the same set of individuals to get these questions answered, and I noticed that during the initial shutdowns last spring when, all of a sudden, everyone was clamoring to understand the definitions of "essential businesses" and "essential workforce".

COMMISSIONER YEE: Thank you.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Gentlemen, I have a question. I'm often looking for the practical or the "how", and I know that you guys have vast networks of constituents and people, but how are you best pushing out the information you deem important to your member groups?

MR. ZIMMERMAN: We have -- obviously, we work through our county organizations. We also have a weekly newspaper called Ag Alert that goes to all of our
members, and even some nonmembers are subscribers.

So we use that, obviously social media, and then, on the advocacy side, I run a program called Farm Team that we use to inform our members, so they can comment on legislative issues, both state and federal. We've also used it to discuss -- we actually reached out to people to apply to the Commission, as a matter of fact.

So we use all those resources frequently, and have found good success, and I mentioned in our meeting last week, our smaller group meeting, that those resources are available to the Commission as well. If you guys need to use those are part of your outreach, we would be more than happy to facilitate that, so please don't hesitate to ask.

MR. WILSON: Yes. Similar to what Farm Bureau does, Cal Chamber, we have a weekly advocacy call with our local Chambers. Not all 200-plus are on it, but you know, a good representation of that, certainly 50 to 60. Our next meeting is set for February 11th, and there is not a lot of legislation to talk about, so the expectation is we'll spend a lot of the time talking about this process.

As Mike indicated, we were very involved early on, and encouraged our local Chamber network to have people submit applications to be Commission members, and then,
also we have a newsletter called The Alert, and so we communicate on a regular basis with our membership, our full membership, plus a few additional companies, through that process.

MR. HYER: Nothing much to add from my end. You know, we utilize newsletter, social media. We have monthly convenings -- all of our members are welcome to come to a meeting we call "Working Council". A lot of updates are given to them there. We have, obviously, board meetings, and constant communication through our various little committees that we have that focus on specific policy areas.

In addition to that, we host roundtables almost weekly, it seems like, with various speakers, and I'm hoping that one of the Commissioners can come forward in front of our group in the spring, so that we can have that kind of Q and A session with our members, and if anything, it will facilitate introductions with member companies that are interested in engaging with you guys further.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Commissioner Andersen.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you, Chair.

This is actually a little bit more for -- a little information for all of you, and not just you, but any of
the other groups who are listening. You're mentioning that yes, you're very interested, and you want to participate, and you're really waiting until we start -- you said, we'll really be able to participate once you start drawing lines. I would like you and all of your groups to realize we are actually reaching out now.

We are looking for your communities of interest now, well before we start drawing district lines, because we actually have -- there's what's called a COI tool that the Statewide Database has developed through -- the legislature has had them develop it for us, to collect on a map, for your communities to actually draw, and then that's, I believe -- I might ask Director Ceja to confirm that, but the connection is on our website to this tool.

It should be, actually, going completely live with the proper census geography, I think, like, in a week, and your communities can go onto this and draw where they are located, wherever they are, how big, how small, because that's the information that we actually need. Because the census data is -- as you know, it's being delayed. Things are being delayed.

By the time we actually start drawing with districts, we hope to have almost all of your communities of interest already on maps, and then the process will be much easier, and we'll all look at it. When we do our
drafts, you'll all go, ah, yes, our groups are here. They're already here; or oh, okay. Now there are little tweaks here and here and here. We're hoping to get our communities involved at a much earlier point.

Ten years ago, they didn't have this luxury. Essentially all the communications and all the drawing of every single type started all about the same time, and there was a lot of -- as far as the Commission was a little concerned, there was a little -- you know, we wished we'd had more time to go back and redraft and make some changes. And so what we're trying to do as the full Commission this time is to move as much of the communities of interest, and how much of that mapping, ahead of when the census gets here, because you already know where you are.

You already know where your districts are, where your, you know, farm interests are, where your different communities of all the different types. So that's a little pitch for, please don't wait until the draft maps get out here. Please get involved early, and if there are any questions, please ask them.

And if our Director Ceja could just kind of confirm the location of that COI tool, please.

MR. CEJA: So the COI tool will have its own web address, and it will be linked to our website, but it is
not yet. It will be, yes.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I think we have a couple --
maybe a couple of weeks before that's totally really
going to be live, but please look for that.

MR. WILSON: Thank you. That's very helpful, and I
appreciate it.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Any other questions from Commissioners?

Gentlemen, if I can convince you to perhaps hang on,
we have a couple of callers in the queue, and if they're
related to this agenda item, maybe you'd be able to
answer those questions, if they're relevant. So please
stand by.

Kristian, can you invite in public comment for
agenda item number 12?

MR. MANOFF: Yes, Chair. Stand by.

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 is
877-853-5247.

When prompted to enter the meeting ID number, it is
provided on the livestream feed. It is 97679349222 for
this week's meeting. When prompted to enter a
participant ID, simply press pound.
Once you have dialed in, you will be placed in a queue, from which a moderator will begin unmuting callers. To indicate you wish to comment, please press star 9. This will raise your hand for the moderator.

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

If you would 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 mute your computer or livestream audio to prevent any feedback or distortion during your call.

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

As a reminder, callers, if you would like to give a comment, please press star 9.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you, Kristian. We will pause for a few moments.

MR. MANOFF: We do not have any callers that wish to comment at this time, Chair.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Chair Taylor?

CHAIR TAYLOR: Yes.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: While we're waiting for
any callers to call in, I just would like to offer to Marty and Mike, you know, if you would like to invite a Commissioner or two to come speak with your groups, we'd be more than happy to do it. We're putting a presentation together. We should have that together in the very near future, and be ready to go out and have conversations early next month, I guess, at this point, early February.

So we'd be more than happy to join in with any of your kind of standing meetings, might be the best way to go, but we'd be happy to do it, and Justin is going to schedule a time for us to address the Silicon Valley Leadership Group, too. So we're looking forward to --

MR. WILSON: Yes. In our case -- and I was contemplating that when I talked to our group in February -- the best opportunity, I think, for you to engage is going to be at, you know, our local Chamber meetings, and so I am going to suggest that if they want a speaker from the Commission, it's going to be somebody that's local or, you know, however it works best, but I think it would be tremendous to have representation at these meetings, because they have regular meetings. Cal Chamber only has a quarterly board meeting and then, you know, our calls.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. Yeah. Thank you.
MR. ZIMMERMAN: Yes. We have regular board meetings. I think we discussed it on our last call, Commissioner, regular state board meetings, and then, obviously, monthly county board meetings, and I will reach out to our folks to see if we can get something on the schedule.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. Well, it might be a way for us, you know, especially through the Farm Bureau and the Chamber, to reach into some of these more remote, smaller-population counties, to begin to get some connections into those counties. So thank you.

MR. ZIMMERMAN: Can you educate me real quick? I apologize. What are the requirements in terms of Open Meetings Act and things like that? Does it have to be -- can it be one Commissioner? Does it have to be several Commissioners? What's the process? What's that process look like?

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yes, that's a good question. Excellent question.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: You can have one to two. You know, it depends how many Commissioners you need. The best is just to share your needs, and we'll make sure to get it to Marcy Kaplan, who will help kind of facilitate that process. She's here, if she wants to wave. But
we'll make sure -- you know, we will work based on your needs, and design something that meets the needs of the Commissioners.

We cannot talk about the actual lines. This isn't an opportunity to talk about lines. It's to talk about the bigger picture of what is redistricting and how you can get involved.

MR. ZIMMERMAN: I think the other thing, too, I just want to make -- I understand that there's certain rules that you all have to follow, with public notice and things like that, and whether those meetings are available to the public. Obviously, ours are member-only, so I just want to make sure we're avoiding that conflict.

CHAIR TAYLOR: All right. Thank you. We'll make certain, and our chief counsel make certain, that we conform to those standards.

Any other questions or comments from Commissioners?

And we have no callers, no public comment related to this issue.

I personally, on behalf of the Commission, would like to thank you guys for your presentations, continuing to shape our decisions. It is much appreciated.

MR. HYER: Thank you so much for your time. Really appreciate it.
CHAIR TAYLOR: All right.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yes. Thank you so much for your time and for joining us. We really appreciate it.

MR. WILSON: Our pleasure. Thank you.

CHAIR TAYLOR: All right, Commissioners. So we are at 10:52. This would be a great time for our break, and then we could come back in eighteen minutes. How about come back at 11:10 -- hang on. Hang on.

Commissioner Kennedy, go ahead.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. This was a great opportunity to hear from these folks. Thank you to the organizers for putting this together.

It occurs to me, would we benefit from a panel from, say, one county government, one city government, and one association of governments, like Southern California Association of Governments, you know, a county somewhere, and a town or city somewhere in the state, just to get their perspective on redistricting? Thank you.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yes. That's a great idea. You know, via Twitter and other places, we're getting all these, how about a panel on this and that? So please do continue to share with us your thoughts on what will help us, as a group, be better at listening and engaging, and
understanding the intersection of different sectors and communities with redistricting.

We will also -- Commissioner -- or Chair Taylor and I are working on an active listening workshop and a bias training as well. So we're just trying to use this time to make us aware of all the different intersections. So please do email ideas, thoughts, what's keeping you up at night type of, hey. This could help me really do my job better, and we'll do our best. We've been trying to be careful not to inundate our agendas with too many different panels, so we're balancing the two.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: One other question.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Go ahead, Commissioner Kennedy. Go ahead.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: One other question. At, I guess, the second January meeting, we had said that we'd be developing a speaker request form, and then we had a call yesterday saying, where is the speaker request form? So I'm just wondering how we're doing on developing a speaker request form and making it available.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Deputy Executive Director Hernandez.

MR. HERNANDEZ: Yes. I'll be addressing that specific topic in the deputy director's report, probably after our break.

CHAIR TAYLOR: All right. Any other questions or
comments from Commissioners?

All right. So we ate up our extra time. That's fine. We'll take a break, and return at 11:10. Thank you.

(Whereupon, a recess was held from 10:56 a.m. until 11:10 a.m.)

CHAIR TAYLOR: Welcome back -- it is 11:10 -- to the January 27th day 2 meeting of the California Citizens Redistricting Commission.

Before I turn it over to agenda item number 6, the deputy executive director's report, I specifically want to send a shoutout to Patricia Sinay, Fredy Ceja, and Cecilia Reyes, who are following us on Instagram. I wanted to make certain that the world knows our Instagram handle is @WeDrawTheLines.

So our Instagram handle is @WeDrawTheLines. Our Twitter handle is @WeDrawTheLines. That's what our Twitter handle is, and our Facebook handle is @WeDrawTheLinesCalifornia -- WeDrawTheLinesCA. Those are handles for our social media, and with that, I'll give it to Deputy Director Hernandez.

MR. HERNANDEZ: Thank you.

Good morning, everyone. I know you guys have been waiting long for me to report on some of these things, so I will not delay it any longer. I first wanted to start
by thanking all of you for the hard work that you have
done and that you are doing, Commissioners and staff, and
I also want to thank you for your patience with staff,
and your understanding as we go through this process. So
some things are in the works, and I'm going to talk to
you about those.

First, I wanted to talk about the strategic outreach
plan. It now reflects the outreach zones that were
changed from the last meeting from 1, 2, 3 to A, B, C.
So we have that. We've also made some minor edits
throughout the document.

Notably, the outreach and engagement subcommittee
and I added equity language to Section 2, Goals,
introduction paragraph on page 2. This was mentioned
also by a caller yesterday, regarding equity. So the
lines read as follows:

"The Commission is intentional in creating a process
that is accessible to all, and creating maps that
equitably reflect the voices of California's diverse
population. The Commission has identified target
considerations for outreach in the goals below, and will
assess the impacts of these considerations throughout the
entire redistricting process."

So I just wanted to make note of that. We've also
made another change under the phases, and that will soon
come -- I just made that change yesterday, after talking
with Commissioner Andersen -- in regards to receiving the
census data. So the new -- the last paragraph in phase
three, page 8, reads:

"During this phase, the Commission will receive the
census data to work with. The public meetings will begin
in March and continue through May. A more detailed
schedule of the public input meetings will be provided to
the Commission at a later date."

So those are the most notable edits to the outreach
plan. Okay.

I also wanted to address Commissioner Turner's point
about deliverables, and on page 4, strategy 4,
Activation, we do express our interaction with our grant
partners. We address how we would use the grant-making
process to leverage our outreach partners, to encourage
and support individuals and community groups to
participate and be heard. So that's one of the
deliverables.

Then we continue on and say that "The Commission
will work together with the granted partners to promote
community meetings of public input, and equip the
communities that they serve to participate, among other
activities."

So that would be the deliverable 2. So I wanted to
point that out.

As I mentioned in the last meeting, this is a road map for the staff to use and follow moving forward. There will be pivot points or changes to the plan as we move forward, depending on what happens. So as those changes come up, as those pivot points come up, I will be sharing them with the Commission, to either make a decision or just to inform. Either way, I will let you know what is going on with the plan.

I did want to ask the Commission to consider how we move forward with our educational presentations, as well as our public input meetings down the road, given when we might receive the census data. Do we spread out the educational presentations or add more educational presentations? How are we going to move forward? That's important as we start scheduling things out, where we're going to -- or how we're going to do that. So I wanted to just point that out, and ask for your consideration on that part of it.

At the next meeting, as Director Dan mentioned, we're going to be providing you with a budget plan. Along with the plan, we're going to provide a more detailed schedule, with the full process, including the public meetings, through when the Commission actually submits the final maps to the Secretary of State. At
this point, I would like to ask the Commission to consider a conceptual approval of the strategic plan, so that the staff can use this to move forward.

I also wanted to address some of the other things that are working behind the scenes as part of the plan. Marcy and I are working on the formal process for scheduling the redistricting basics educational presentations. We have a speaker request form, Commissioner Kennedy. It is ready. We'll be sending it out shortly, and once our website is up live -- our new website, I should say -- we're going to post that form on the website as well.

Now, the unique thing about this form -- and I've got to give credit to Marcy -- is that, as you or the community organizations fill that information in, it autopopulates into a spreadsheet, so we don't have to input that information again, and it just makes it easier for us to track and collect that information on a regular basis.

We are going to ask that, as the Commissioners, as you have more contacts, receive more contacts, that you provide that information to us. You can either enter them into the speaker form or, if you'd like, on a weekly basis, send us those updated contacts. I know many of you have already sent that information over to Marcy, and
we have that spreadsheet available for you to take a look at, and update or input your information, if you'd like to do that.

I want to remind you also that we are here to support you, and assist, if necessary, to reach out to the community groups, but keep in mind it's Marcy and I; that's it. So we will do what we can to help in outreach to those outreach zones, provide contacts, if we have them, or look for them.

And so we're going to ask also that you consider blocking off specific time frames as we move forward, so that we can schedule things and make sure that you're available for the presentations. So you can provide us that information, or we'll do that on a case-by-case basis, but I think it would be ideal if you had a specific block of time that you allocated for possible presentations, the redistricting basics presentations.

We will need to request and coordinate with community-based organizations to record the redistricting basics educational presentations. As most of these will virtual -- or, I should say, all of them will be virtual -- it should be easy to do the various platforms, Zoom, Google, Webex. I'm just finding out about Facebook Live, and how we're going to do that, but I believe Cecilia said that that should be an easy fix as well.
When we receive these recorded videos, we are planning on posting them on our website. This will ensure transparency for the Commissioners and the Commission. So just a reminder, these are educational presentations, not intend to be for public intake. Should someone want to provide public input, we're going to refer them to the COI tool, email, or, in the future, our public input calendar of events, so that they know when the public input meetings will happen. Now, this is just to make sure that we're able to get through these presentations.

We've also recently met with our community partners to talk about outreach in general, and we'll continue to have ongoing meetings. You heard from a few of them yesterday, one of the panels. So we're going to continue to have those outreach meetings, just to talk outreach, and how we can best reach some of those very unique community-based groups, so that we're doing our best to have the Commissioners participate in that effort.

Also as Dan mentioned, we'll be looking to hire outreach staff, as outlined in our strategic outreach plan. I have noted Commissioner Sadhwani's recommendation for onboarding, and we'll be developing an onboarding plan for any of the new hires that we get, so that they are up to speed and ready to go as soon as
possible.

You'll be hearing from some of the other subcommittees later today, and I'm finding that many of our subcommittees intersect, at various different points, with the outreach plan. The materials, obviously, will have a number of documents that you'll be reviewing later today that are part of the outreach plan. Likewise, we have the language access subcommittee that will be providing some information, and the grants committee that you heard about from yesterday.

Let's see. I believe that is my report. Any questions?

Commissioner Kennedy.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

MR. HERNANDEZ: Yes. Sorry.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. On your first question, talking about our calendar, Commissioner Taylor and I will sit down and be talking about the Gantt chart more broadly, but you know, from my personal perspective, I think that February and March for educational outreach will hopefully see us make contacts that we need to make throughout the state.

I mean, we've heard from one or more people who I think have a good sense of the status of the census, that
we're not going to see the census data anywhere near the
time that it was originally scheduled, and I think we
need to be taking that into consideration in the Gantt
chart and in our overall planning.

So my thought is that if we focus on the educational
outreach in February and March, that we then go big on
collecting communities of interest input in April and
May, and perhaps even into June. As Commissioner
Andersen said earlier, there's no reason that we need to
wait for census data to collect communities of interest
input. So I would say, starting the 1st of April, until
we get the census data, our focus needs to be on
collecting that communities of interest data.

A second point. I really don't think that we're
doing ourselves any favors by waiting to put a simple
speaker request form, even if it's just a PDF, on the
current website. I look forward to having it on the new
website. I look forward to having it autopopulate a
spreadsheet, but you know, we've promised this for weeks,
and we're not delivering. So I really want to suggest
that a simple PDF speaker request form go up on the
current website, today, if possible, and let's get this
going.

As far as outreach staff, you know, I think this is
going to be very helpful to us. I would presume to speak
for other Commissioners with outreach responsibilities here in the southern part of the state, and suggest that we might need more staff support for the southern part of the state than other parts of the state.

So if you were planning one for north, one for central, and one for south, I would say, you know, let's at least think one for north, one for central, and two for south. You know, the final numbers, I leave it up to staff, but I just want to suggest that those of us with outreach responsibilities in the south could use -- will certainly be placing a lot of demands on staff for this support. Thank you.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Director Ceja.

MR. CEJA: Commissioner Kennedy, what we can do in the meantime, in addition to posting the speaker request form on our website, is also blast it out to the members on our database, and just let them know, hey, we're here, we're ready to do education sessions, and here's a link to request a speaker. That was already in the plans, but we'll do it immediately.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Sadhwani.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Sure. I just wanted to provide an update -- and first of all, thank you, Deputy Director Hernandez, for all of this great work that you've done to advance the outreach strategy.
I actually just, moments ago -- breaking news -- received an email from Karin Mac Donald at the Statewide Database. She said she is currently in a meeting of the NCLS -- excuse me, NCSL -- and received a census update from the census spokesperson, Kathleen Styles, that reapportionment data, data sent to the president, to the federal government, for reapportionment, will not now occur until April 30th, 2021.

This date typically is December 31st, and so this obviously represents a massive delay. The expectation is that it will be about three months after that reapportionment data is sent that states will receive it, and as we have discussed at other points in time, the Statewide Database will likely take about a month to prepare that data for the Commission, including the prisoner reallocation data that we have asked for.

So I just wanted to provide that as an update as it relates to the strategic outreach plan. I very much concur with Commissioner Kennedy. We can most certainly still go out and begin our COI outreach meetings, or input meetings, or whatever we want to call those, prior to the release of census data, but hopefully, this gives us a little bit of a better sense of the actual time frame that we can expect data to arrive.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Could you repeat the second
part of that, Commissioner Sadhwani?

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I concur with you.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thanks to the PL 94-171, right.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes. So that will -- if the reapportionment data is sent April 30th, it will be about three months after that that it will be sent to the states. The Statewide Database will take about another month to prepare that data for us, particularly to do that prisoner reallocation component that we've discussed.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you, and I think, if we were to just work on that time frame, that puts us somewhere towards the end of the year, if we just put it in the box of what the normal time is, given we got the information at the beginning -- at the end of the year, we received it by April 1st, and then we had it out by August 15th. Just that box of time frame would push this out towards the end of the year.

Commissioner Fornaciari.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. Wow. So it doesn't sound like we get the data until September. Okay. Wow.

So I don't know if I missed it in the report, but what's the status of going out and posting for the jobs for the outreach coordinators or whatever? Sorry. And I
agree with Commissioner Kennedy. We might want to add an
extra one in Southern California.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Executive Director Claypool, do you
have a response?

MR. CLAYPOOL: Yes, I do. So we were waiting for
this meeting to make sure that we knew who we were hiring
for, in a couple of areas, but for field staff, we're
already working on the job descriptions and duty
statements, and those will run through finance and
administration, and then we are also looking at the
assistance to them, and the outreach coordinator.

