STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION (CRC)

In the matter of:
CRC BUSINESS MEETING

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2021
9:32 a.m.

Transcription by:
eScribers, LLC
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PRESENTERS
Samuel P. Sukaton, Redistricting Coordinator at League of Conservation Voters
Caitrin Phillips Chappelle, Associate Center Director, PPIC Water Policy Center

Also Present

PUBLIC COMMENT
Julia Marks, Advancing Justice Asian Law Caucus
Rosalind Gold, NALEO Educational Fund
Renee Westa-Lusk
Deborah Howard, California Senior Advocates League
Jaime Clark, Statewide Database
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PROCEEDINGS

February 9, 2021 9:32 a.m.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Good morning. It is 9:32, February 9th, day 2 of the meeting of the California Citizen's Redistricting Commission. I am your rotating Chair, Derric Taylor, along with my Vice Chair, our Vice Chair, Pedro Toledo. Pedro, give a wave please. Thank you.

We will begin the meeting with a roll call.

Director Claypool, can you call the roll, please?

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: Certainly Chair. Commissioner Toledo?

VICE CHAIR TOLEDO: Here.

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: Commissioner Turner?

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Here.

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: Commissioner Vazquez?

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Here.

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: Commissioner Yee?

COMMISSIONER YEE: Here.

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: Commissioner Ahmad?

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Here.

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: Commissioner Akutagawa.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Here.

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: Commissioner Andersen.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Here.

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: Commissioner Fernandez.
COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Here.

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: Commissioner Fornaciari.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Here.

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: Commissioner Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Here.

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: Commissioner Le Mons.

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Here.

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: Commissioner Sadhwani.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Here.

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Here.

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: And Commissioner Taylor.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Present.

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: All are present, and you have a Quorum.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Prior to beginning and taking public comment, I will review where we are on our agenda. The agenda has been posted at wedrawthelines.ca.gov. You can follow along with us. We are -- we have two subcommittee reports remaining regarding our VRA compliance and legal affairs, material development. We will transition to conversation regarding grants, data management, and at 11:15 we have Environmental Infrastructure panel. We will close out with