Those are areas -- those are positions we knew we
were going to have, and then the only other one that
we're looking at right now are the grant -- will be the
grant manager, and that will be a decision based on what
types of -- what grant route the Commission takes.

So we have the job descriptions in the pipeline and
coming out of this meeting, we will go ahead and start
posting up and looking for people to fill those
positions, but that will take -- just one last thing.

Remember, then it's posting, getting -- you know,
getting the applications, doing the review. So they
won't be hired -- it will probably take -- it would be a
month, at the best, before we could bring those people
on.
CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Comissioner Sinay, then Commissioner Fernandez, and then Commissioner Le Mons.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I've got kind of a multipart piece, but let me start with -- I thought the point of hiring Ms. Kaplan was that she was going to be the grants manager, and now we're hearing that we might be hiring someone else to be the grants manager. So that's just one piece, if that can be addressed, and then I can ask my other questions.

MR. CLAYPOOL: You're correct. The only thing would have been, if we would have gone to a multipronged -- to an in-house, and had many, many, many grants, then it would have taken more than Ms. Kaplan, but if we go to a third party, then I'm assuming Ms. Kaplan will be the person who handles the grants, and we won't need that position.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Okay. Thank you.

Just a few things. You know, from day one, I've been thinking of scenario planning, and how things shift, and with the three months -- you know, it's looking like it's a three-month shift -- I mean, it's more than a three-month shift, but let's not limit outreach and the public education piece to just two months. I think that we need to be doing that all the way through, and anyone
who wants to understand -- you know, we want people to understand redistricting, so that they can do a better job of submitting their COIs, communities of interest.

So I do feel -- I don't want us to just put a hard stop and say, okay, in two months, everyone is going to know what we're doing; they're not. Remember that the census did it for a whole nine months ahead of time. So this is really giving us an opportunity to really do that civic engagement, civic education piece that we had been talking from the beginning, so if we can make sure, on the Gantt chart, to put a little bit of time.

I think goal 3 fell off of the plan that was posted online. It says Goal 3, but nothing is coming up, and it might just be that that's the way the PDF looks.

I think, staff, we really need to think through how we're going to open our conversation. We keep saying, community partners, like we have -- the meetings have been with one group that is a closed group that has invited staff and the outreach committee to participate, but there are other groups who want to be engaged also with us on that community outreach, and I'm really afraid that if we don't get that figured out, on how we make a public meeting for community folks who are interested in having those conversations, we're missing out on a lot, and we can set ourselves up for trouble. So that piece,
I think, really needs to be thought out a little bit more. That's it.

MR. HERNANDEZ: Can you explain a little bit more --

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you, Commissioner Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes. I'll just repeat, in terms of goal 3, it actually is -- it didn't get cut off. It's on page 3, on the top, although you see Strategic Outreach Plan. That's the title on each page, so it just kind of continues onto the next page. That wasn't my comment, but I just wanted to (indiscernible).

I might be a little too sensitive, but in the outreach plan, we continue to use the word "citizens", "to inform citizens", and I think I'm a little sensitive to that, and maybe I want to use "residents", because people view "citizens" as a different meaning. Some people view it as citizenship, and what we want to make sure is that we want to be inclusive, and so maybe, if we can replace "citizens" with "residents" or some other word that (audio interference) or individuals. That's just one comment that I had on that.

I agree with Commissioner Sinay. I don't think we need to limit our educational presentations to just two months, because those can actually occur at the same time that we're having out input meetings, because it's just one hour or fifteen minutes, just to inform them of it,
and the other benefit, obviously, is we'll have the COI tool by then, so during our presentation, we can actually show them how to use the COI tool, and then they can provide their own input.

The only other thing is, I hear Commissioner Kennedy in terms of more help in the south. I do know, in the north, we're going to be very challenged, because we may not have the numbers. We do have the mileage and the area, and there's a lot of hard-to-reach places that we won't know are out there until we actually get out there. So I guess we have more land versus people, but it's still going to be a huge effort on the north side of it.

So I think those are all. And thank you to Executive Director Hernandez and his group. I know Marcy is involved, and Cecilia, and Fredy. Just thank you so much for all the work, and yes, you guys have been working on probably about five different subcommittees. So thank you for being so responsive, and you guys are just great, and you're killing it right now. So just keep it up. Thank you so much.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Deputy Executive Director Hernandez, do you have a reply?

MR. HERNANDEZ: The question, I think, was answered. Thank you.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Le Mons.
COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Good morning. I just wanted to weigh in. Some of it will be redundant. I agree that the outreach education should continue until we can't do it anymore, so no end date on that.

I echo Commissioner Fernandez's position about the north. I think that's -- rather than people necessarily -- maybe, rather than us looking at these new hires from a geographical point of view -- I mean, it's fine that they can have some geographical affinity or expertise, but that they be flexible, so that it's not, I only work on the south, or the central or the north. That might help, as we get a better understanding of what those needs are going to be. So I would encourage us to think about it in those terms.

I'm encouraged by the census update, by the way, as opposed -- I'm not disappointed by it. I'm encouraged in that, for the time that we've been together, it's been a lot of what ifs and possibilities, and, this may happen, and that may happen, and I think we're getting closer to a clearer picture of a time line.

So I think that's a very good thing, and while Commissioner Kennedy has been reminding us for months that we have this latitude to go until December 31st, well, there it is. We have it, and we can utilize it. So I think it's good in terms of bringing some
clarity, and to the degree that it impacts the Gantt chart and our outreach time lines, I think we actually get to benefit from some of that time that the 2020 Commission had, that we were slowly kind of losing, in a way, at least feeling like the on-the-ground part.

So I think that this has given us that opportunity to really maximize that additional time, so I think it's a really good thing that this is starting to come together, and we can move forward accordingly.

So I think the only task at hand is to look at our time lines, where we might have been being more conservative, with the August date in mind, that we can be a little less conservative at this point, as we're starting to see a clearer picture, as we should be receiving that census data around early September, late August, at the, probably, very earliest. So I think that helps us.

I'll echo the other Commissioners' gratitude to the staff for the work. We waited a long time for Deputy Director Hernandez's arrival, and he has hit the ground running, and the team that has been brought on subsequent have done the same thing, and they're doing a lot of heavy lifting, and I think that they are leveraging and maximizing all of the wonderful work that was done by the outreach committee as well, who did a lot of pre-work
that I hope really -- I know made their jobs a lot
easier.

So the final comment that I'd like to make is with
regard to promotion. I agree with Commissioner Sinay in
that there has been in our conversations this sort of
presupposition that all of these community groups are
just at our fingertips somewhere, and one day we're going
to flip a switch, and we'll have this flood of community
groups lining up to help us, and I think we'll be in for
a rude awakening if we continue to think that way, and
that some real outreach effort is going to be necessary
to those groups.

I know we've talked about outreach as it relates to
the residents, and groups of interest, and communities of
interest, et cetera, et cetera, but in terms of community
partners -- and this may be an opportunity for us to look
at doing some radio spots, some podcasts, some different
ways of -- news ads, small ads in local papers, et
cetera, getting the word out about those partnerships,
and really inviting those community groups to learn
more -- come to our website. Come to our meeting,
whatever the message is that we really want to get out
there, because we're not on -- if we were to probably
look at who's viewing us, I would imagine it's probably a
small audience.
So let's think about how we can get the word out, and maybe some of the communications strategy that we heard earlier, some of that immediate focus can really be on getting the word out through the channels that Director Ceja mentioned earlier, to get those community groups signing up and lining up.

I just want to acknowledge and thank Commissioner Andersen for her appeal earlier, too, to the public. So I think that was a great distinction you made in sort of how the process worked ten years ago, and how it's working now. And people, I think, from what we've been hearing, do have sort of in their mind -- they're waiting on us to get to a particular juncture in order to move, and I thought that was a very important message that you brought earlier, so I just wanted to echo that as well.

So thank you, Chair.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Marian?

MS. JOHNSTON: Just a minor clarification. The current decision from the California Supreme Court allows you to extend your time until December 15th, not the end of the year. So if you think you're going to need additional time, that would require going back to the California Supreme Court for extra time.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Kennedy.
COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Marian. That was the first point that I was going to make. The second is, we also need to pay very attention (sic) to one other part of that ruling from last July, which is, immediately after the writ of mandate, so the two provisions, there is the statement, "If the federal government transmits the census data to the State later than July 31, 2021". Well, that says, "to the State". It doesn't say that that's when the Commission gets it. So we're talking about a situation where the data may come to the State, and the clock starts ticking, but the Statewide Database has the data for the first month, and we're limited in what we can do during that first month. We don't enjoy any additional federal delay, in other words, an extension beyond the 15th of December, unless the data arrive to the State later than the 31st of July.

So if we're talking about a three-month delay from the end of April, that's essentially the 31st of July. So we can't count on any additional federal delay, and therefore, we can't count on any additional days added on past the 15th of December, automatically, under last year's ruling.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Any other Commissioners? Commissioner Andersen.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I do see Director
Hernandez's hand up, if he wants to go first. He might be talking about the same thing I was going to say.

MR. HERNANDEZ: Yes. Thank you. I want to go back a little bit to another topic. So Commissioner Andersen, if you were on the same vein as what we were talking about, I'll let you -- I'll defer to you for right now.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. Thank you. Yes.

All of this -- and I'm glad all of the Commissioners are indeed speaking up and mentioning this date. I did have the privilege of working with Director Hernandez about the dates, because of the line drawing, and how that actually proceeds in a linear fashion, and the idea of trying to figure out, okay, if it does get pushed, it's going to get pushed, what would that look like?

So there are sort of numbers and dates that sort of could almost reflect the strategic outreach plan, but as the group looks at dates, they become hard, and so Director Hernandez really sort of said he'd really like to talk about the content of the plan, and actually possibly do the actual dates, flesh out the dates, for next week. So everything we said is great. It is going to be taken into consideration, and you're absolutely right.

So what I'm hearing so far is, you know, thank you, Commissioner Kennedy, for saying the 31st of July,
December 15. There is still a possibility that we can
make that, if that happens, and I'd just say, you know,
we're kind of working on that. However, if it does go
past that, roughly, it's going to take three months for
us to start drawing and then get maps out there, you
know, because of the time frame, and all things
considered.

So just think three months, absolutely minimum. I
mean, maybe here and there, but -- so you know, in terms
of extending everything, I believe Director Hernandez was
indeed talking about continuing the education. He just
didn't talk about the dates. He had to pin it to
something for this presentation, so just to say that
dates, and the update to the Gantt charts and everything,
which I owe Commissioner Kennedy, it just hasn't happened
until, say, next week. So if we can go back to the
content of the outreach plan, I think, is what we're
basically saying.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Director Hernandez, did you have a
response?

MR. HERNANDEZ: Thank you very much, Commissioner
Andersen, for sharing that information, and yes, I do
plan on providing a much more detailed schedule or time
line for the next meeting, depending on what is decided
today, essentially, but we'll have the current time line
and the revised time line, if you want to call it that, given the data will be at a much later date.

I did want to go back to talk about the educational meetings, versus COI meetings. I want to make sure we're careful about that. The whole premise for the redistricting basics is to provide information in a presentation format, Q and A about the presentation, but not to collect public input at that time or at those meetings.

Should we have COI meetings, I'm going to -- I believe those are more input related-type meetings, so those would have to be calendared, posted ahead of time, and open to the public in a much broader fashion.

So on that topic, I do want to defer to Ms. Marshall, our chief counsel, to provide us some guidance in that area, to make sure we're on the same page. I don't want to make -- I don't want us to confuse those two, moving forward.

MS. MARSHALL: Just briefly, as Mr. Hernandez stated, there's a big difference between educational meetings and the community outreach meetings. The community outreach meetings are actually reaching out to the public to obtain input. At the educational meetings, it's merely just the CRC presenting to the public, or presenting to whoever happen to be the audience, what our
purpose and goals are.

So just to sort of give you a legal understanding, when it comes to one or two Commissioners conducting an educational presentation, for example, at a non-CRC event, it is not subject to Bagley-Keene, and so if there's -- I don't know.

If there's any questions that anyone has about that, you know, just, you know, speak with me directly. I know sometimes things may vary a little bit depending on the situation, but the goal of these meetings, at least for the educational, is not to obtain public input, just merely just to present CRC's position.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Commissioner Fornaciari, then Commissioner Toledo, then Commissioner Andersen -- or Commissioner Toledo, then Commissioner Andersen.

VICE CHAIR TOLEDO: I'm very comfortable with the strategic outreach plan as it's laid out. Conceptually, it makes sense in terms of the goals, the strategies, the objectives, and is very comprehensive.

I mean, it's a living document that will change and evolve over time, and in terms of -- my understanding is that we're looking for an approval of this plan. Is that correct? Are we looking to approve the plan as a conceptual living document that will have modifications
over time?

MR. HERNANDEZ: Yes, that is my goal, just so that we're secure in that this is current plan. We'll adjust and change as needed, and we'll provide that information on any changes that need to be made to the Commission at a later point, when those pivot points come up. But just as something that I can feel more secure that everyone is on board, on the same page, we have the same mission, we're speaking the same language. And that's really why I would ask the conceptual approval, versus -- you know, this is, again, a living document, so it will change; it's inevitable.

VICE CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Executive Director Claypool, do you have a response?

MR. CLAYPOOL: No, but I do feel like we need to discuss this a little bit further, how these educational meetings may be perceived by the public, and I listened very carefully to our chief counsel's discussion, and I believe that that is our intent.

However, I also believe that others may believe that these meetings can very quickly turn into a public input meeting, and I'll bring you right back to your panel. Your panel didn't go a minute before it turned into public input. You were receiving information that would
have impacted your decisions on how you might draw lines. So it comes back to the question of whether or not these meetings that you're going to go into should be calendared, and by that, I mean a fourteen-day calendar, whether there's a requirement for it, and whether or not, because you might be able to receive or have some redistricting matter similar to the one you had taken in -- whether or not we need to consider that you are taking that in outside of public meeting.

I'm not sure about the Bagley-Keene, whether those meetings do or don't fall under Bagley-Keene. I'm certain that our chief counsel believes that they do not, but I just believe that -- similar to what Commissioner Sadhwani said yesterday, when she said, if we don't -- if we have money, this is where we get sued. Well, I'm going to go out a little further and say no, this is where you get sued.

This is where we have to be very, very careful that we are, one, making sure that the public knows what is said by the Commissioners, and what the Commissioners -- what kind of information they're receiving during these educational meetings, and two, that we have adhered to all of the requirements that keep it as transparent as possible, and keep you as safe as possible.

So I just think that we need to consider that, and
consider -- we've already heard from the individuals that we're working with in the legislature that they are very interested in how these meetings will occur, and want to know exactly what's being said in them, so that they can satisfy for themselves that they are not, in fact, meetings where you are taking input, and I think we just need to have a firm decision, as a Commission, as to exactly how we intend to move forward with these meetings, so that the public can weigh in on our plan.

That's all. Thank you.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Andersen, then Commissioner Vazquez.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you for that, Director Claypool, and that sort of is actually -- that's a perfect -- almost where I was going, but not quite, because I was wondering the distinction. As we've already said, when we're at a meeting, we're talking to someone, and they say, hey, you know, I want to do -- you say, that's great. Please submit this to the Commission, you know, and give them the websites, things like that.

My understanding was that is still -- you know, that's okay. It isn't like, oh, no, this meeting should have been -- you know, should have been public-noticed, because we're not actually taking information. We're telling them where to go to input the information.
I was thinking, in terms of specifically the COI tool, our educational -- the COI tool is, indeed, for input, but there's a huge difference between, like, an educational presentation of that, this is how you would use that, you know, this is how you would go about, you know, this is its website, that sort of thing, versus actually taking -- you know, when we go -- well, I think -- I'm trying to be very specific, here.

When we are going out to collect public input, whether it be just the COI tool or also with the line drawer, those are indeed public input meetings. That's what we're there for. But if we're doing education, and part of the education in our presentations is also a COI tool presentation, and we would only answer clarifying questions, what's the line there? And that's kind of directed, I think, at our chief counsel, or whoever.

MS. MARSHALL: In regards to the line of questioning, I'm sure that Communications Director Ceja and Deputy Director Hernandez has a plan to manage those questions, or anything that may cause the event to go not as planned or not aligned along the way they would like to have their presentation.

One of the things that I did mention in regards to the educational presentations, what's great about the situation here, in terms of limiting -- well, right now,
we're limited to Zoom meetings, our meetings are online or, you know, over some type of, you know, technical medium -- is that we can mute, but prior to that, there's going to be some type of statement that will be made in regards to the fact that this is not an input meeting, and if you do have questions, they'll refer you to different places, including the COI tool, to submit those particular questions.

But I actually would defer to, again, Mr. Ceja and Mr. Hernandez in regards to their plans to handle those type of issues.

MR. HERNANDEZ: So one of the things that we are planning to do -- and this is where, you know, we're going to be very direct with the organizations that we're going to be coordinating with -- is to ensure or at least ask that they understand this is an educational presentation, not for public input. So getting that clarification with them, that understanding, is going to be key.

Secondly, as the presentation begins in the script, there will be that language again, indicating to the audience that this is a presentation for educational purposes, not to collect input at this time. When the Q and A begins, that will likely be reaffirmed and mentioned a third time, potentially, so that the audience
understands this is Q and A specifically for the presentations, not to provide direct input at that time.

So the Commissioners will be able to redirect them to the COI tool, to an email address that we have available, and to our calendar of events, where they can see when our scheduled public input meeting will take place.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Vazquez, then Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: So two things. One, I think this is why, for me, in terms of presentations that I will be giving -- I think I asked in our last meeting that we work to try to have staff present at as many of these meetings as possible -- I don't have a strong preference as to who -- but that Commissioners, in my opinion, really shouldn't be flying solo on these presentations.

An idea -- the example I sort of think of in my head is that there's nothing -- if, in a different world, we were out and about, there's nothing stopping anyone from sort of, like, interrupting my grocery store run with, like, hey, you know, an advocacy moment, right, like, oh, that's my Commissioner. I'm going to go tell them I want my lines here, here, and here.

My understanding is it's perfectly acceptable for me
to go, thank you for your comment. Please submit that in writing to the Commission, and that is that. There's no violation, right? I'm directing them to the process.

So I'm wondering -- and this is a question for Ms. Marshall -- would it be acceptable? Is that still acceptable in these type of educational forums? Because there's definitely going to be people that are going to ignore everything that we say, la-la-la-la, this is my chance to tell my Commissioner what I want for my lines. When that happens, because I imagine it will happen, is it acceptable to just say, thank you. Please submit that in writing?

If not, would it be sufficient, then, for a staff person -- because I've been in a lot of other public meetings. You know, you have staff scrambling. The elected official has staff who will go and ensure that a concern or a public comment, whatever you have, is documented and then submitted publicly through whatever process there is, and so that would be, for me, why I would want a staff person available, to go and make sure that anything that comes at us by way of public comment is documented and submitted and publicly posted.

MS. MARSHALL: To your initial question, yes, I think it would be perfectly fine for you to state to someone to, you know, please go to the COI tool, or send
a memo, or something to that effect, to the Commission, and I'm very confident that Mr. Hernandez and Mr. Ceja have protocols in place or plans in place to deal with those type of situations.

Ultimately, what I don't want is for the Commission to go into any meeting of what type, or any type of event, and feel as though they don't have control. I'm sure, with the communications director, as well with his deputy director, you know, they develop plans for any and all types of situations, to address these types of matters.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Sinay, and then -- hang on, Commissioner Sinay.

MS. JOHNSTON: Can I just respond to --

CHAIR TAYLOR: Director Ceja, do you have a response?

MS. JOHNSTON: I have a response to Commissioner Vazquez, her statement about maybe staff could do it. The prohibition on receiving public input applies to Commissioners and staff. So it would not be possible in that situation for staff to step in and take the information.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Director Ceja, do you have a response?

MR. CEJA: I did. I just wanted to add that,
internally, we've had this discussion, and I am of the mind that, so long as we are very public about our intent for these meetings, that they are nothing but educational, and not information-gathering or official Commission meetings, I don't find an issue with it.

It reminds me of working for the state. When you receive political emails inviting you to a fundraiser for an elected official, what you're immediately asked to do by ethics is respond and say, hey, I'm not allowed to receive these types of emails; it's political in nature, and just don't continue with it, and don't interact, and you're safe.

If we are to say, hey -- if people -- we can't control what people say in public. It's First Amendment rights, regardless of what platform we're joining. So for us to just say, hey, this is not the appropriate time to take your public input. These are the vehicles to do it. We will have public input meetings for you to share this information; go online, COI tool, and don't continue the conversation, I think, would save us that fear of legal misunderstanding or misinterpretation that we're dealing with.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you. I've only done one session so far, and the Q and A part was interesting, but
I really think that people are just hungry to understand the redistricting process, and I would hate to see us being afraid to get out there because it might backfire. I liked what staff said about, you know, you do need to repeat it three times. You know, any time any of us have been on things like this, you have to just kind of repeat it three times, and then just politely say, thank you for your input, like Commissioner Vazquez said, here is the tool.

Now, I do feel that we're not very clear in our PowerPoint on how you can engage. I think it's all over the place, and we do need to have three -- you know, you can use the tool -- or it should start, come to our website, where you can input -- you know, come to our website, call us, or mail to us, and come to a public input meeting, just three clear things, because the website will have the COI tool, but I think, when I was presenting, that was probably the hardest part. I kept feeling like we were saying way too many things, versus keeping it clear.

The other piece is, I kept thinking, okay. We don't need business cards. We don't need business cards. But it just hit me right now, because we are out there every once in a while, that I'd hate -- the hardest thing for me about having all these panels -- it's going to sound
funny -- is that I can't send handwritten thank-you
notes, but the main reason I can't send handwritten
thank-you notes to our speakers is because everybody is
in their home, and I don't want to ask them for their
home address.

In the past, I would have sent it to their business
address, and then I always slip in a business card. But
I think it would be nice to have business cards, and on
the backside, the three ways you can engage with the
Commission and send your comments.

So it's kind of an outreach piece, as we are out in
our small bubbles right now, but slowly -- you know, we
continuously need to think that, no matter what we do,
we're never going to be like the 2010 Commission.
Everything is going to have to be hybrid for as long as
we can think. You know, I keep saying that to my clients
who are ready to do events starting this summer, no.
Everything needs to still be hybrid.

So I just wanted to say, I think we can always be
nervous about what may happen, but let's not that stop us
from getting out there, because we are the best -- we are
the citizens that were put on the Citizens Redistricting
Commission to educate other citizens, and I think we're
the best faces for people to build trust in the system
and in the process.
CHAIR TAYLOR: Director Claypool.

MR. CLAYPOOL: So I don't believe that your plan -- that Deputy Executive Director Hernandez's plan has to be altered at all. Don't get me wrong. You can continue to do what you want to do. You are the best face for this Commission. I just believe that we need to look at it and do three things.

We need to calendar these things, so people understand where you're going and who you're going to speak to, and possibly, depending on whether or not this is under Bagley-Keene or not, that may have to be a fourteen-day, because that's what was given to this Commission.

The second thing we have to do is, we have to make it, as part of the agreement to go to any venue, that we have a way to record what the presentation is and what the Q and A is, from the start of your presence there to the end of your presence.

Then the last thing I think we need to do is be prepared to address any closed meetings that you may be attending. For instance, we heard Mr. Zimmerman, and he was already addressing the issues I'm addressing right now when he said, I know you guys have a lot of restrictions, and our meetings are closed to our members.

I don't know that that necessarily means that you
can't give an educational meeting to the members, but I think that people have to understand that that may be where you're going, and the community has to be able to voice opinions about who you're meeting with. It's all in the vein of transparency. In this particular case, I believe COVID actually, again, is going to assist our process, only because this is all virtual, and most virtual platforms have the capacity -- or I believe actually, probably all of them have the capacity -- to record.

So I'm not proposing that you do anything other than what you're planning to do. I'm just proposing that we put in some steps to make sure that we adhere as much as possible to government code, and the government code is 8253, and it doesn't differentiate because Commission and staff, and it doesn't differentiate between what type of a meeting it is, whether it's your meeting or their meeting. It just says you can't receive this type of information from anyone outside of a public meeting.

So let's just be as transparent as possible, so that there's never any question as to what you did, and that's the same as the meeting we're in right now. If anybody ever accuses of saying, oh, you said this or that, we can always go back to the video. So that's the only thing that I would propose to you, and we've had this
discussion amongst ourselves as well, so we were all
prepared for what you may decide to do.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Sadhwani.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I am definitely all for
transparency, so I really appreciate, you know, these
thoughts, Dan. I'm wondering, though -- I do think that
the two-week agendized piece is such a challenge for us
as a full Commission. And my understanding, though, is
that when we are meeting, for example, in subcommittee,
and we have meetings with other people, which is a
pretty -- has become a common practice for this
Commission, and at the advice of legal, was told that
that was perfectly within our bounds to do. So those
kinds of meetings don't need to be agendized, so long as
there's not more than two Commissioners at an educational
session, and following these guidelines, right, of
saying, over and over again, I legally cannot take any
input at this point in time, but here's how you do it,
I'm not sure if that needs to be agendized, right? My
sense is it wouldn't fall into that fourteen-day
requirement.

That's not to say we shouldn't post it somewhere,
let people know. You know, one of the callers yesterday,
and I think it was Debra Levine -- I had it written
down -- had mentioned, you know, having a section on,
like, what's happening in your community? What is your community saying? And so if we created sections for each of those zones, and we maybe listed, like, hey. You know, Commissioner Sinay is going to be giving a talk on this night, I feel like that hits that spirit of transparency without overburdening ourselves, in a sense.

I mean, I'm certainly open to counsel on this point, but because we wouldn't be there in a quorum or a full Commission, I don't -- my sense is that it wouldn't need to be agendized two weeks in advance, and have to all be public meetings, because that's not how we've been operating in terms of our subcommittees, and you know, last week, Commissioner Yee and I did preparatory calls with our panelists, right? That wasn't agendized. I'm happy to share that information. The record is there our emails, et cetera, but I'm not sure if that the agendized piece will be necessary.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Ms. Johnston, you have a reply?

MS. JOHNSTON: I just wanted to reassure Commissioner Sadhwani that those types of meetings are perfectly appropriate, because you're talking about planning the business of the Commission. The difference is when you're getting public input, and that's what triggers the notice requirements and the public meeting requirements. So that's the line that you have to be
very careful about.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Vazquez, then Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yes. I think, for me, the fourteen-day notice is the biggest piece that I'm really not comfortable with, unless our counsel feels really strongly that we must do that fourteen-day notice for some of these meetings.

I'll say that the meetings that we're presenting at are not open to the public. So if that, like -- if that's -- if by posting fourteen days, we are then creating a public meeting, we're going to have to also work with the partners who are inviting us into their space to open up these meetings, "open up", whatever that means. Maybe it doesn't mean anything, but it would mean letting them know that we would have to advertise a way to access said meetings, possibly, right? That's sort of -- that's my understanding.

So I don't know. This fourteen-day public notice to receive public input, it feels really not conducive to the goals for these education -- one-way information-sending purpose of these meetings.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Sinay, then Commissioner Le Mons.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I feel similar about -- the
fourteen days, for me, is actually a barrier for the community. You know, honestly, the one that Commissioner Ahmad and I have been invited to present tomorrow is more the usual, versus not.

We got the invitation yesterday to present tomorrow, you know, and that's a lot of -- those are the hard-to-reach communities that we want to reach, and so I don't want to put barriers.

There is one way we can get around this, and we don't do Q and A. I mean, we just, you know, do an educational panel, without Q and A. The unfortunate part of that is -- or we say, if you have any questions, please submit them in writing, but unfortunately, then we lose that dialogue piece, where we may be able to answer a very simple question, but that is one way, is to get rid of Q and A.

I feel like we may end up in a slippery slope if we -- and so let's say we're invited to do a presentation to the Japanese community, in Japanese, and one of the Commissioners speaks Japanese, and does it. Do we then have to bring in a translator, so it is open to the public and the whole -- and all the public can understand?

I mean, you know, I'm just -- you know, and you all know I'm all for accessible, but part of being accessible
for the education outreach is looking at the segments of
the community and meeting the needs that they have, so
that we can help them get engaged.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Chief Counsel Marshall, do you have a reply?

Then Commissioner Le Mons, and Commissioner
Fernandez.

MS. MARSHALL: Yes. Going back to Commissioner
Sadhwani and her position, her position on how she
conducts the meetings is basically Legal's position. In
regard to the fourteen-day notice, that's just a
suggestion by the director, and so ultimately, it's how
you guys would like to proceed.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Le Mons.

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: I think I might have missed
something, so I want a clarification. Is it suggested
that we can't do these -- I guess I'm confused. We've
been talking about these educational meetings for months,
literally, and they are pretty much one-directional;
we're there going to share information. We're not taking
any feedback on maps. We're not taking any public
testimony. We're not taking any of that.

I would not be in favor of eliminating a Q and A. A
Q and A is about clarity, so if I said something that
somebody didn't understand, they raise their hand and ask
me a question about it, and I clarify.

So I mean, I think, as long as we can keep the frame
of the scope of the meeting, I'm a little confused as to
what, suddenly, is the issue? I guess that's my -- it's
like, what happened? What did I miss that, suddenly,
this is a problem? So if somebody could help me
understand that, I'd love it.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Chief Counsel Marshall, do you have a
reply?

MS. MARSHALL: Commissioner Le Mons, there isn't a
problem, and totally agreement (sic) with everything you
have said. I think the thing that kind of derailed a
little bit, took it off on a tangent, was Director
Claypool's suggestion for a fourteen-day notice.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Director Claypool, do you have a
reply?

MR. CLAYPOOL: No. Just to go a little further, in
my report-out to you, when I discussed that we did the
budget outreach meeting with all the members of the
budget committee and so forth, the legislature, it was
brought up at that point that they wanted to know how
they were going to be able to know what was going on in
these meetings, and they wanted to know what the
Commissioners were going to say, and they wanted to know
what type of input was going to be given to them.
For that, it caused us to go back to Government Code 8253, which governs your activities, and we read line about -- that we've always known of, but we took more seriously -- on number 3, that says, "Commission members and staff may not communicate with or receive communications about redistricting matters from anyone outside of a public meeting", which then triggered the thought, well, how are we going to stop people from communicating to you? Are you not receiving information?

Back to my example of your panel earlier, where it was just instantaneous. You were receiving. You were receiving redistricting information. Whether you liked it or not, it was being given to you, because that's what people do.

So the fourteen-day would apply if this were under Bagley-Keene. Our chief counsel believes that these meetings are not under Bagley-Keene, and so accepting that, I was going for caution. If you wanted to, you know, to give it any amount of time you want, then you could say, we have to agendize it three days ahead of time. I was only suggesting that agendizing fourteen days keeps you completely in the realm of adhering to Bagley-Keene.

Having said that, whatever we do, if someone comes back and determines that you were receiving information
outside a public meeting, and it didn't adhere to that, and they determine that this is it in a legal proceeding, then that becomes the issue of whether or not you have violated Bagley-Keene. That's my only concern.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Le Mons, do you have some follow-up on your question? And then Commissioner Fernandez and Commissioner Andersen.

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yes, but I don't know that I'll be able to get this, I guess, the clarity on the individual that asked the impetus question, what were they asking, because what was their concern, like, that's not clear to me.

Like, I hear they asked a question, and we interpreted the question, but for me, I need to better understand what their thinking is, what they're concerned about, like, and if they have a concern, I invite them to send it.

Like, whoever it was, like, make us aware, make the Commissioners aware, of what your concern is, so that we can address it, because I think -- I'm not saying your interpretation of the question is accurate or inaccurate, but I feel like it set off a series of -- and I appreciate your explanation. Thank you. It set off a series of actions and expirations, which are all valid, but I don't know what the impetus concern is.
So I don't know that I'm going to get that in this meeting, but I'm inviting that, seriously inviting that, because, if the path that you've gone down is accurate, and in the spirit of what their concern is -- and this sounds like this could be a bigger than we'd had -- that's ever been brought to date to this group, and I think we need to be able to vet it appropriately, because we're building a whole outreach model on something that this could potentially blow up, because I agree with Commissioner Sinay.

A fourteen-day notice, that whole concept, like, us turning a group's meeting into a public meeting, like, all of that is absurd, and probably not possible. Like, we don't have the ability to go into people's meetings and then say, okay, well, this is now a public meeting, because we noticed it, and we've got to make provisions for everybody to be a part of it. Some people may agree to do that. I'm not saying that there aren't groups that would agree to do that. But it then changes our whole outreach strategy, which concerns me.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes. I agree with Commissioner Le Mons. It's not our meetings. They're inviting us to their house. It's like me going into someone's house, and I'm going to redecorate it all, and
just put it in my own -- how I want it to be.

Again, we're going to reiterate that it's not an input meeting. I think Zoom helps. If they really start -- if they're aggressive, and want to go down that road, we leave the meeting. I mean, it makes it easy to just -- okay, you know, we gave our presentation, and you didn't want to hear, at least to what our parameters were. It's time for us to go.

So I think I haven't seen it so far, but I'm pretty sure the fourteen Commissioners that are on this Commission are strong enough to just leave the meeting, if we have to, and we are smart enough to know what our parameters are. And yeah, I wouldn't agree with the fourteen-day notice, because part of it is we want them to feel comfortable in their house, and I'm a guest, and we need to act that way and behave that way. So those are just my two cents.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Andersen, Commissioner Toledo, Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you. I think this is a lot easier than we're all making it, and we're all saying essentially the same thing, with just different variations. There are educational meetings, and at those educational meetings, we direct any questions -- we follow what Director Ceja, Director -- essentially what
all the directors are essentially trying to say is, if someone starts to go, well, you know, I want you to go here, say, thank you. You can go to our website. We are not taking any input. This is educational.

My clarification question was, if we have a COI educational, COI tool educational, that's still educational. We're not telling -- we're not helping them use it. We're going to direct them to our website on the details of how. We're doing the what. And then that could indeed be -- if it's a private, you know, we tell where they are. Those do not need fourteen-day notices, but we have to be very careful. As we all state, we are not -- we're going to say, no, we're not taking input. That goes elsewhere.

Then, as in our strategic outreach plan that we're looking at, then there's public input meetings, and those indeed do have to be the fourteen-day, which I believe why Director Hernandez is saying he'd really like to get those on the schedule, because fourteen days is a huge deal, and that is where we can indeed show people how to use the COI tool, and at a point where we ever line draw, we'll also be having a line drawer there, still pre-census, and later on, those will also become -- all our public input -- when it's after census, but the educational part, which can continue through until it's
all done, is a one-way street, doesn't need fourteen
days. As soon as we start taking any info, it needs
fourteen days. I don't think that could be any more
clear. I think that answered everybody, hopefully.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Toledo, Commissioner
Sinay, Commissioner Vazquez, then Commissioner Yee.

VICE CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. I do think that
there may be some steps we can take to mitigate the risk
of potentially -- of these meetings potentially being
seen as -- or potentially being viewed as public input
meetings, or where we get -- or where that's the -- where
someone may challenge us on that issue, and that may be
things like having a really clear statement that we all
read at the beginning of each one of these meetings, some
kind of -- so just mitigating steps, right?

It could be a very brief orientation for
Commissioners on how to deliver that statement, what to
do if the public -- I mean, these are common-sense things
that we probably already know, but just we'd be spelling
it out, and doing it in a very brief orientation for us,
before we go out and deliver that, so we can show that we
have taken the -- we've done our due diligence on
educating Commissioners, as they go out, to not accept
public comment during these sessions. But just simple
mitigating things that might help us be able to do what
we want to do, without having to -- because, ultimately, if someone wants to challenge us on these types of issues, they probably will anyway, but we want to just make sure that we have the documentation to show that we took all of the steps necessary to keep us in compliance with State law and the State code.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I agree with Commissioner Toledo, and we've been told that multiple times from our experts, that we're going to be challenged, and if someone wants to challenge us, they will be challenged.

I think the one piece we're missing in this conversation, and something that I've taken to heart, you know, that Commissioner Vazquez and I have taken to heart, and then Commissioner Fornaciari and I have taken to heart, is this whole idea that we have to be as broad as possible in our engagement, that what the courts are going to be looking at, we've been told from the beginning, is how broad -- you know, how you have connected with the community, how broad that's been.

That's why, after community of interest panels of different communities -- and we'll have more -- we've gone into the sector panels, and today's panel was a very different audience -- I mean, a different panel -- and
participants than we've had in the past, and that was very intentional.

So I feel like, as much as we can be afraid that someone is going to tell us, hey, these are public meetings, or whatnot, on the flipside, I also think it's going to protect us, because we can show how diverse the different meetings were and how much, you know, outreach we did.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Vazquez.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: I understand what I think the folks from the legislature were concerned about. I understand this concern, and the desire -- certainly it aligns, I think, with all of our desire to keep our noses clean, and they were confirming that we -- yes, you are going to keep your noses clean on this, right? Right, right, right?

And I think we've had many ideas about how we can both keep our noses clean, reaffirm our commitment to transparency, and also we affirm our commitment to being in dialogue with our trusted community partners, with our trusted messengers, and I feel like, to the legislature's, you know, specific questions on, like, what is going to be said? Well, glad you asked. We have our presentation. Here it is. Here is our script. This is what is going -- this is what the Commissioners are
saying. We are all giving the same presentation, and Q and As are for, to Commissioner Le Mons's point, clarity. So Legislature, that is the answer to your first question. Here's what is being said.

To your second question, how do we know that there is no public input happening in these meetings? Well, we can't control -- to Director Ceja's point, we can't control what people say. It's First Amendment rights. People can say whatever they want, whenever they want, to whomever they want. That being said, here are all the precautions we are going to be taking to ensure that it is very clear, at least on our -- you know, we have done our due diligence to say it's not a public meeting. You know, we're giving this presentation. We're taking questions for clarity. That is it. And document all of the ways we are ensuring that this is not a public input meeting.

That is the -- for me, if we can be direct and clear with the legislature about answering those two -- I heard those two questions, like, how do we know what the Commissioners are saying? We can tell you. And then how can we assure that no public input is being received? Well, we can't guarantee, just like you can't -- they also understand this. Like, these are public officials who also have -- again, to Director Ceja's point, they
also have restrictions on the kinds of communications they can receive.

We can't prevent someone from, like, leaving a note on someone's doorstep with all of their advocacy asks, or a fundraising ask, or what have you, but we can do our due diligence to communicate out what our restrictions are, and that, for me, is a third way between having to notice all of these education meetings, and make them public meetings, and not doing them at all.

There is a third way, and I think we have found it, and we can be responsive to the legislature's concerns, in my opinion, if we are just direct with them about all the steps we are taking to address their concerns.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Hang on, Director Claypool. Let me get Commissioner Yee.

COMMISSIONER YEE: Thank you, Chair. I'm really appreciating this discussion, and feeling the tension of all the considerations that have been put on the table, and understanding why it is an issue.

I'm feeling very sympathetic to Director Claypool's concerns that, you know, conversations can pivot very quickly and very naturally into what would amount to public input, and you know, we can be trained and ready, and preannounce to deflect that input, but you know, it's going to happen, and the question is, if we're challenged
on having received that inappropriately, how do we defend ourselves?

Absent, you know, recording every session that any of us is involved in, which is completely unworkable, I think, you know, are these notices, these mitigation factors that Commissioner Toledo mentioned, risk mitigation -- are those adequate? If so, that's fine, and I think we can go forward with that, but to document that all that, and so forth.

I am a little concerned about the notion that we would, you know, kind of formally restrict ourselves to the script, and you know, the PowerPoint presentation that's being developed. Yes, we can often use that, and you know, give presentations based on that, but I find, you know, different settings -- I'm thinking of the two presentations I've already given, very different audiences. You know, I like to adapt things a lot. I like to develop my own slides, you know.

So I would like to have some provision for being able to do that, you know, maybe a requirement that anything we present, we also archive, you know, somewhere publicly accessible. I wouldn't want to be restricted to, you know, just a script, a boilerplate, you know, even very high quality. You know, different audiences ask for different kinds of nuances, and I'd like to be
able to adapt to that.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Le Mons.

And then Director Claypool, I'll give you the opportunity to respond.

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Thank you.

Thank you, Commissioner Vazquez. That was at the top of what I was -- I won't reiterate what you said. I think that it's a simple reply to the question. I also think that the question should be officially -- back to my earlier point. If there is an official question, then it should be officially presented to us.

So I could talk to any number of people. They might ask me some things, or say what was said in this conversation, but if this is a -- not legitimate, but if this is an actual concern, it should be raised, and it should be raised to the Commission, and I still want that, and then we can respond accordingly, using the framework that Commissioner Vazquez put forward.

So the other thing that this brings to mind is that old adage of people's first perception of you, or a situation when they get introduced to it, and so what people know about the Commission is what the 2010 Commission did, and that frames their understanding, the work that went into defining it, and all of that.

And what's interesting about us is, we've come at
this a little bit differently. This whole outreach piece that we're designing, this whole grants piece, this hasn't been done before, and so when they -- I expected their questions, right? But I think that, in the same vein as Commissioner Vazquez -- but then we respond to those questions.

I think that something was said yesterday about scope bleed, and it was Commissioner Sadhwani, as we were talking about the grants, and I just thought about this again in the context of this. This could be considered scope bleed, that all we're supposed to do is take input on the maps, and that's it, and all this stuff that we're doing is outside of that.

I'm not saying we shouldn't be doing it. I want to be very clear. But if people's perception of what our function is and what we are supposed to be doing is a specific thing, and these things that we're doing are outside of that, it will raise questions. So I think us, as a Commission, just have to accept that.

We made a decision as a group as to how important we felt outreach was. I don't know that it's written in the charter anywhere that our responsibility is to educate the community about redistricting or any of this stuff that we think is very important and we think, ultimately, leads us to doing a better job. Those are the decisions
that we're making.

So I just welcome the questions, I welcome our ability to respond to those questions, and when you are pioneering, and doing something that hasn't been done before, you have to have a certain amount of courage and fearlessness, and I think we do.

So I don't want us to be, you know, scared, and the Bagley-Keene book get whipped out every time we say we want to do something, and then we suddenly can't do it if we're not honoring fourteen days. I think we have to look at the law, look at the facts, figure out how we navigate, and do what it is that we're trying to do. So that's my -- yes. That's my feedback.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

I want to give Director Claypool and Chief Counsel Marshall an opportunity to respond. We'll break for lunch. We'll return to this with public comment after lunch.

So go ahead, Director Claypool, and then Chief Counsel Marshall.

MR. CLAYPOOL: First of all, I think that you're absolutely correct, Commissioner Le Mons, that we do need to look at what the law says. If this isn't -- if this were something that were just my prerogative, then that would be one thing, but you know, the law, in my mind, is
giving us some guidance.

Second of all, I want to be very, very clear that this isn't the legislature sending this question to us. This were the legislative staffers, at a meeting, asking a question. So we need to be very, very clear on that, that these were questions that were just asked in a meeting when we were going through the budget, which then triggered my concern that, were we looking at this correctly? So I don't want this, you know, to be blown out of proportion. These were questions from individuals, specific individuals.

Lastly, you are required by the Constitution to promote an educational outreach to all Californians, and this effort comes out of that, and I wouldn't want to see it jeopardized in any way, but I just wanted to make very clear how this information came to us, and also how it spurred my concerns.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Chief Counsel Marshall.

MS. MARSHALL: I'm not going to reiterate what all of you have actually stated. Again, I'm in agreement, and if there's additional legal response that's needed, maybe additional research, I can do it, but at this point, I stand by my position.

CHAIR TAYLOR: All right. So that was a very substantive and robust conversation. I hope that we all
can sort of contemplate it a bit over lunch. We'll
return to this topic. We'll accept public comment.
We'll see if it's necessary to move a vote on anything
when we come back.

So have a good lunch. Take a deep breath. We're
going to work through it. I think it was a great,
important conversation.

So let's come back in an hour. Let's come back at
1:45. Thank you.

(Whereupon, a recess was held from 12:41 p.m.
until 1:45 p.m.)

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Good afternoon. It is 1:45 p.m., January 27th.

Welcome back to the January 27th meeting of the
California Citizens Redistricting Commission.

We left off with the deputy executive director's
report, and before we proceed to public comment, let me
inquire, Deputy Director Alvaro -- Hernandez, are we
looking for -- are you looking for a vote for the
approval of your outreach plan?

MR. HERNANDEZ: That's what I had hoped to do, get a
conceptual approval, but I do have some additional
changes that have been made. So maybe we can delay that,
but proceed with the understanding that we are going to
approve it.
CHAIR TAYLOR: Got it. And so in order to be efficient, I think, along with public comment, I would like to get -- general public comment -- I would like to get public comment as it relates to this agenda item as well. So for us to move to a vote, there has to be a motion to accept this proposal.

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: This is Commissioner Le Mons. I was going to say, I'd like to make a motion to accept Deputy Director Hernandez's outreach proposal, but what I'd like him to do is, just so that we're all clear, is to quickly bullet the changes, so it would be accepted with changes, as identified, and that way, we could move forward.

MR. HERNANDEZ: Yes. So the changes will be on page 4, under strategy number 4. The first bullet is "Public Comment". I've added "Public Input Meetings", "Public Comment at Public Input Meetings".

The next change would be on page 8, under phase 3, "Public Meetings for Public Input". The last two sentences are new sentences that I'm adding, to read "During this phase, the Commission will receive the census data to work with. The public meetings will begin in late March and continue through May. A more detailed schedule of the public input meeting will be provided to the Commission at a later date."
And finally, on page 9, right underneath the outreach schedule, outreach presentation or educational presentation schedule, that first sentence, "Public meetings will begin after the educational presentation phase", and I deleted some of the language that was previously there. So those are the changes that were made.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I think they're all fine, but I'm not sure that we want to say, "after". I mean, I think public education meetings are going to be whenever. You know, someone may want a short presentation. So I would just say, "ongoing", and just leave it open like that.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Chief Counsel Marshall.

MS. MARSHALL: I had a comment that I wanted to make earlier, but it was so many comments in between that I decided to wait until we come back. Just one quick comment in regards to Government Code Section 8253, Section 3, that Director Claypool had mentioned, and it's my position that that's not applicable to this particular matter.

And just to briefly summarize this code, it states that "The Commission members and staff may not communicate with or receive communications about
redistricting matters from anyone outside of a public hearing."

For me, the operative words is "matters", and when you look at the word "matters", outside of science, it is a serious situation, a problem, a disagreement, litigation, concern, or things of that effect.

Here, again, these educational meetings are all about -- I'm sorry, educational events, presentations -- are all about education, and to do an overly broad interpretation of this particular section basically would stifle CRC's purpose. In general, CRC wouldn't be able to communicate with anyone, because the very purpose and goals of CRC is to redistrict, and just to give a general example, I find that someone could speak about their family, and not discuss family matters.

So here, you know, I'm very confident that Deputy Director Hernandez, Communications Director Ceja, and the Commissioners will conduct their presentations in a manner that not only serves the best interests of CRC, but the citizens of the State of California, without a doubt. We're adults here in this situation. We have control of the situation, and shouldn't be fearful or limiting ourselves when it comes to educating the public.

That's it.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.
COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Similar to Commissioner Sinay, there was two points, actually, I think, the one about "after", and then I think, earlier, there was March to May, which I also felt that we had talked about not truncating the -- it needs to be broader, so not having that May outer deadline. So if you could clarify that, Director Hernandez.

Also, this just occurred to me, just before Chief Marshall spoke, is I know we've talked about being open to doing education, you know, whenever, and for long as necessary, and I'm wondering if maybe it would be -- just in the spirit of delineation, once we begin to take public input, once we move to the input meetings, I think, because we'd be out doing different things, meaning two different things at the same time -- because we won't be doing public input meetings before the census data. We know that won't be happening. Am I correct?

No, that's not correct.

Okay. So forget that whole point. Just scrap that, my two points being that May outer deadline, extending that out, and not putting that "after" caveat. Those were the two things that stood out to me in the bullets.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. Yeah. And
maybe this is taking off a little bit on where Commissioner Le Mons was going, and if not, I apologize, but you know, we run the risk of confusion to the extent that we're doing those two different things at different times, and you know, we just have to be aware of the pluses and minuses of doing educational events and community input events simultaneously.

You know, I understand the importance of doing educational events as and when we're able to, but I think that the more we're able to separate the two, chronologically, the less confusion there will be out in the community, and that's -- I just want us to be aware of that. Thank you.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Turner.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you. I also wondered -- there was a suggestion earlier, I believe by Commissioner Toledo, to have some sort of disclaimer up front for the hearings that we're going to do -- or the educational piece that we're going to do. I'm wondering if that was taken into consideration and included, because I see that playing a huge role in differentiating what we're doing and what our intent is.

CHAIR TAYLOR: So the motion we have on the floor from Director (sic) Le Mons is to accept the concept of Deputy Executive Director Hernandez's outreach plan.
Chief Counsel Marshall.

MS. MARSHALL: Either I or Mr. Hernandez is going to answer Commissioner Turner's question, and my response would be yes, but I'll defer to him to confirm.

MR. HERNANDEZ: I would agree, and in light of that, I'd like to defer the approval for today, allow me to add that information, and potentially take a vote tomorrow, when that information has been added.

CHAIR TAYLOR: That would cause Commissioner Le Mons to have to withdraw his motion.

MS. JOHNSTON: It hasn't been seconded yet, so it doesn't need --

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Commissioner Yee.

COMMISSIONER YEE: Yes. On top of describing in the plan, you know, intention and provision for announcing upcoming presentations and educational events, to also include a clear description of how those are documented and archived publicly, so that, again, in the spirit of risk mitigation, we can, you know, make it clear how we're keeping all this very public, I think that would be useful.

Also to the point -- if I can back up some, I was thinking over lunch about the question of education and this whole idea about taking public input. I was
thinking, you know, we should work that into the education.

You know, one of the first things we talk about in a presentation is public input, and maybe, as example, I was thinking historically of 19th-century California, the railroad barons, railroad monopoly, which was considered such a threat by so many, and you know, maybe put a slide of those up and say, you know, if those guys were here today, they could not give us input unless we're in a public setting. Don't you think that's a good idea? They can't influence our work in a private back room. Well, the same rule applies to you as applies to them. Therefore, you know, this educational event, we can have discussion, but I can't take public input. Please use one of these other avenues to give that, so you know, to work it into a positive part of the education, and so make it, you know, something that people will value, rather than fight against.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

So then we're going to table this discussion, and come back to it tomorrow for a possible vote. Am I correct?

MR. HERNANDEZ: Yes, Chair.

CHAIR TAYLOR: All right. So then, I'm going to open up the floor for public comment, for general
comment, as well as to agenda item number 6.

   Kristian -- I'm sorry, Katy. We have Katy. Katy, can you --

   PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: That's okay.

   CHAIR TAYLOR: -- invite the public in, please.

   PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, definitely.

   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 is 877-853-5247.

   When prompted to enter the meeting ID number that is provided on the livestream feed, it is 97679349222 for this week's meeting. When prompted to enter a participant ID, simply press the pound key.

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

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

   If you would 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 mute your computer or livestream...
audio to prevent any feedback or distortion during the call.

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

We do not -- oh, well, let me -- we do have one person in the queue.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Invite them in, please.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And if you would like to state and spell your name, you can, but you do not have to. The floor is yours.

MS. WESTA-LUSK: Okay. This is Renee Westa-Lusk, R-E-N-E-E, and the last name is W-E-S-T-A, and then there's a hyphen, and then it's Lusk, L-U-S-K.

My questions mainly have to do with the executive director's report. There was mention of that you were going to have small, thirty-second videos on social media, which would include YouTube, and will you be putting those thirty-second videos on the website of the CRC? That's my first question.

Then you mentioned an e-blast newsletter. When you say "e-blast", does that mean all the people you have on file, emails, that want to be contacted by the Commission, their emailing list? Is that what you're referring to, how to get the newsletter, or will the
Then I wanted to say I support Commissioner Kennedy's emphasis on advertising the educational presentations, and maybe the future input meetings, on radio, for a lot of hard-to-reach areas of the state, as far as geography goes, because there's a lot of communities that don't have much local paper coverage.

Then I had one other question regarding if you're -- when Commissioner Kennedy asked about posting the speakers request form, will that actually be on the website, or -- the outgoing website, or are you planning to email that or e-blast that to people that are on your email list? Those are my questions.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Is staff able to answer or have any opinion on any of those questions put forth by Ms. Westa-Lusk?

Go ahead, Director Ceja.

MR. HERNANDEZ: So if I may, while Director Ceja reboots his system again, I'll answer those questions.

In regard to the videos that we will be producing, they will be available on our website, and also through the different social media applications, whether it's YouTube, Facebook, Twitter. There will be either links to them or the videos themselves.

In regards to e-blasts, that's typically what we do.
We have a list of emails. We'll send that information out to those who have provided us those emails, and other contacts that we may have. We'll be sending that information in our e-blasts, whatever information is available and relevant.

As far as advertising on the radio, that is definitely something that we are looking to do. We have already discussed a plan, moving forward, to make sure that we have radio advertisement funds available. So that is definitely part of our plan.

As far as posting the speaker request form, we are trying to get it on the current website so that it is available for everyone, and in when the new website -- it will definitely be available when that comes up. Thank you.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. If I could just suggest that Director Hernandez or Director Ceja inform those listening how they can get on the list for e-blasts if they're not already on that list. Thank you.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Do we have any more callers in the queue?

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Sorry. My microphone wasn't on. No, Chair, we do not.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.
Then we'll move on to our next agenda item. We will table our vote -- Commissioner Kennedy?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. I just wanted to go back for a second to Commissioner Yee's remarks a while ago, and reiterate something that I believe I had said in the last meeting, which is I think we're better off if we have a long-form expanded presentation that includes anything and everything, I mean, you know, to the extent that we can.

If we have everything in a presentation, and then whittle down from there to fit into the time available, we reduce the possibility of anything that's not absolutely factually correct, and has been vetted and so forth internally, going out. We can always whittle down, but once we start adding things that haven't been vetted, we increase our risk.

So I would encourage us to think in terms of let's -- you know, everything that's in the FAQs, everything that -- you know, just have a repository that we draw from for, you know, a long-form presentation that we would cut down from, and I think that that could help us in the long run. Thank you.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Any other comments from Commissioners?

All right. We're now going to move on to --
COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Chair?

CHAIR TAYLOR: Yes.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Director Hernandez would like to respond.

CHAIR TAYLOR: You guys. Yes, sir, go ahead.

MR. HERNANDEZ: I apologize for that, Chair. I just wanted to respond to Commissioner Kennedy. That is the reason that we created a long PowerPoint and a short PowerPoint. The long one has as much information as we can. As far as a repository, we have FAQs that are available. We have a fact sheet that is being worked on, and we'll talk about those in the subcommittee report for materials.

So I just wanted to make sure that you are aware that we are working on that, and I know that, in doing presentations, they're never going to be the same twice. There's variations, but the information is what we'll be talking to. You may say it a different way. Each one of us are very unique, and we're going to say it a different way, but the content will be the same. It's just the delivery, that we're allowing for that flexibility for you, as Commissioners, to interject your experience. And that's it. Thank you.

CHAIR TAYLOR: All right, Commissioners. Going once, going twice.
All right. So we're going to table this for the moment, table a possible vote, and move on to agenda item number 7, chief counsel's report.

The floor is yours, Chief Counsel Marshall.

MS. MARSHALL: I appreciate the comity. As usual, my chief counsel report is very brief and succinct.

Again, I just want to remind everybody to be cognizant of Bagley-Keene compliance when communicating, and one of the things that legal office is going to do, we're going to provide a cheat sheet, because a lot of times we come up -- we hear a lot of repetitive questions regarding the same thing, and I get it. There's a lot of time that spans, you know, through these different meetings, but that's something we're going to have for you by the end of next week. It's going to be real simple, pretty much cut-and-dried.

Also anyone have any legal questions, and they feel as though, after the fact, that they need more clarification, I don't want you to hesitate to ask for clarification. A week or so ago, there was an issue in regards to -- well, I had a question in regards to why there was voting on the applicability of the Election Code.

The thing is -- and they actually thought the vote was probably, you know, pretty much superfluous, but what
people may not know is that, when it comes to the law in itself, different code sections, different chapters, are applicable to different persons, places, and entities and subjects. So it doesn't necessarily mean it's applicable to you.

So if you flip through the pages, and you happen to miss that one little paragraph where it says, "Only applicable to the Franchise Tax Board", you may misinterpret it and think that it's applicable to us, and with this particular issue, it was just applicable to the local level, and not the state level.

In regards to anything derivative of any memorandums, or the VRA counsel, or litigation, or things of that nature on other subcommittees that I've been working with, I'm going to defer to them, to -- an effort to prevent duplication. Thanks.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Any questions or comments regarding the chief counsel's report?

All right. We will move on to agenda item number 9, the subcommittee updates, and we'll start off with action on the census, and this comes after Commissioner Sadhwani laid the bomb on us.

The floor is yours, Commissioner Sadhwani and Commissioner Toledo.
COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Sure.

Commissioner Toledo, do you want to start us off and give the background on the letter?

VICE CHAIR TOLEDO: Sure.

You should have all received the letter that we drafted. It's very familiar to the initial letter we did a couple months back to the legislature, to our U.S. Senators, and to the U.S. Census Bureau, and other federal legislators. There's one key difference, though. This also speaks to some of the methodology that has been used to protect privacy, and so what we're asking for is all of the data that's necessary for us to be able to do our job, and that's the piece that changes. So it's a little bit more specific in that regard.

You have the letter in front of you, so you can see what the letter says. In addition to asking the federal government to take its time, and for the Census Bureau to take its time, in making sure that the quality of the data that we get is good. I mean, we want good, accurate data, and that's initially the spirit of that letter.

So with that, I'll hand it over to Commissioner Sadhwani.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Sure. Just a little bit of a background here. You know, at our last meeting, I believe it was Commissioner Sinay, and I forget which
subcommittee, Commissioner Sinay, that you had had the
conversation with Karin Mac Donald.

We had a follow-up conversation with her that was
suggested at the last meeting, and so that did happen,
and in that conversation, she had just suggested that
continuing to advocate for high-quality data would be in
the interests of the CRC.

We felt that that was absolutely correct and true,
and we wanted to bring that back to you all for your
consideration. If you recall, in the fall, we were
writing letters of a very similar nature -- we used much
of the language from the fall letters again here -- to
ensure a complete count.

While the count period is over, there are quality --
you know, quality controls that the U.S. Census Bureau
can take to ensure that this is a full and complete data
set, to the best of their ability, and we believe it is
in the interest of the CRC to advocate as such to a new
administration.

So this letter was originally crafted to ask the new
Biden administration and the Census Bureau to take the
time necessary to ensure any such statistical measures
that can be taken to improve the quality of the data are
taken, so they don't feel rushed to do so.

In addition, after a lengthy conversation with Ms.
Mac Donald, we took the recommendation that the
differential privacy considerations that the U.S. Census
Bureau is attempting to enact would be best to be laid
aside for the 2020 census. I think the concern of most
data scientists and statisticians is that this was rolled
out in 2018.

Typically, when changes to the methodology of the
census occur, they are tested for many, many years, and
so while differential privacy -- while we can support
privacy in general, this new methodology, and the
algorithms that are being used, it is the sense of many
that this is going to create real problems for our data.
From the Statewide Database's perspective, in particular,
it would cause problems for the prisoner reallocation
data as well.

So we bring this for you all today to consider. Due
to the, you know, agendizing two weeks in advance, it was
not possible to have Ms. Mac Donald present to us today.
We have put her on as a placeholder for our next meeting,
February 8th, should there be any additional questions or
if we want to have her provide any additional updates in
terms of the census.

That being said, you know, it may not be necessary
to advocate, you know, for the Census Bureau taking this
longer time, now that we have this information that they
plan to send reapportionment data April 30th. That appears to be the -- it appears that they are taking that additional time. I don't think it's problematic if it stays in our letter. I think that's for discussion of this Commission.

I'll also say, you know, in terms of soliciting feedback from you all, I think what has worked well in previous kinds of documents like these is, if you have wordsmithing components, please feel free to send them through staff, and they can forward them on to us. We're happy to work through any, you know, grammatical errors, or even just better fit of words, but I think what we would prefer to focus our conversation on is whether or not we should send the letter, and the major components of the letter.

VICE CHAIR TOLEDO: Yes, or if there's any substantive issues with the letter. If folks have any substantive issues with regards to some of the advocacy points that we're making, those would be things that we want to do in public comment.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Andersen.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you very much for the letter and everything. I just had a question about -- looking at the letter, it's the third paragraph, when you're asking specifically asking about to remove the
differential privacy algorithm.

I recall back in the fall, when Ms. Mac Donald was speaking to us, there -- because privacy, of course, is a big issue, and the problem is this particular differential privacy algorithm that hadn't -- that they suddenly introduced, but there were other steps, as I understood it, that basically were kind of in the normal process, and were kind of continuing.

So I'm just concerned. Are we specific enough to say -- and specifically to who we're sending it to -- we're only talking about this particular algorithm? Because if they're -- you know, I don't want us -- I want our wording to be specific to address the issue that's the problem, and not overly inclusive, and eliminate -- you know, essentially, there is a problem if it's the exact numbers, because then you can basically drill down. You can find out, almost, who is were, not quite.

You know, that's an oversimplification of the real need for the privacy, some sort of privacy thing, and I thought that there was a little something that they were doing, and I don't know if you've already talked about that, or if this wording is specific enough to only eliminate that.

VICE CHAIR TOLEDO: I know that we're asking for the data at the block level, and so it's at the block level,
and so that we would have enough information to be able
to do our job, and ensure we're in compliance with, you
know, the Voting Rights Act and other compliance
requirements that may require us to look at, you know,
where certain demographics might live, or certain types
of individuals might live, because of the way the
methodology works -- and Sara probably understands this a
lot better than I do, but that's my understanding, is we
want block census -- data to the block level.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah, that's my
understanding as well, and I think, you know,
Commissioner Andersen, to your point, I think we would be
happy -- we have not shared this letter directly with Ms. Mac Donald, though it is posted to our website. I would
be happy to kind of follow up with her, if it is the
desire of the Commission, to make sure that we are being
as specific as possible and to get additional clarity for
you, for your question.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes. Thank you very much.
Yes. I understand that when you're trying to add the
prisoner reallocation, it's very important to have that
so you can match apples to apples, but I just don't know
quite -- I want us to be sure that we're specific enough
to not muddy the waters, but I don't know -- and this is
kind of meant to Legal -- can we do that? Can we get, I
guess, you know, feedback? I guess it's public comment feedback, that that should be no legal issue.

Counsel, is there any sort of issue with that?

MS. MARSHALL: I guess I'm trying to understand your question.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: As Commissioner Sadhwani said, we can just verify with Ms. Mac Donald the specificity of the wording. Is that proper, because we have the same intent, but then, going back to her, is that okay?

MS. MARSHALL: You know what? I would have to -- I'm not going to going -- I'm looking at just general public comment, and she has the opportunity to call in to comment on the matter. You know, at this time, I have -- you know, I don't have a different response, other than it wouldn't be improper for her to call in at this time to provide a comment on it.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Or maybe, if I can chime in, is there any violation if the subcommittee was then -- for something such as this -- if they were to recontact their source for clarification of verbiage or the proper terms, so that our intent is properly conveyed?

Commissioner Sadhwani, did I say that correctly?

VICE CHAIR TOLEDO: I'm just wondering if maybe we can just send her an email, and just ask her to send us,
in writing, to the Commission, any feedback that she
might have, so that it's through our public process, and
it can be posted, so that everybody knows what it is, and
that should meet the requirement, I believe.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah. I mean, my --
sorry, if Ms. Marshall wants to go ahead.

MS. MARSHALL: No, go ahead.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: My sense is that, as Chair
Taylor laid out, I think it should be okay if we go back
and ask for that clarity. You know, she is the director
of the Statewide Database, who is the entity that will be
providing us with this data, so my sense is that it is
expected that we would have a working relationship with
her.

And I will say, as we put this letter together, our
intent was not to be terribly specific about the details.
We felt like we are not the statisticians here. The
Statewide Database is. So if they want to advocate for
those more specific details, that is certainly within
their purview. However, as the Commission, I think our
interest is having the highest-quality data possible,
right, so that we can draw maps that are defendable.

So my interest in preparing this letter was not to
drill down too deeply into the nitty-gritty of, you know,
statistical methodology of the U.S. Census Bureau, but
instead to make a strong ask for high-quality data, and that they take the time necessary to ensure that that is delivered.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Chief Counsel Marshall.

MS. MARSHALL: Just to maintain consistency, we're actually in the process of developing protocols when it comes to memorandums and things of that nature, and so until we have that developed, which should hopefully be soon, I'll be able to give you a definitive response.

Thank you.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

So Commissioner Toledo, Commissioner Sadhwani, is there anything that you need from us today?

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: My sense is, if there is agreement that it is indeed in our interest as a Commission to move forward with such a letter -- and obviously, the census situation is developing rapidly -- but you know, is there general approval to move forward with such a letter?

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Fernandez, then Commissioner Andersen.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes. Thank you, Commissioners Sadhwani and Toledo. I do think it's still important for us a Commission to send this letter. Regardless of the census data being delayed, there's
still an issue with the differential privacy that we still want to address, because we don't know. Is that what's causing the delay? So I think, you know, it's an issue that was brought up, and I think we should still move forward with it. So thank you.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Andersen.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you. I have just one other item, and then I will be happy to make a motion that we do move ahead on this. It's just, when we refer to -- and this is for, again, clarity -- the last part, "our fourteen-member Commission, we have five Republicans, five Democrats," and we say, "four nonparty affiliates." Are all four of them nonparty, or are they of a particular party?

VICE CHAIR TOLEDO: My understanding is all nonpartisan, no party.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I believe we discussed this previously, and we came up with the terminology "nonparty affiliates", as opposed to the use of the term "independents", but if we want to revisit that --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: No, no. It was actually -- it's just because there -- remember, in California, there is a "no party", and then, you know, there are the other parties, but I thought the "nonparty" -- that they actually were all indeed no party, and that's where
the -- and if that's -- I'm getting -- I'm seeing nods
from the people involved, in which case I would say I
would make a -- I propose that we move this letter ahead.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Le Mons, did you have a
comment?

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yeah. I was just going to
affirm that I was nonparty affiliate. That's all. I
just wanted to -- I understand Commissioner Andersen's
question, because there is other parties, like the Green
Party and others, and so you're just clarifying whether
or not that "nonparty affiliate" representation
represents the -- I think it's four of us?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes.

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: The four of us. So I'll say,
for me, it does.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Akutagawa?

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I think, officially, I
think we're called "decline to state".

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: No. It was --

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Andersen, you're off
mute.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Sorry. Sorry. I'm terribly
sorry. But Commissioner Le Mons and Commissioner Ahmad
were answering.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yes. I think that that's
what the Statewide Auditor was using, because I saw "decline to state" somewhere, and it was being used quite often.

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Can I just -- it was formerly -- like, when you register to vote, the form formerly used to say, "decline to state," when you register your political party, but that has since changed, if I am recollecting, because I put "decline to state" when I registered to vote, because I didn't know what political parties meant, and what that entailed. So I just put "decline to state", and then, as you learn about it, you know.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Fernandez, and then Chief Counsel Marshall.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: When I was reading some of the legislation that was applicable to us, the California Code, the way they put it, I mean, sometimes they put it the long way, but they also do "fourteen members comprised of five Republicans, five Democrats, and four members from either party", and that's how they explained it, I guess.

For me, it was clear, but I think we've already addressed this at the last letter that we went, early on in the Commission, when we were established, and I think that the "nonparty affiliates" -- I think that's what we
agreed to early on.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Correct. That's my recollection, and I would be -- I would promote sending out the letter with the same verbiage.

Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I would like to second the motion that was made, and for the outreach committee, please note just the conversation we just had, because we've been using a lot longer verbiage on our outreach material.

CHAIR TAYLOR: So the motion was proposed by Commissioner Andersen and seconded by Commissioner Sinay, correct? So then, is there any further discussion?

So then, we need to move -- Commissioner Sadhwani.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: You know, I just also wanted to highlight for you all that we need to figure out who, exactly, the new census director is. I believe there is a change happening there, so that's just an update. We will clarify that.

Commissioner Toledo and I also had discussed that there may be other people that it would make sense to send it to, either within the new administration -- possibly the vice president could play a role in the census. Of course, she has strong ties to California.

So we would also ask that we have the leeway to explore
who the best options would be to send this to.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you for saying that. I
was wondering if we should CC the folks that we sent the
first census letter to, just so that we're still keeping
them in the loop on what we're doing, especially since we
have a new senator.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: That's a great idea.

CHAIR TAYLOR: All right. Then we need to invite in
public comment regarding the motion on the floor for
approval of the letter to support the strongest
statistics possible. Does that sound correct? And
that's agenda item 9A.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: I think I'm going to
stick with 9A. No, I'm just kidding. Okay.

In order to maximize transparency and public
participation in our process, the Commissioners will be
taking public comment by phone. To dial in, the
telephone number provided on the livestream feed is 877-
853-5247.

When prompted to enter the meeting ID number that is
provided on the livestream feed, it is 97679349222 for
this week's meeting. When prompted to enter a
participant ID, simply press the pound key.

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

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

If you would 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 mute your computer or livestream audio to prevent any feedback or distortion during your call.

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

The Commission is taking public comment on the motion made about the letter relating to 9A.

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

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. We'll give it a few minutes. We'll be in pause.

MS. MARSHALL: This is Chief Counsel Marshall. Here at headquarters, we weren't able to get the name of the person who did the second on the motion.

CHAIR TAYLOR: The second is Commissioner Sinay.

MS. MARSHALL: All right. Thank you.
What was that, Commissioner Fornaciari?

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I just had a question for Chair -- can I ask a question, Chair Taylor, while we're waiting?

CHAIR TAYLOR: Absolutely.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Commissioner Sadhwani, so is it official at this point that -- is it officially announced that it won't be released until April -- the apportionment data won't be released until April 21st?

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: The correspondence that I received was from Karin Mac Donald. She said she was at a meeting of the National Conference of State Legislatures, in which a U.S. Census spokesperson announced that it would not be released until April 30th, the reapportionment data, and that it's expected that that data would be released to the states three months later.

I don't know what constitutes official at this point, but she did email that update. That's as best as I can share with you at this point. I haven't yet seen any, you know, news release or anything to that effect. I know Ms. Johnston is often following this topic. I don't know if you've seen anything yet this afternoon.

No.

I know there's a reporter, Hansi Lo Wang, who tends
to follow changes in the census. I'll check it out on Twitter, but I haven't seen anything as of yet besides the email that I received from Ms. Mac Donald.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Great. So I just want to share with everyone kind of a reaction I had to that news. I feel like we've been going full speed ahead, you know, in the anticipation that, you know, we're going to have this compressed schedule. We talked about, you know, alternative scenario planning. Well, now we have a new scenario, and so it's kind of clear to me that, you know, we're not ending August 15th at this point.

We're, you know, more like December 15th, and so that's another several months for everyone, especially those folks who are working, are working full-time, and so I'd like to kind of have us take a little think here about the rate of movement that we're working under right now, and see if we can, you know, give folks a little break, because it is going to get -- you know, crunch time is going to be August, September, October, you know, kind of time -- or September, October kind of time frame now.

So that was just one reaction I wanted to share with you guys. You know, I don't work, but I really worry about all of you who do work, and how much, you know, toll it's taking on you, and now we've got four more
months or whatever of toll on you all. So just thought I'd share.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you, Commissioner Fornaciari, especially for your concern for those of us that are hustling in and out from one place to another. I appreciate it. Thank you.

We've had sufficient time. There doesn't appear to be any callers in the queue.

Am I correct, Katy?

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: You are correct, Chair.

CHAIR TAYLOR: So I believe that I will move to a vote.

Ms. Sheffield.

MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Toledo.

Vice Chair Toledo: Yes.

MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Turner.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yes.

MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Vazquez.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yes.

MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Yee.

COMMISSIONER YEE: Yes.

MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Ahmad.

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Yes.

MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Akutagawa.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yes.
MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Andersen.
COMMANDER ANDERSEN: Yes.
MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Fernandez.
COMMANDER FERNANDEZ: Yes.
MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Fornaciari.
COMMANDER FORNACIARI: Yes.
MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Kennedy.
COMMANDER KENNEDY: Yes.
MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Le Mons.
COMMANDER LE MONS: Yes.
MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Sadhwani.
COMMANDER SADHWANI: Yes.
MS. SHEFFIELD: And Commissioner Sinay.
COMMANDER SINAY: Yes.
MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Taylor.
CHAIR TAYLOR: Yes.
MS. SHEFFIELD: Okay. Motion passes.
CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.
MS. SHEFFIELD: You're welcome.
CHAIR TAYLOR: All right. So we move on to 9B, finance and administration, Commissioners Fernandez and Fornaciari.
COMMANDER FORNACIARI: So we've been asked to look at, you know, a process for approving letters. That came up in Director Claypool's report. There were a
couple things going on. There was this letter. There was another letter response to the now-Secretary of State's recommendation for, you know, prisoners at their home address, and so you know, we've been given that task, and we'll take care of it. We have a couple other policies that we're going to bring forward, not this meeting, next meeting, but the one after.

There has been a request to look at a security policy, you know, and be prepared for the time, when and if we can go out, and get that prepared and in place, and so I'm not sure what we're going to do. I guess it's up to Chair Taylor at this point. We thought we might expand the role of the cybersecurity committee to be the broader security committee, potentially, and we can work on that policy, and just have that in place and ready to go for when we go out, so we ensure we have a -- we're prepared, from a security standpoint, when it comes to (indiscernible).

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you, and (audio interference) --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Oops.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. My leanings at the moment would be to expand the role of the cybersecurity team, and to put -- to add that to that detail.

Anything? Commissioner Toledo?
VICE CHAIR TOLEDO: This is a quick question for the committee. Are we planning to do performance reviews? Because I know that -- for our staff -- and just the time frame for that? Because I know that was a topic that we talked about as we were hiring staff, that we'd do some kind of, like, ninety-day or -- I can't remember what the exact time frame was, but I think it would be important to just give, you know, feedback, things are going great, things that could be improved, that sort of thing, to everyone, just so that we're clear, and all moving in the same direction.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes, and actually I'll defer to Executive Director Claypool. He actually brought this up, and they're going to start drafting that, and of course, it will go through our subcommittee, but I'll defer to Executive Director Claypool.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Executive Director Claypool.

MR. CLAYPOOL: So where we finally landed on that, when we were discussing it during the hiring, was that we do a one-year evaluation, and that I would go ahead and put together some evaluation criteria, and then, clearly, it would move through, again, the finance and administrative committee to take a look at.

Typically, within the state, you can have earlier evaluations. You can have evaluations for people who are
on probation, but we don't have any probationary staff.

Or you can -- if you decide, you can ask your managers to
give people evaluations at any interval you choose, but
it would be kind of onerous if it were more than, say, a
three-month or six-month evaluation, because they take
some time to write, and then, if there's a problem, then
you have to basically go through and make sure that your
staff has been correctly evaluated and so forth.

So I would say, in this particular case, if there is
an evaluation that needs to be given, it could be given
informally. If there's something you want improved, make
that informal evaluation, but just keep it on a one-year
basis, because that would also conform to when there
would be a decision made on whether that individual would
receive a merit raise.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. I mean, when we put
together the policy that we approved, you know, we agreed
on a one-year annual evaluation process for everyone,
although, I mean, I would just -- I'm a huge proponent of
ongoing feedback as we go along, just to let people know
how they're doing in a more informal setting, rather
than, you know, formal feedback processes.

Just for me personally, I find it much, much more
effective. If you do it on a regular basis, it becomes
just part of the culture and process of doing business.
Again, just to reiterate, the policy we put in place was annual reviews.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. And then just one more thing, for transparency purposes. Staff did prepare an evacuation plan, because we didn't have one in place yet. So because of the inauguration last week, the governor ordered that the state offices be closed, so we quickly -- I shouldn't say "we" -- staff quickly drafted something. We reviewed it, and then we'll bring it to the Commission for approval at our next meeting.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Actually, we have.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Director Claypool.

MR. CLAYPOOL: Yes. Just to be -- just to add onto that, though, all staff are fully informed of that, that policy for evacuation.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Any other comments or questions for the finance and administration subcommittee?

We'll move on to 9C, the Gantt chart subcommittee, Commissioners Kennedy and Taylor.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. As I mentioned earlier, in light of today's news, we will need to put our noses back to the grindstone on this and generate another iteration of the Gantt chart. You know, I have started work on that, and we, as always, remain
subject to further changes in the census schedule, but
we'll have a new version of a Gantt chart for you for the
next meeting.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I just wanted to point out
that, in Hansi Lo Wang's report, that it says it will be
released after July 30th, so that does affect the -- you
know, so it will be after, and that right now the
delivery of the redistricting data is to be determined --
and that came from the census, I believe. So a lot is
still up in the air.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Director Claypool.

MR. CLAYPOOL: I'd just like to tell you that the
2010 experience was much the same. The data didn't come
until pretty late, and so they started with their public
meetings and gathering COI data while the information was
being gathered. This does press you deeply into the
Supreme Court's deadline, but you are already taking
steps to move onto those first series of meetings. So I
think that it's a pace that will be manageable to you.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Commissioner Kennedy, I did not assume when I took
this that redistricting was going to be our Christmas
gift to California.
On to agenda item 9D, the line drawers,
Commissioners Andersen and Sadhwani.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Well, I'll go ahead and speak up on this. Obviously -- well, I'm not going to say obviously. The RFP did indeed go out. It is posted on our website. If you go look under the job opportunities, it is there.

It was out for the questioning period, and we did receive a question from Mr. Doug Johnson, who is a redistricting person. He is a familiar person in all of the field of redistricting experts, and he specifically asked -- the way he interpreted the RFP was that we were not considering or taking into public consideration their drawing of, actually, district lines, and that was not the case.

We were very specific in the RFP about emphasizing the COI tool, because this is different from last time, from ten years ago, and we really want people to use the COI tool, and so it looked out of proportion a little bit, because we didn't emphasize what kind of maps before, and now we really did emphasize the COI, and so he read it as we're not doing the districting.

Raul wrote a very appropriate reply, yes, it is indeed included, and laid that out. That is also now answered, sent to him, but the legislature then heard
this as public comment, and was concerned, and wrote a
letter, also public comment for us, that it's all of our
intentions to indeed look at district maps.

So we felt, the subcommittee felt, that it was
indeed time to go ahead and put an addendum out, which we
have put together. It is in the process of just going
through legal verification, and will be posted soon. It
basically just adds -- it's not a change of scope, of
scope of work. It just adds the specificity of, we're
also considering the districting, and that is part of the
discussion that we had a little bit before about well,
when are doing what?

We can do the COI tools. We can do the COI tools,
and collecting the communities of interest information,
with line drawers, well before the census data gets here,
and that is what we need to -- we've been considering,
and it's just been a little confusion. We really want
the communities' input before the census data gets here,
because, as we're hearing, more and more of the census
data could be a little bit later.

Now, there will indeed, then, be other additional
line drawing, when other people will be submitting
districts to us, to the Commission, and we'll have line
drawers for that. We'll have line drawers well before we
start doing, actually, district maps.
So that's kind of the -- that's the bulk of where we are. There's a little bit more in terms of making -- as we change later on, when we talk about changing meeting dates, we do have to make a bit of a change there, but that's the update as far as I see it.

Commissioner Sadhwani, do you want to add in, please?

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Sure, just to provide a little additional context. The district maps that Commissioner Andersen is referring to, you might recall, we had discussed in the development of sort of that time line for the RFP. There was a date at the end of last year, in which I had had up, like, a PowerPoint, just so that we could see some potential dates.

I specifically recall Rosalind Gold from NALEO had called in and said, well, you need to add a date for receiving maps, the actual full district maps, from various organizations and entities, and hearing that, we said, yes, absolutely. That is something that the 2010 Commission did.

You heard that actually mentioned again in the VRA training, that various organizations and interested parties will go through and draw their own set of maps that they feel would be compliant to the VRA, and so my understanding of the comment from Mr. Johnson was to
ensure that we clarify, that we will indeed be receiving them.

We felt like the language we had was broad enough already to be inclusive of that, and we felt it was our intention. We had discussed it as a Commission. But it wasn't specific, so the addendum that Commissioner Andersen speaks of adds that level of specificity. And we're happy to take questions on that.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Any questions or comments for the line drawer subcommittee?

Go ahead, Commissioner Sadhwani.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I just want to note -- thank you, Chair -- that the RFP is out. So if you happen to know a line drawer, make sure that you share that information. The world of line drawers is not that big, but certainly we would love to have a broad pool of applicants to consider.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Andersen, it looks like you're on mute.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Sorry. Thank you.

Any line drawers who are out there, please pay attention, and go to our website, read the RFP, and please make a proposal. We would love it.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Director Ceja.

MR. CEJA: In addition to that, I know Commissioner
Kennedy suggested we post it in a particular site. If you have listservs or places where you feel we should be posting the RFP opportunity, please let us know so we can get it out there.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

No further questions or comments?

We will move on to agenda item number 9E, VRA compliance, with Commissioners Sadhwani and Yee.

COMMISSIONER YEE: Thank you, Chair. I can chime in a bit, and then Commissioner Sadhwani can also chime in.

So we brought you yesterday's panel, and will continue to look towards further educational opportunities going forward. VRA is very complex, and as we actually start looking at actual districts and so forth, I'm sure questions will continue to develop in our minds. So we'll anticipate that and keep working on that.

Meanwhile, of course, the legal affairs committee has been formed. We'll have our first meeting tomorrow, with Commissioner Sadhwani, Commissioner Toledo, and myself. Commissioner Sadhwani will be the initial chair. So tomorrow afternoon, we'll have our first meeting, set some policies.

The applications for the VRA and litigation counsels, the deadline is two days from now, and we have
gotten some inquiries, nothing in hand yet, but we think we will have some good candidates to consider. So the actual consideration of those will happen February 10th, and then, February 18th, we'll try to narrow down to a decision. That will involve interviews, which the legal affairs committee will conduct, public interviews, and so we're continuing to plan for those.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Thank you, Commissioner Yee. Just to add to that, just as a reminder, that legal affairs committee and the review of all of those applications for VRA counsel and outside litigation will be completely public. All of the documentation will be posted for public viewing, and we welcome public feedback on the applicants. We feel like that's a really important area to receive public feedback.

In addition, you know, if I may just take a brief moment, I just kind of want to -- would love to just hear from Commissioners if the VRA training yesterday was helpful, if it spurred more questions. If so, what else might be useful for the Commission? I think we are happy to continue to do trainings. We've thrown around a lot of different ideas within the subcommittee, but it would be great to hear from you all, in brief, if you have any additional ideas for us.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Sinay, then Commissioner
Fornaciari, then Commissioner Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: The one question I wrote down that I have as, you know, out there, is, one of the conversations was about the importance of doing historical research on different communities, and I couldn't remember -- I knew that PPI was doing some type of research for us, but I wasn't sure on that historical piece.

I know that it's also come up in conversations with different Commissioners about their zones, on how we're collecting information and how -- and that might be -- the historical data is different when it comes to VRA, but also how we want to kind of set the stage when we're going into different zones, different community -- I mean, different -- you know, we would have to think through, so that we know -- since we're not traveling there, we kind of -- you know, how to put it in perspective. But sorry. I'm confusing two things, so let's just stay with the historical information. I was just wondering who's going to do that historical research, or how we're going to get that historical research.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Chair, do you want us to respond now, or should we collect all the comments and then respond? However you'd like to do that.
CHAIR TAYLOR: No, I find it better if you can respond directly.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Sure. I think that that's a great point. You know, my understanding from VRA litigation is that there are typically scholars who will attest to historical discrimination.

It's not something we've considered previously, but you know, perhaps Commissioner Yee and I could brainstorm a little bit and put together -- we had previously talked about a briefing book, and then we kind of let that go, and we thought, maybe there is going to be new legislation. Now, we hear maybe there's not going to be new legislation.

But perhaps, if we revisited that -- I am hesitant to say those scholars who appear in VRA litigation cases would be willing to, for free, provide such research, but I think, if we could identify scholars who would be willing to, you know, write a one- to two-page document about the application of the VRA to historically discriminated-against communities, I think that might be valuable to us as a Commission, and I think Commissioner Yee and I could discuss that further.

I'm not sure how that relates to the zone outreach piece. If there's a specific tie-in or something there, please let us know, and you know, we'd be happy to be
responsive.

COMMISSIONER YEE: I think we're going to look to our VRA counsel, once that counsel is in place, to guide us in some of this, and recommend to us, you know, what research we should do, and you know, we'll work together with counsel to pursue that.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: That's right. I will also add, I thought it was really interesting, the perspective of Mr. Dunn in his training yesterday, that, while we could have VRA counsel, we could also employ secondary opinion specifically on application of Section 2 of the VRA, right, and to write kind of reports about when, where, why we would draw districts that we believe are compliant with the VRA. I actually really liked that suggestion. Certainly that would have budgetary considerations for us to consider, but I think it certainly would be the Commission covering itself as we develop districts that we believe to be VRA-compliant.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Commissioner Fornaciari.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I thought the presentation and the discussion were outstanding, and really, really helpful, also kind of overwhelming, how are we going to do this, you know, kind of thing. I think both points that were just brought up, about the history and about
the second opinion kind of things, I think we need to not
lose those points, and keep considering those things. I
would just -- you know, as we get closer, I'd just like
to have another refresher.

COMMISSIONER YEE: Sure.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Thank you.

Commissioner Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. Yeah. I
thought yesterday was extremely valuable. I'm looking
forward to more.

I would still encourage you to ask around, through
Mr. Dunn and any others, to see if you can identify any
moot court exercises related to VRA. I had mentioned
previously that StreetLaw.org has some resources online
related to redistricting.

They don't -- as far as I can tell, they don't
include moot court exercises, but I don't know. Maybe
they have some that aren't right there on their website
or something. But I think watching a moot court exercise
that is based on VRA would be very useful to us.

I also think that, you know, there are the cases
that were brought against the work of the 2010
Commission, and I think it would be useful for us to have
someone walk us through those cases, what they were based
on, what the arguments were. I think that's going to
help us be that much more prepared for anything that
might hit us. So those are my two thoughts at this
point.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Sadhwani, you have a
response?

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes. Thank you.

Thank you so much, Commissioner Kennedy. We'll
certainly look into the moot court exercises. I do
recall that you had mentioned that previously. My
apologies for not following up on that sooner.

In terms of the 2010 cases, you know, I had had a
conversation about this, or an email exchange, I suppose,
with Ms. Johnston some time ago, and I know, Ms.
Johnston, you had been contacted. I think it was by a
graduate student or a law student who was tracking the
cases. I haven't followed up with that student.

I was thinking about it, and I haven't, but you
know, I think that this might be a great area for us, or
if we could even get a California -- the law student, I
believe, was in, I believe, Wisconsin or Michigan, and
perhaps was thinking about it for the Michigan
Commission, perhaps, but perhaps, if we could find a law
student here in California who would be interested to
kind of take this on for us, and kind of provide us that
overview, I think that would be really exciting, you
know, if anyone has contacts at a law school, or I can
certainly reach out to some folks and see if that's
something that could be doable.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Ms. Johnston, did you have a response?

MS. JOHNSTON: I was also going to say that the
Supreme Court argument in the Shelby County case is
available online. If anybody is interested in reviewing
that, I can get the citation for them.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. I think, yes, that would
be helpful to have in our repository of information.

Commissioner Andersen, and then Commissioner Turner,
then Commissioner Akutagawa.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Actually, thank you. I
didn't really have my hand raised at this time. My only
one idea, as I think I've already mentioned, is, one, it
was great. The presentation was very good, and I loved
the different points brought up.

I would also agree with Commissioner Fornaciari,
great till of information. I would like us at some point
to do, in the training, kind of a little bit of a
workshop, actually how it would really apply, because
there's nothing like trying to do the work, you know,
that really puts your hands on, and with completely
made-up information, so there's no way anyone thinks
we're actually trying to do the work; we're not. This is really as to go, how would we do this work? But thank you, and keep on going.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Commissioner Turner.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you, Chair.

Yes. Commissioners Sadhwani and Yee, I want to thank you for continually putting this type of presentation in front of us. I found it to be helpful, and also still challenging.

I think, when there's not the background that you all typically have, sometimes information, it's like, okay, am I absorbing it or am I not? I'm not sure all the time. What I am hopeful in, in this entire process, is that, as we're moving forward, having more conversations, I'm more sticking than I can imagine, than I would have imagined is. So I'm going to hold onto that, that some of this is sticking as well.

Now, for this past presentation, I did appreciate the examples that were used. It did drive more questions in my mind, some of which have already been discussed. As far as the research component, there was the one piece when we were talking about if someone just called and says, my community needs to be together because of whatever their ethnicity was, and you couldn't use that,
but there is research you can do around it and see if they're historically, you know, underserved, and I kept thinking, well, who's doing that research? Where is that in the training? Right? So I'm glad we're talking about that piece.

And Commissioner Andersen, thank you, because I am still hopeful that, in this COVID moment, the time that we're in, that there are ways to do more of a workshop that will offer a different method of learning, and being able to assess, and be able to speak the information, where it can either be corrected or what have you.

Sometimes I'm like, I think I'm tracking, but I don't necessarily trust me to say that again.

I'm going to rely on, you know, Commissioners Sadhwani and Andersen, and all those of you that have that. I'd like to access it as well, and maybe that's happening. I don't 100 percent know if it is right now.

So yes, additional presentations, a different learning format, a quiz, I don't care what, something, I'd like to suggest, particularly for this part of the Commission's work. Thank you.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

We have Commissioner Akutagawa and Commissioner Ahmad.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yes. Yesterday, well, I
just want to say both Professor Dunn but also the panel was very interesting and helpful, and it did create some questions.

One of the things that stuck in my mind, and I don't know if it's necessarily relevant right now, but it did stick in my mind, is what Professor Dunn said about, I guess -- what I heard is there seems to be some debate as to whether or not these independent, you know, like us, redistricting commissions will remain legal. That was an interesting one. I don't necessarily think it's a question for training, but I just wanted to say that out loud.

I think what was interesting, and I think this kind of goes back to some of what Professor Dunn was saying about, you know, like, the communities of interest -- what I found interesting was just this idea about the VRA not necessarily being most helpful for some communities. And I think that, I feel like, may be worth a further exploration, because -- and this may relate to, partly, what Commissioner Andersen was saying about, you know, just like, you know, when the rubber meets the road, how do we start really applying all of this? And as we're starting to actually get into it, is that when we're going to kind of start to understand what was said about, like, VRA doesn't necessarily -- it's not the silver
bullet, as I think Ms. Ma said about, you know, just how we think about VRA and other things like that?

I know that a caller asked about, you know, what does this mean in terms of, you know, nonrace-based communities? You know, like, where socioeconomic status may be impacted by this. I don't know if I'm just making -- like, overthinking this, but there does seem to be -- at least in my mind, I mean, I would like some more clarity, and maybe just some more exploration of it, because I hadn't thought about it in that way before, and now I'm kind of like, oh, man.

It's like, I feel like I have to do kind of a mindset shift in terms of how I think about what I thought VRA was supposed to mean, and now kind of like, what's this going to mean for, you know, especially some of the smaller communities, and what does this mean for even other communities that we may not think about in terms of race, too?

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Commissioner Ahmad.

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you, Chair. I just wanted to quickly uplift Commissioner Andersen's idea of a hands-on workshop style, and we can even, you know, go away from earth and go to, you know, the Kree Galaxy or Vormir, or anywhere in the Avengers comics, and do our
redistricting there, or elsewhere, but I really like that idea of putting it -- you know, a tangible activity that not only myself can learn, all of us can learn, but everyone watching can take away some lessons and key learning points as well.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Let me second your thoughts, Commissioner Ahmad. I agree.

Commissioner Sadhwani, maybe if you can -- or Commissioner Yee -- maybe you can help me with a little bit of clarity, too. The racially polarized voting, is that driven by our VRA counsel, or is that a separate issue that we have to analyze and then push ourselves?

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Sure. So the racially polarized voting analysis, RPV, we would hire out a separate analyst or statistician to do that analysis, but we would do it at the advice of counsel. So you know, previously, we had talked about running RPV statewide.

We ultimately decided not to move forward with that. It was just too costly, and wouldn't really get us that much additional information in terms of actually drawing the districts. So we have kind of put that to the side for now, and I think our intention -- and Commissioner Yee, please correct me if I misspeak here -- but soon after we are able to hire a VRA attorney, we would then employ an RPV analyst.
There's a handful of people who typically do this analysis in VRA litigation cases. Many of them are political scientists, and the idea being that they would be looking for where there is polarization within various communities that would satisfy those Gingles requirements under Section 2, right, that Mr. Dunn had talked about, where we anticipate a community's vote could otherwise become diluted, but yet, at the same time, that there's enough members of that community, and that they are geographically compact enough to create that district.

So I think, in response to, you know, Commissioner Akutagawa and the concern for various communities, I think you're right, right? Like, it's not -- the VRA has not been applied to all communities that have ever faced discrimination here in the United States, largely because many of those communities are not -- there's not enough people in a geographic space to consider them from a redistricting standpoint.

That's not to say they haven't been discriminated against. It's not to say that that discrimination isn't valid, generally, but that it's not going to necessarily influence the redistricting component. I hope that answers your question.

COMMISSIONER YEE: That's right. So the RPV analysis has to be done, but there's two options. One is
that we do go out and hire, probably through an
interagency agreement, an analyst to have the work done.
Or the VRA counsel -- we may have an option to have the
VRA counsel pursue its own RPV analysis; or both.

Part of the question, you may recall, is the
discussion of confidentiality, whether the analysis would
be kept confidential as an attorney work product, and
there are some arguments for doing that. So it's a
little bit -- it remains to be seen, but the analysis
will definitely have to be done, one way or another.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Any other questions or comments?

All right. Seeing none, this would be the optimal
time to take our last break before we conclude today, and
we'll return with agenda item 9F, outreach and
engagement. So see you guys back at 3:30.

(Whereupon, a recess was held from 3:14 p.m.
until 3:30 p.m.)

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Good afternoon. It is
3:30, January 27th, of the California Citizens
Redistricting Commission meeting, day 2. We are
returning to agenda item number 9F, outreach and
engagement, with Commissioners Sinay and Vazquez.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you.

I was just -- there you are, Commissioner Vazquez.
Why don't you begin.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Sure. So I think the bulk of our update -- we were going to invite everyone to share their outreach updates, but I think we had most of the actual updates yesterday at the top of the meeting. So I guess I will pause and make sure -- not make assumptions, and make sure that folks have shared what they would like to about any meetings that they have had or scheduled in terms of outreach in their zones.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: As well as any challenges you might be having, so we can brainstorm collectively.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Turner.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you. I'll just share that today I had an opportunity to participate on a panel with Sierra Health Foundation. There was about 120 or so individuals that there were for Region 4, Census Region 4, predominantly Region 6, and some from the other region as well.

There were a lot of funders there that was interested in redistricting. There was also a lot of the coalition partners that work through census, and so of course, I did make them aware of our website, told them that all of the Commissioners throughout California was willing to do presentations, and was wanting to make sure that they are reaching out to all of their partners to
make them aware of the process.

So it was a very good, I think, convening. All of the speakers that was there, with Jakara Movement, and Camila was on from Dolores Huerta Foundation. I was on a panel with those two, and we had some elected officials, and a lot of the census people, Sidney (phonetic). Yes. So it was a good session.

So I just wanted to share that, not so much that we set up anything in the meeting, but I did make the invitation, and there was a lot of people interested. Some of our speakers that we've had before, in addition to Camila, even those from the Black Census and Redistricting Hub, was on, and there were lots of amazing things said about us, on behalf of our Commission, and extreme appreciation for us reaching out in regards to language access, and so I think we're off to a great start as a 2020 Commission.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you, Commissioner Turner. Some of that positive feedback also is very helpful, to know that we're traveling down the right road with our constituents.

Commissioner Yee.

COMMISSIONER YEE: Yes. Last week, I had a chance to guest lecture at a colleague's class on gerrymandering, and to talk about the Commission's work,
at St. Mary's College of California, and in the Q and A, interestingly, the students -- most of the questions actually -- I think January 6th was fresh in everyone's minds, in Washington, D.C., and most of the questions had to do with, are you worried for your own safety, standing up to be a public official? And I wasn't expecting that, so we got to discuss that a bit, but I, you know, encouraged the students to get involved, and also to think about, you know, applying to the 2030 Commission.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Commissioner Fornaciari.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: So Zone E has finally made a breakthrough, and I've had a meeting with Maricela Morales from Cause Now -- or CAUSE, I'm sorry -- and Central Coast Alliance United for Sustainable Economy, and she provided some written feedback that's up on the website about the Mixteco language of the indigenous peoples of Southern Mexico, and so we talked a lot about that, and how to engage that community, and she gave some really good direction on that.

We also talked about the Region E, and about the different regions and how they fit together, the different farming regions, in particular. She sent along a list of all the organizations that were involved in redistricting in the 2011 effort, and so that was
outstanding. She's working on putting together the --
you know, they're working on getting together a list of
organizations for this time around, but it's a great
place to start. So that was really helpful. She's going
to call in tomorrow during our language access
presentation.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Any other comments related to outreach?

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: I think Commissioner Andersen
has her hand up.

CHAIR TAYLOR: I see it; Commissioner Andersen.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you.

I have a follow-up with Commissioner Fornaciari.

The list of all the people who were involved in the 2010,
was that exclusively for -- well, now it's called Zone
E -- or was it in other areas?

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yes. No, it was Zone E.

It was the six counties in Zone E, and I forwarded that
to Deputy Director Hernandez.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. We'll use that as
our basis for further outreach.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Great. And I think this
committee -- if there are no other outreach updates from
the Commissioners, this committee is -- oh, yes, Director
Ceja.

MR. CEJA: I wanted to remind Commissioners that, as you're setting up these meetings, and even completing them, to copy Marcy or one of us, so that we can keep track of the total meetings that we've done, educational meetings included, please.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Fredy, on that, are you asking for just one-on-one conversations, as well as formal -- you know, everything?

MR. CEJA: Presentations, yes.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Just presentations, not just one-on-one conversations? Okay.

MR. CEJA: Yes.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Ms. Kaplan, go ahead.

MS. KAPLAN: And just to clarify, if you can send what was done to date. The new speaker request form, that will be on the website, hopefully, today, and that we will share with everyone will now streamline that process. So it will all come to me, and then I'll coordinate with you all, so that we have it in one place. So as you get requests, redirect folks to the link, and then it will funnel in, so just any that you have done so far, to make sure that we're tracking those as well.

Thank you.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Ms. Kaplan, that's a wonderful
update. So there's going to be a speaker request form on
the WeDrawTheLines website, correct?

MS. KAPLAN: Yes. We are working to get that up
today, but we'll confirm with all of you. It's
completed, and there's a link available, so we'll
circulate that as well.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. That's much appreciated.
Thank you.

MS. KAPLAN: Yes.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Commissioner Taylor, you had
asked me just to update really quickly regarding the
presentation tomorrow. It's with the API Initiative in
San Diego, and it will be Commissioner Ahmad and I on
Facebook Live, and we're sharing the link on our
Twitter -- on Twitter, I believe, if people want to
follow along or see it.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. That's great.

Director Ceja, Ms. Reyes, can we make sure that that
is accomplished, and can we also get that posted to
Instagram, where we doubled our following today? It's
amazing.

MR. CEJA: Yeah, yeah. All that is going on our
social media and on the website. It's already in the
queue for posting. Would you like us to go through the
actual link, so that you can see the information we're
CHAIR TAYLOR: Absolutely, and a shoutout to Statewide Database that’s now following us.

MR. CEJA: Marcy, do you want to do that?

MS. KAPLAN: Fredy, just because I'm on this other computer, I don't know if I have access to the link. Could you bring it up? Thank you.

MR. CEJA: Yes, I can. I will be your Vanna White.

MS. KAPLAN: All right.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: While Fredy is doing that, I just wanted to update everybody. As you can -- now that we have staff, the outreach committee has kind of changed a little bit on what our focus has been.

Obviously, we're still here to support you all in your outreach efforts, as staff is as well, and we're continuing to bring in panels and listen to -- you know, getting us ready for the communities. So as we said earlier, please do share those areas you feel that we could use more information on.

Angela, did you want to give an update?

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Sure. Yes. This is a good time, I think, to say that I will be stepping down from the outreach committee, so that I can focus my limited capacity, given I have a full-time job, as well as still recovering, ten months on, from long COVID -- I want to
be able to devote my capacity to supporting Commissioner Turner in Zone F with our actual outreach. So with that, will be stepping down from the committee, and I believe we have a volunteer who is stepping up to replace me.

Commissioner Fornaciari?

CHAIR TAYLOR: That's correct. We do have a volunteer. We just want to make sure that it's equitable to all. Is there anyone that -- anyone else that would like to volunteer to replace Commissioner Vazquez?

Commissioner Fornaciari, it is yours.

Commissioner Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: I would volunteer, but I think that Commissioner Fornaciari, being of a different political party in a different part of the state, is a better fit for it than I would be.

CHAIR TAYLOR: I would agree that that is a -- more a fit, and it helps for our -- it helps to convey the message that we want to represent to all of California. So if there's no objections, I would -- I'm in full support of Commissioner Fornaciari taking that up, that space.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Thank you, Commissioner Fornaciari, and thank you, Commissioner Sinay. It's been wonderful working with you, and we'll still be working together, but yes, thank you for everyone. Yes. That's
it for me.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you, Angela, for your work thus far. I appreciate it.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Fredy, are you going to talk?

MS. KAPLAN: I was going to do it. I just don't know if I should be called on. Sorry.

MR. CEJA: Yes.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Ms. Kaplan and Director Ceja, you guys have -- when you went to the share screen, you left. So the floor is yours.

MS. KAPLAN: Okay. Thank you. Thank you, Fredy, for cueing this up.

So this is the request form, with just a brief overview at the beginning. We did include a seven-day request, just in order for staff, you know, to have time to coordinate scheduling with Commissioners through this process. So there's input on that, and understanding, you know, even now, we're getting last-minute requests.

So it's more of a recommendation for folks who are requesting, and it's also noted here that this is for non-in-person events, so just the event title, description, date and time. There may be folks who don't already, you know, have a specific time in mind, and so we're asking to give a range of dates, to just help facilitate scheduling, and the amount of time that they
want -- and they're requesting the Commissioner to speak for, their contact name, phone, email, the organization name, a brief description of the organization, location, although these are going to be online, in order for us to facilitate which Commissioners, which zones.

I'm just requesting that location so I can identify which Commissioners would be speaking, just an estimate number of individuals attending, the target audience, to get a sense, is it business leaders, community members, (audio interference) specific, you know, just to have a sense for the Commissioners as you're going into these presentations. If anyone else will be speaking, who will be those folks, what platform will they be using, and if there is recording capacity, as Director Claypool noted earlier that we are going to want to record these sessions, and when Commissioners are presenting to a particular group, just recording the presentation section and Q and A, and for promotional purposes, for communications team to be able to promote these as well.

Then we thought this was a good place to also have folks join our email list, to sign up there. So I don't know if there's other items that folks think would be helpful to have as you're going into presentations. Again, this would all funnel into a spreadsheet that then staff would be sharing with the Commissioners when
narrowing down potential dates.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Ms. Johnston, then Commissioner Yee.

MS. JOHNSTON: To make expectations clear, should there also be a notice on this that, at this time, they Commissioners are only providing information about the redistricting process, and not taking input?

MS. KAPLAN: Okay. I'll have that added in.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Yee.

COMMISSIONER YEE: Thank you for this good work. A couple of questions. So you know, there's situations where people come to us, of course we can refer them to this form, but there may be times when it's just easier for us to fill it out, you know, for an event. So I just want to make sure that's okay.

MS. KAPLAN: Yeah.

COMMISSIONER YEE: Second, the recording requirement, I think that probably still needs some discussion. I mean, we're not going to make it a requirement, I don't think, based on this morning's discussion, but if it's possible, I mean, it's a whole technical task, then, to, you know, get the recording, upload the recording, all that stuff. So I think we probably need somebody to discuss that more.

Then also, I'm thinking it would be good to have a follow-up form for Commissioners to fill out after the
event, just to document what actually happened, what did you talk about, what handouts did you give out, or what slides did you use? You know, in the spirit of this morning's discussion, that way, that is documented, and if anyone questioned what happened at that event, you would actually have that documentation to refer to, so maybe a tickler email that goes out after the event that Commissioners fill out.

MS. KAPLAN: Yeah. So I've added columns into the spreadsheet that this would go into, and so I think, if there are particular just -- well, I'll take note of what Commissioner Yee noted. If there's other feedback on things that you would like to keep track of, please share those with me as well, so I can make sure that that's included in that follow-up, after.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Commissioner Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair.

Two things. One, thank -- well, three things. Number one, thank you for doing this. I look forward to having it up there on the website.

Number two, as far as promotion, it seems to me like it might be useful, particularly to Fredy, to have a question as to whether the event would be open to media, so that if so, we could promote it to media as well.
Then, finally, a lot of these -- and I realize that -- or I'm seeing that NationBuilder has some limitations with how it handles stuff, but I'm wondering -- some of your questions require two different data elements in response, and if it's feeding into a spreadsheet, and we want to be able to sort the spreadsheet, eventually, it seems to me that you would just want one response per question. So date would be separate from time, those sorts of things, so that when it goes into the spreadsheet, each field is sortable.

Thank you.

MR. CEJA: If I may add -- I'm sorry.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Director Ceja.

MR. CEJA: We are actually using Google spreadsheets, Google Docs, to generate the form. So everything is -- we can manipulate any aspect of it, so splitting up questions into two or whatever.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Any other questions or comments, Deputy Executive Director Hernandez?

MR. HERNANDEZ: Yes. Thank you. In regards to the recording, I had mentioned it in my report, that we would be recording these events. If we wanted to have further discussion on that, as to whether or not that's feasible or necessary, we can, but my understanding is that, because it's in Google or Zoom, or any of the other
platforms, that the function is easy to do. You press a button, and it's essentially going to record.

The communication to the community-based organization would be to ask to record the session, the educational session that the Commissioners are presenting, not their entire meeting, or anything before or anything after. So that's the intent. I mentioned it earlier, but if we need to discuss that, I think it's pertinent to do so now, before we move on.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Turner, then Commissioner Fernandez, then Commissioner Ahmad.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you, Chair. I appreciate the discussion.

I am wondering, to the last comment, when I'm conducting a Zoom meeting, and if I choose to record, typically I want to do so because I want to, you know, retain the whole -- all of whatever is discussed, whatever the training is.

If we're asking community partners to record only the portion of the presentation, I don't necessarily know how they would do that, to have one piece part that's ours, and another piece part that they can retain for whatever they're recording. So I just want to lift that. I'm not sure what that would look like, without splitting their recordings.
CHAIR TAYLOR: Ms. Kaplan, do you have a response?

MS. KAPLAN: Yes. And so this ties into staff joining these sessions, and working with the organization for them to allow staff the permission to record, and so then staff can support in that effort, to just be recording that portion of the session, when it is a Commissioner joining a nonpublic meeting.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Turner, do you have a follow-up to your question?

COMMISSIONER TURNER: No. I need to go back and see.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. And mine is kind of associated with Commissioner Turner. I just wanted -- if we're asking to record, we have to ask for permission if we can record, and if that's the case, then maybe, on our request form, should we put something in there, in terms of, can we record, just so we kind of know ahead of time? Because I'm assuming we not only have to ask who's inviting us, but we would have to (audio interference) approval from everyone that's there as well, I would think. Anyway, that was just a question I needed to get some clarification on.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Commissioner Ahmad.
COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you.

Just on the recording piece, I think it depends on how you're accessing it, so if you're watching it like a webinar-type style, where it's just a screen, and you're watching someone else, versus being a participant or a panelist in the meeting. So if you scroll on this Zoom window -- I just tested it out myself. I just clicked "Record", and it started recording, and the recording will save.

So I don't know if we should necessarily ask our community partners to record, or if we even need staff there to record, because, if it's a platform like this, it takes, like, two seconds to click the record button, and then it will download onto the computer afterwards, and then we can send it over. I don't know if I'm creating more work for ourselves. I don't want to, if we don't have to, but just throwing that out there.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Turner.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you. I wanted to -- I am still preferring that we not record, and not have to record, if we utilize consistent data. We have material. This is the question that's been asked and answered. This is what we're presenting. These are our FAQs, you know, frequently asked questions, and these are the answers to them.
I think, if we could commit, as a Commission, that this is what we're delivering, I would want to just really push back and say that I really don't -- it's education. I think it feels like we're making it more difficult than what we need to, in having to record every public education session.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Ms. Gomez, do you have a response -- Ms. Reyes?

MS. REYES: I actually have a comment and a question. If we do record, and if we do have to ask permission from the community partners -- my question is kind of directed more to counsel. Similarly, when we have, like, a filming of the public, like, there has to be some kind of disclaimer, right?

So if we're in private/public presentation, like it's their Rotary meeting, for example, and we have to ask them permission, so then, do we have to draft language for that permission or allowance? And then that would have to be uniform throughout, if we decided to go, moving forward, to recording the portion that's going to be presented to these community partners.

MS. MARSHALL: No. I think, in general, you know, it's great to go ahead and ask for permission to record. Your question is kind of open-ended, in that, when it comes just to the general public, I'm walking down the
street and somebody is recording. There's not a whole lot I can do about it, because I'm out there in public, and so this is -- if it's a conversation -- if you're talking on your cell phone, walking down the street, you know, if somebody happens to hear it, they hear it.

But when it comes to -- you know, say, in particular, when, I'll call it, an entity, say, like law enforcement, and they're having some type of closed-session meeting, and they want to invite you guys to come and speak, I think it would be imperative to ask permission to record, and chances are they'll probably give notification to those that are coming to that particular briefing room or whatever the case may be.

Does that answer your question? It varies, but that's just more of a generic response. But just in general, you can't just walk into my house and record. You have to ask my permission, so.

MS. REYES: And then, on the other --

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Akutagawa, and then --

MS. REYES: I'm sorry.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Go ahead.

MS. REYES: On the other comment that Commissioner Ahmad said, as far as recording it on the Zoom capability, when the Zoom is set up, sometimes the host doesn't set it up where it allows you to record. So
permission would need to be asked of the host, just so you are able to record it.

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: You know --

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Akutagawa, and then Commissioner Sadhwani.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: So I just want to follow up real quickly on what Ms. Gomez said. One, yeah, the host is the one that can control who records. The host is the one who's also going to receive whatever recording there is.

Secondly, I want to just comment on asking permission. When we do public events, or any event that is, like, just my organization, but it is people who come, we're obligated -- if we're taking photos or videos, we are obligated to notify people that we're taking photos and videos that could be used in a public way, whether it's on the website or something else.

So I would guess that kind of same principle would apply here, whether it's for a specific group, but if it's recorded, I think we, as a courtesy, need to let everybody know.

I think Zoom also will -- I've noticed, depending on what version of Zoom you have, when the meeting is being recorded, as a person comes in, or if the recording starts after a person comes in, a message will pop up
that says, "This meeting is being recorded. Do you want to stay?" Or you could choose to exit the meeting. So now it does automatically force that kind of notification.

Thirdly, I wanted to just follow up on what Commissioner Turner said about whether or not recording should be done anyway, if it's for education, and if we're following a very similar type of agenda. I want to just also lift up what she said as well, too.

I've been thinking a lot about the recording, not recording. I'll be honest. I mean, I have mixed feelings about that, and I only say that -- I know that, in the interest of public disclosure and all that, but I think there are some groups that may feel uncomfortable being recorded even though there's, you know, nothing untoward happening.

I mean, we're just giving a very basic presentation about redistricting, but I would be cautious about doing something that could put a damper on the potential participation of those that we want to reach, because they may just feel uncomfortable with the recording, and if there's not really a -- maybe I'll just say a legally compelling reason that we have to record, then I would be cautious about recording just for the sake of recording.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Ms. Johnston, and then Commissioner
Fernandez, and Commissioner Le Mons.

MS. JOHNSTON: When you get to the point of having your public input meetings, there is a statute saying that anybody has an absolute right to record, as long as it's not being disruptive to the meeting, so just to realize that, at some point, it will become something that can be recorded, no matter whether people want it to be or not.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes. Thank you, Marian, for that clarification, and I would assume that, because it's our meeting, then we can set the parameters. Again, I mean, I agree with Commissioner Akutagawa and Commissioner Turner. I personally don't think we should record, and what if someone that reached out to us wants us to do an educational session, but they don't want us to record? So are we not going to accept that request? I mean, I'd prefer not to record.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Director Ceja, do you have a response?

MR. CEJA: Yes. I think, just quickly, speaking on a staff level, if we were to record, it would mostly be for our own purposes, to repurpose them to social media and to use snippets to highlight the Commissioners at their work, not necessarily to put the entire
presentation out after every single one, because we're going to have fifty versions of the same presentation, over and over, which would be redundant and boring.

But I also wanted to mention that when we are recording, we are able to go into the view on Zoom and do speaker view only, so it's only the speaker that shows up on my screen, and we're not capturing the people around. So that's another option, to do away with recording other people that might not want to be recorded.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Le Mons.

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: I wanted to support not making recording a requirement unless there is some legally compelling reason that we have to do it. That's often a barrier, particularly with certain communities, and the whole point of this is we're trying to lower barriers, not create them.

And when we're talking about this, we're talking about the education piece, and I just want to make that distinction. We're not talking about the other input meeting. We can put that line in the sand that they are different, there's a different guidance and frame that we have to have around the input meetings, but these are the education meetings.

So I think, if we wanted, we could also do it for our own purposes, for the website or social media. I
thought we were going to do a recorded version, anyway, that people could download from the website and use, so maybe we could take those snippets from there, or we can stage those snippets, and Commissioners can just record some of the segments if we want to use them for promotional purposes. But none of those purposes, to me, should be a reason for us to insist upon recording the public meetings -- the public education meetings. Thank you.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Sadhwani.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I've actually seen Chief Counsel Marshall has had her hand up. May I defer to her?

MS. MARSHALL: Yeah, it's been a minute.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Chief Counsel Marshall.

MS. MARSHALL: Thank you, Commissioner Sadhwani.

Just a quick comment, just to make sure that there's a distinction in between non-CRC events and CRC events. I have found no law that requires non-CRC events to be recorded. It's totally a prerogative.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Sadhwani.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes. Thank you. I had originally raised my hand to be in agreement with Commissioner Turner. I don't think that these need to be recorded, and I would prefer to not have them recorded.
I'm wondering, since these issues keep coming up around the educational meetings -- and I don't mean to add more work to your plate, Ms. Marshall -- but perhaps it's worth having a one-page document that we can all agree upon about what is our legal interpretation of these educational meetings? What are the boundaries of them? What are the expectations of the Commissioners during this time, such as not taking any public input, and that recording is not required, as these are meetings of other organizations?

I don't know if that would be helpful, but I feel like it would offer us some clarity moving forward, that this is our confirmed, you know, understanding of the law, and what we are operating under.

MS. MARSHALL: Commissioner Le Mons has already beat you to the punch, and so I totally agree.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Sorry.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Akutagawa.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I'm not sure if this came up in the early conversation, but something that Commissioner Sadhwani just said just got me thinking. I do believe -- it does sound like staff will be joining us, or a staff member will be joining us, if we're going to be making an education presentation.

I'm just thinking, it helps sometimes to have, you
know, somebody who’s going to be able to do a little blocking and tackling, and so if some member of the, you know, audience wants to stray into public comment, perhaps we can tag team on making sure -- and maybe this can be something that the staff member, if they're willing to do -- is to help us, you know, chime in and say, hey, you know, this strays into the public comment, and the Commissioner will not be taking those kind of questions, or taking that kind of input.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Le Mons.

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Can you give some clarity on that, Chair? I think we talked about this earlier, and I know that -- or I believe that Commissioner Vazquez was on the page of wanting that support at the meeting, but I didn't think that we had gotten agreement that we were going to -- that staff was going to be at all these meetings.

It doesn't seem like it's going to be doable, number one, for the size of our staff, to be at all of these meetings, and I would also imagine that some of these meetings might be happening simultaneously. So it sounded like that was a possibility, where requested or potentially needed, but certainly not a staple of what these education meetings were going to be.

So I just want some clarity on that, because I think
that will cause some logistical issues and scheduling
issues, because we have a very small staff, and there's
fourteen of us, and that's probably about -- what do we
have, two? And if we hire those other positions, we're
talking maybe six, and I wouldn't imagine that we would
be expecting Director Ceja or our directors to be at an
education meeting with us to ward off questions from the
public.

I think we kind of talked about earlier being clear
with our parameters, and knowing that -- keeping our Q
and A to a clarification Q and A, to the content of the
presentation, and being able to say that we can't respond
to those types of questions, and then redirecting those
questions to the appropriate mechanism, be it email or
our meetings, et cetera, for that kind of input. So I
just wanted to get clarity on that, so we don't get
confused on what we're doing.

CHAIR TAYLOR: So to the best of my understanding,
we have not required that a staff member be present at
any of the educational outreach meetings, so that would
have to speak directly to the outreach plan of Deputy
Executive Director Hernandez.

Does he have something to speak to that piece?

MR. HERNANDEZ: I will take another look at it, to
see if we do say we're going to have a staff person, but
I don't recall at this point. If you'll give me a minute, I'll look through it.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Any other questions of -- Commissioner Andersen.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I have a quick one, which is not really this deep. I missed -- on the form, the actual request for speaker form, is there a line that says that they can request who they want?

CHAIR TAYLOR: Ms. Kaplan, do you have a response?

MS. KAPLAN: No, it's not on there, so we were going to auto-assign based on the zone, but if you want that added --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah, please, because, you know, I know someone who actually -- they contacted me, because they wanted a particular -- so I think that would help.

MS. KAPLAN: Okay.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: You know, it can be underneath, but certain people certainly want that on there. Thank you.

MS. KAPLAN: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I guess twofold. One, in response to Commissioner Andersen's request, if there is something on there that they request a specific
Commissioner, if it happens to be in my zone, I would like to at least be informed that there's some sort of a (indiscernible) meeting going on in my zone.

Then, also back to Commissioner Ahmad's point about staff being there, I agree that they shouldn't -- they don't have to be there. One, it's just another scheduling person you have to coordinate schedules with, and then, two, if they're with you, then they're not doing, probably, some of the other stuff that we really need them to do.

I mean, just even in our meetings, yesterday, today, and then tomorrow, I mean, that's two-and-a-half days that (audio interference) all of the other wonderful work that they're doing. So I would be of the opinion that they don't have to be there.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Any other questions or comments?

I guess I do have one comment. I don't think that we should necessarily shy away when given the opportunity to record a meeting. I think, if they feel it's allowable, we should do it. We should ask, make that attempt, and if not, we proceed accordingly. I think we're going to find out the legal ramifications of recording at the very end, when it's noted in a -- when it's noted in a legal action.
Executive Director Hernandez, go ahead.

MR. HERNANDEZ: Yes. I've perused the education outreach -- or the outreach plan -- and it does not reference anything that requires a staff to attend the educational presentations. I think that was just something that we were talking about outside of the strategic plan.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Commissioner Le Mons.

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yes. I just wanted to clarify that I didn't raise that point to suggest that, if that support is needed, that we couldn't ask for it, but I just wanted to clarify that that wasn't a requirement. So I just wanted to further clarify that. I'm not even taking a position and saying I don't think staff should be there. If someone needs that support, and staff is available to do that, by all means, but I didn't feel like we had agreed that it was a requirement, and my position would be that it shouldn't be.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Commissioner Akutagawa.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Thank you, and I appreciate the clarification. I think maybe some further clarification, because it could go the other way, is that
we could just go ahead and move on without the staff, and so maybe it would be helpful to know, maybe, some general guidelines.

Are there certain types of presentations that the staff might want to be at, does it make sense for them to be at, or, if not -- I mean, it's just, if they go, and they know what's coming up, and they want to try to join us, they will, but in the meantime, you know, as Commissioners, as we -- if we receive requests directly, we'll let the staff know, but we'll just keep moving along, and just, you know, schedule it?

CHAIR TAYLOR: Director Hernandez, do you have a response?

MR. HERNANDEZ: Yes. I would agree with that, only because, you know, we are limited on staff. So I don't want to hinder the Commissioners from doing so. The idea was just to make sure that we had a record of those presentations, and if need be, staff was available to help in that effort to record those presentations, and answer any additional questions from the community-based organization, not so much from the audience members, but from the community-based organization, on any of the their -- the platform that's being used, the links, things of that nature.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Vazquez, then
Commissioner Le Mons.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yes. I mean, I think it's fine, and we should proceed with staff flexibility. You all know your workload, and you are professionals who can say, you know, this week I'm slammed, can't make any presentations, and perhaps even, if support is requested, you know, we do have more than one staff now, so there can also be a bit of sharing of this, as necessary, thank goodness.

You know, like, I'll be honest. I'm working fifty hours a week, plus, you know, full business days that are taken away doing this work, and weekend work. So we're just -- we're going to be busy. So I definitely understand that staff is overloaded, and we're all, I think, firing on all cylinders, and just negotiating our capacity, and giving each other grace.

So I certainly don't think it has to be requirement that staff attend these meetings, but certainly I know that I feel like I would be more efficient, in particular meetings, not having to shepherd certain administrative follow-up tasks, or oh, let me get back to you, and now I have, like, four people I have to follow up with about specific questions that they have, which are honestly much better fielded through and by staff. I just don't have the bandwidth to do that, and so they're better
addressed by the staff that we hired to do those things.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Commissioner Le Mons.

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: I have way more opinions on this than I ever dreamed I would have. I'm shocked. I really am. I'm like, really, I have another comment about this? But I do, and I think that the -- so there's a delineation for me in staff attending the presentation with me, as opposed to supporting the logistics and the organization of -- even setup of the meeting.

So I might need some support with that, like, if someone reaches out and wants -- like, if they fill out that form, I wouldn't expect the form to just be sent to me, and then I take it from there. So I wasn't thinking that this was a solo Commission operation, that we have our little PowerPoint and we're just off doing our thing. So I hope that's not what I'm hearing.

So I want to just clarify for myself that I do think that the presentation should be coordinated with staff.

Now, "coordinated" is a very broad statement, but coordinated with staff, whether the person reaches out to us directly or not, because they should be tracking this, and they're keeping track of it for us, and all of that.

Now, that coordination could take on a different level of complexion depending upon the group, what the
needs are, et cetera, and I guess that's that flexibility that I think Commissioner Vazquez is talking about, that I'm talking about as well, that I'm not asking you to join me at the meeting, where that's a half-hour or hour of your time, where you're basically kind of sitting there with me.

I don't personally need that, but I may need you to give them the heads-up on what to expect, whatever that frontline introduction information is, you can expect Commissioner Le Mons at such-and-such a time, and then I show up and do my thing and get out of there, and any follow-up would, again, come to the staff. I wouldn't be fielding follow-up calls after the meeting and all that. I would not want to take on that responsibility, either.

So I think maybe staff might want to give us a little outline of how this is going to work, and what our options are, because I think there are some varying needs among us, and I'm sure that it can all be handled and taken care of. I promise that's my last comment on this topic.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Deputy Executive Director Hernandez, do you have a response?

MR. HERNANDEZ: I do, yes. That is what we are planning on doing. Marcy was shaking her head as you
were speaking about giving you some direction and
guidance as far as what we're going to do on your behalf
in the planning and coordinating and so forth, and making
sure that, as we are reaching out to these
community-based organizations, they have an understanding
of what to expect for the presentation, and you also have
an understanding of what to expect for the presentation
itself.

So that's something that Marcy and I are working on
to share with you. So as soon as we get an opportunity
to do so we will get that out to you, for the purposes of
moving forward and coordinating these educational
presentations.

So I think we're thinking what your needs might be
ahead of time. We just haven't got that information out
to you, because we were waiting, predominantly, on the
educational plan, or the outreach plan, to move forward
with some of these other elements that are tied to the
plan.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Any other questions or comments?

So I think that we're able to close the book on
agenda item 9F, outreach and engagement.

All right. So now onto agenda item number 9G,
language access, acknowledging that we have space on the
agenda specifically for this item tomorrow at 10 a.m.

Commissioner Akutagawa and Commissioner Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes. So tomorrow we'll discuss our recommendations. So there's nothing further to discuss right now.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

On to agenda item number 9H, materials development.

Commissioner Fernandez and Commissioner Sadhwani.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: What I just said, but for, let's see, agenda item 15, we'll discuss that tomorrow.

Is that okay, Commissioner Sadhwani?

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes. I might also raise -- I know you and Fredy are looking at me like, don't do it.

I just wanted to raise to the Commission, as well as to the Chair, that I feel like, as has been mentioned, you know, by Commissioner Fornaciari, recognizing the enormous amount of work that many of us are taking on, and I think Commissioner Vazquez mentioned as well, I feel like I'm on many committees, and I'd like to ask to step back from this one.

I feel like I -- especially this coming month, with, you know, the RFIs and RFPs for a line drawer, VRA counsel, and outside litigation all coming to a head, I feel like I will certainly already be spending quite a lot of time on that work.
That being said, I do know -- I have my recommendation, and I believe we have a volunteer from Commissioner Sinay. I know she has a lot of input to give in this committee. You know, I think, also just following the spirit of, you know, having different parties on subcommittees, it would exchanging a Democrat for a Democrat. So I would offer that to you, Chair, to make that change.

CHAIR TAYLOR: So I'm hearing correctly, Commissioner Sadhwani, you want to step down from the materials development subcommittee, and -- hang on. Commissioner Kennedy, you have a question or comment?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: I had a comment, and that has flown my mind, but this is the first time I'm hearing of this. I'm very interested. I was waving my hand when this committee was first established, but I don't think Chairman Le Mons was able to see me on his screen at the time. So I'm definitely interested in this.

CHAIR TAYLOR: So right now, if I'm hearing correctly, we have Commissioner Sinay and Commissioner Kennedy that are interested in taking up this position, this space; is that correct? And how do we propose we have them fight it out?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I'm good stepping back. I've
got plenty to do.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Any other Commissioner interested in this subcommittee?

Commissioner Le Mons?

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: I'm not interested in the subcommittee, but I will say, first of all, I'm sorry, Commissioner Kennedy, and as my former Vice Chair, Chair Taylor, I think you can right this wrong by making Commissioner Kennedy a member of this committee. That's what I wanted to say.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Yee, they're trying to bring out deference and -- go ahead.

COMMISSIONER YEE: That's fine. I mean, I would be interested, but I don't want to complicate matters. If there are specific tasks, for instance, the PowerPoint presentation or whatever, I'd love to give input. So if it's just something that you could just receive those kinds of suggestions, if there's a way to do that, that would be great.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: No, it was just kind of exciting. You guys are kind of fighting over to be my partner, which is really nice. Sorry. I just had to put some levity into the conversation. But I do --

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: She's a wonderful partner.
COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I do want to say that I just have really appreciated working with Commissioner Sadhwani. She's given some great advice, great input. So it does sadden me to see her leave, but I completely understand because I've felt overwhelmed for a while, too. So thank you.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes. And certainly I've definitely loved the work thus far. I just feel like I have too much on my plate.

CHAIR TAYLOR: And the last word, Commissioner Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: I did remember my question that I was going to start with, and that is, will we be receiving a copy, a draft script, before tomorrow's discussion, or what's the status of the draft script to go with the PowerPoint? Thank you.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: So we thought about finalizing the script, but really felt that we should go through the presentation first, because, obviously, once we make changes to the presentation, then we can go back and finalize the script. That was our thinking.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

So aside from Commissioner Fernandez and I being of the same party, which would have caused another battle, I
will gladly appoint Commissioner Kennedy to the materials subcommittee.

Did you guys hear me? Great. All right. So onto now agenda item number 9I, data management, Commissioner Ahmad and Commissioner Turner.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you, Chair Taylor.

We're on for agenda item 16, and would love to cover that at the top of the day.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Correct. You guys will be directly after the language access conversation.

Now onto agenda item number 9K, community of interest, Commissioner Akutagawa and Commissioner Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I'm going to defer to Commissioner Kennedy on this. I think he's most up to date right now.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Commissioner Akutagawa.

The main news from us is that we do have confirmation from the Statewide Database that the communities of interest tool will be active with the 2020 census geography enabled as of the 8th of February. So Commissioner Fernandez and I will be working on some materials to promote the launch of the communities of interest tool, but that's the main news from the
1 communities of interest tool subcommittee. I don't know
2 if Commissioner Akutagawa wants to add anything else to
3 that.
4
4 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. Thank you very much.
5 We're excited that when that will -- we will be able to
6 officially launch it. We just want to make sure that all
7 the T's are crossed and the I's are dotted on that, that
8 communities of interest tool, and so we're just really
9 looking forward to its rollout.
10
10 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yes. And I see Director Ceja
11 has his hand raised, and he's probably, or, hopefully,
12 going to answer my question, which is, where do we stand
13 with the URL DrawMyCommunity.CA.gov?
14
14 MR. CEJA: Thank you. So I'll respond to that
15 first. That is on hold, along with our website. We're
16 just trying to figure out how to secure the web
17 addresses, but as soon as our web address is
18 transferable, then we can create a subdomain for
19 DrawMyCommunity.CA.gov.
20
20 The other question that I had for your committee is,
21 the Statewide Database had mentioned that they were going
22 to provide instructional collateral material for how to
23 use the COI. I was wondering if that's already done, and
24 I know that they were going to do it in multiple
25 languages, which is amazing.
COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: My understanding on that is that they are working on it. I do believe that they are going to start with Spanish, the Spanish translation first, but I think, slowly but surely, they're going to be rolling out all of the other languages as well, too.

MR. CEJA: (Indiscernible) fast, because we definitely want to utilize that information for our trainings, our PowerPoints.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Any other questions or comments regarding the COI tool?

Thank you very much. Now onto item 9L, cybersecurity, Commissioners Fornaciari and Taylor.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Well, other than, you know, expanding the responsibility for the committee, I don't have anything to report out.

CHAIR TAYLOR: I agree, just that expanded to that we'll also be mindful or be responsible for physical security, as well as cybersecurity. Thank you.

Lastly for our subcommittee report-outs, 9M, lessons learned, Commissioner Ahmad and Commissioner Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Commissioner Ahmad, do you have anything at this point?

I'll just say that I think our discussion earlier today regarding educational events is something that we will need to discuss at length when we get to lessons
learned, at some point next year, and that we should be thinking of what legislative proposals or regulatory proposals we might want to make.

So I've added that to my list, and just want to continue to encourage colleagues to share their thoughts with us, so that we can keep our list growing for next year's lessons learned exercise. Thank you.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Le Mons.

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: I was going to say, Commissioner Kennedy, in line with what you just said, could you guys make sure to put grants on there as well? Thanks.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Andersen.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: And also to add to the list, if it isn't already, our information that we did, our decision process in relocating the prison population.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Any other questions or comments for the lessons learned subcommittee?

Thank you. Hearing none, I believe that concludes our subcommittee report-outs. So looking at our agenda, tomorrow morning we will have -- we will begin with agenda item 15, outreach plan and materials. We also can include in that a potential vote on the outreach plan.

We have at 10 o'clock our language access recommendations, and that will be followed with the
discussion on data management. Does that -- that seems
to follow, correct? Yes.

So we have a few times left before we have to
conclude at 5 o'clock, and take public comment. So in
this space right now, we can discuss future meeting dates
and agenda.

I know that Commissioner Andersen wanted to speak to
that specifically. So you have the floor, Commissioner
Andersen.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you very much.

If I could ask everyone to get their calendars up,
because the line drawing -- I'll give you a bit of
background on why, as we're getting our calendars.

The line drawing committee, as I mentioned, we have
a few dates issues. We would like to make a few
modifications in some of our scheduled meetings, and the
reason is, when counsel brought up the fact that there
are rules that apply to us, as the Commission, and there
are also rules that apply in other portions of our state
rules and regulations, that caught us in the state
contract, and we had specifically said, okay.

I believe March 1st was when we would be able to
have a signed contract with the line drawer. Well, that
did not allow five business days for -- in case of --
allowing for a protest, to file a protest. We had to
have five calendar days, which did not work. So we have
switched things, and if we could look at the last week in
February, I believe -- I had it down that we were meeting
on the 24th, 25th.

I was talking to Commissioner Sadhwani, and she
said, well, that she thought it was through the 26th. If
it is not through the 26th, we would like to propose that
it indeed go through the 26th, because we need, on the
24th and 25th, to be basically doing the presentations
for the line drawer, and voting. So I would like to
propose that it does indeed extend to the 26th, if you
don't have it already.

Then, in March, we had down a day, essentially, for
line drawing training, or essentially a little
mini-workshop on what they do, reacquaint ourselves, on
March 3rd. The protest date -- and we can actually sign
a contract, assuming there is no protest -- would be
March 5th. Therefore, we propose to eliminate the March
3rd meeting, but extend the March 7, 8 scheduled meeting
to March 7, 8 -- I mean, I'm sorry, the March 8, 9
meeting to March 8, 9, 10, and the idea being we can put
an introduction or workshop on the 10th.

So any further discussion on that?

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Turner, go ahead.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: This is to kind of real
quickly follow her, but also look to see if there were
some other options we have, so that we're not moving back
into three-day meetings where we don't have to. I
appreciated Commissioner Fornaciari's comment, and
Commissioner Vazquez, and so I want to know if there are
other options.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Vazquez, and
Commissioner Sadhwani.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: So this could -- in thinking
out of the box -- and I'm thinking about other volunteer
commissions, and really thinking about moving us -- us
considering making our meetings more accessible to the
larger community. Have we considered a weekend-day
meeting, and/or an evening, one that starts at noon and
goes later?

CHAIR TAYLOR: Or even one that starts after 5.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Because I know, at least for
me, part of it is that I'm losing whole business days,
and it makes it -- I can't schedule my business work on
the weekend. So I'm losing business hours, whereas I'm
much more flexible in the evening, and can do serial
meetings in the evenings, because I'm not -- that's not
time that is spoken by other professional obligations,
and that's how school board meetings, and many city
councils and things, often work, because that's also when
folks in the public can view meetings.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Andersen, you had your hand up.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes. Since I sort of brought up these changes, first of all, is that 24, 25, 26 was -- I'm sorry. I'm looking down. 24, 25, 26 of February, was that already on our schedule? I'm getting a lot of nods. Okay. Then it's really ditching the 3rd, March 3rd, scratching that, and adding another day at some point.

That does not necessarily have to be 8, 9, 10. I just thought, for purposes of keeping it together -- I don't know at this point, you know -- we should add in a date at some point to also introduce the line drawer, and maybe do, like, a bit of a presentation. When that could be I don't quite know, if we want to -- you know, I'm open to other ideas on that.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Sadhwani, then Commissioner Akutagawa.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: So a couple of things. For the February 24th through 26th, we really need those dates, largely because the RFIs and RFPs have already gone out and are public with those dates as the days in which we are going to be selecting and finalizing line drawer, VRA, and outside litigation. So we have a lot to
do those days.

I hear everyone. I, too, am kind of feeling the
burn. Not that burn, the other burn. You know,
Commissioner Vazquez, I'm totally amenable to discussing
other options. For me personally, I actually rearranged
my schedule, because I assumed they were days, so I'm
actually now teaching nights, which makes for very long
days when we have Commission meetings, but you know,
certainly, I'll take a look at nights and weekends.

I'm open to that, but I'm also wondering, given the
delay in the census -- and as I'm looking at Twitter,
 everyone is kind of talking about it, and really not
expecting now census data until at least the end of July,
if not even later. (Audio interference) here, but have
some (audio interference) business now, you know, moving
towards being quite well staffed up.

I'm wondering, after we finalize the hires for these
attorneys and line drawers, if we might want to take a
slight hiatus, at least of a couple of weeks in March, to
allow ourselves a little bit of a break, and also to
allow the new folks that we're bringing on to kind of get
up to speed and prepare, you know, properly prepare to
give us a workshop, and to conduct additional VRA
training for us and such, right, so that we can pick back
up, you know, at the end of March or early April, and go
full speed ahead.

It sounds like, throughout March, we're still going
to be having a lot of educational meetings that we're all
going to be doing, and other kinds of outreach. Might it
make sense to hold off on some of these all-day business
meetings, if possible?

CHAIR TAYLOR: Any other questions or comments?

Commissioner Le Mons.

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: I'm flexible. I concur with

Commissioner Vazquez. The three-day meetings, the
three-day business meetings, are definitely a challenge.
So I'll start with that point. If we can avoid those,
three days back to back, it is very challenging for those
of us that have other obligations during the day.

I mean, I'm making it work as best as possible, but
when we go and add that third day, like, when she said --
when Commissioner Andersen was suggesting adding the 9th,
I was like, oh, my God. Really? Another three days?
Because that's the whole week, and it's usually Monday,
Tuesday, Wednesday. Friday tends to be a smaller day.

So you end up with one really week (sic) -- I mean,
one day that week, and not that that's the Commission's
problem, so I don't want to make it -- I've borne the
burden of that personally, because I understand, you

know, this is demanding, et cetera. I think, with that
in mind, I certainly am open to there being more of a
mix, even if there are some, you know, day meetings and
some evening meetings. I think we have to think it
through.

And then, to Commissioner Sadhwani's point, that
does not count the presentations, and these other
external things that we also are doing. I know I have a
little bit of a challenge with even some of the zone
meetings, as Commissioner Kennedy -- as his partner, you
know, he certainly understands my scheduling challenges,
because, on that day that I'm not here, those end up
being the days that those are scheduled. It becomes very
difficult, because I've got all this backed-up,
stacked-up work that I've got try to get done.

So I'm just sharing sort of my reality, and so as we
move forward, we're taking into consideration each
other's realities, to whatever we end up shaking out
with. So I'll still say that I'm prepared to be
flexible, but I think a little variation -- and if that
includes the weekend, that's fine, too. I would hope
that suddenly it wouldn't be like, now every weekend
there's a meeting. So I think we've got to kind of
temper it. So that's the feedback I'd like to share on
that point.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Akutagawa.
COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yes. I was debating whether or not I would just pile on on this, but I think I will, just so that we get a host of what's happening.

I want to also affirm what Commissioner Vazquez says. I also hear what Commissioner Sadhwani is saying, too, and in line with what Commissioner Le Mons just also said, too, I would appreciate maybe an occasional weekend meeting, just so that I'm not trying to stuff in back-to-back-to-back meetings.

On those days when we're off -- on the off-days that we don't have the Commission meetings, the remaining two days, I'm going from, like, literally, 7 a.m. to like 6 p.m., back to back, because that's the only time I have time to, you know, place calls, and I'm sure that others who are working probably know that.

I would also like the idea of maybe, like, we do a day meeting here, shift, and maybe start in the afternoon, and go into kind of like, you know, the early to mid-evening, just so that we can mix it up for some people, throw a Saturday in here or there, you know, just so that we're kind of making it so that there are times when we're not trying to multitask too much.

Even though we're trying to stay focused as best as we can, I think, you know, sometimes we have to leave meetings, and you know, not being able to fully
participate, I think, is, I think, something that I would probably suspect that we're all feeling, for those of us who have to leave occasionally for other commitments, work, day job-related commitments.

So I don't know what that's going to look like, but I also want to touch on what Commissioner Sadhwani said about maybe taking maybe a couple-weeks break in March, only because, you know, that might also alleviate some of the -- if we have to add that third day to that March time frame, and/or, you know, does that training absolutely need to happen in March? You know, because, if there's an extension, you know, maybe we could do that line drawing training, like, in early April or something like that, just so that we're not adding the third day onto that March meeting. I just want to throw out that, you know, can we look at some other alternatives there, too?

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

So my understanding, and what I'm hearing right now, is the February calendar will remain as is. Is that correct, no changes to the February?

So what I would ask of Commissioner Andersen is perhaps tomorrow we could look at maybe what might possibly be an alternative day or time, and we can propose it tomorrow, and we can conclude the meeting
tomorrow with this discussion on calendar. Is that acceptable?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes, yes. I'll sort of have a look, and an idea that if we do two weeks, what could that training maybe look like? It might be a little more -- be more involved, rather than just having separate. We might do a couple of half-days, with a bit of a mix.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Sure. Just explore that whole calendar, and the days and times.

Commissioner Le Mons, Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: I was going to suggest that, since we did bring up the time variation, that maybe we could try that, not change the days in February, like, leave the dates alone, but maybe, one of those weeks, try the different schedule, since we brought it up. I mean, that might be an opportunity to try.

I know that, you know, in the case of Commissioner Sadhwani, with her evening teaching, that might not work. I'm not sure. But that might be -- I know at (indiscernible), for myself, when they saw the February schedule, they just said, whoa, like, look, because it's like three weeks. It's a short month. They said, well, it's a short month, and it's three days for three weeks. Okay.
CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I just wanted to confirm.

March 3rd, we no longer need it, so we can take it off
the calendar? Okay.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes, I am going to confirm
that. Pull that date. There is no reason to have that
for the reason why we had it on there.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Akutagawa.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Can I just ask, maybe, for
the training, is that something that we can hold on a
Saturday? Because it just seems like that one might be
something good to have on a weekend, where we could all
be fully present and paying attention, you know, versus
doing it during the week, where -- you know, as much as
we can, I think we do try to make sure that we're free
for the entire time, but I would like to be fully present
for a training, so yeah, maybe that could be done on a
weekend.

CHAIR TAYLOR: That's a great suggestion. Again, I
challenge -- so we'll revisit this conversation tomorrow.
I challenge us all to look at the calendar and be
creative, come up with times that work best with our
schedule, that will also help the community also engage
with us, and a day when I don't have to wear a tie.
That's fine.

Any other comments or suggestions from Commissioners regarding scheduling?

So then we're going to move to general public comments. Katy, if you can invite the public in, I'd appreciate it.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: 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 is 877-853-5247.

When prompted to enter the meeting ID number that is provided on the livestream feed, it is 97679349222 for this week's meeting. When prompted to enter a participant ID, simply press the pound key.

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

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

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

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

The Commission is taking general public comment at this time, and we do have one caller, and I will say hello.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: If you would like to, please state and share your name for the court reporter, but you do not have to.

MS. SHELLENBERGER: Hi. This is Lori Shellenberger, redistricting consultant for Common Cause, and I just wondered if you could read off your upcoming meeting dates, because I'm still a little uncertain now as to what the dates are, or if you could -- I know I've asked this before. They haven't been posted on the website, but if it's possible to do that, or if I'm missing that, can you point me to where those are? But if you could just clarify those meeting dates that you have landed on, and hopefully, for the public, just post those for the future, that would be great. Thank you.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Is there a Commissioner that has the February meeting dates handy, or the meeting dates we have
scheduled?

Commissioner Sinay, can you read out those dates for me, please? I'd appreciate it.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Sure. For February, right now we have February 8th through 9th, February 16 through 17, and February 24th through 26th.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Andersen.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I just want to notice -- I think that's why Commissioner Yee probably had his hand up -- the legal committee is also meeting on the 10th and the 18th, and that is -- those are open for the public. It's just not the full Commission.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Can you repeat that for me one more time, the legal affairs committee?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: So just in total, starting at the beginning of February, the full meetings are the 8th and 9th. The legal subcommittee, or legal --

CHAIR TAYLOR: Legal affairs committee.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: -- legal affairs committee -- is on the 10th. The full Commission is on the 16 and 17, legal affairs on the 18th. Well, actually on the 22nd, the morning of the 22nd, there will be a line drawing subcommittee public meeting of just opening proposals. That will be maybe an hour. That will be public. I was going to bring that up tomorrow. But the
full Commission is the 24th through the 26th of February.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Le Mons.

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Since we left this open, and we're going to be discussing it again tomorrow, wouldn't it probably be a good idea for us to respond to the caller's question tomorrow, when we have something more definitive? Because that's as it sits today, and it may look very different tomorrow, and then we also make a commitment to post.

CHAIR TAYLOR: I agree. So as it sits today, that's what we have scheduled. It will be confirmed tomorrow, and we will post accordingly. So thank you.

Katy, do we have any additional callers in the queue?

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We do not, Chair.

CHAIR TAYLOR: All right. I think, ladies and gentlemen, that day 2 is concluded. I will see everyone bright and early, 9:30 tomorrow morning. Thank you.

Have a good night.

(Whereupon, the CRC Business Meeting adjourned)
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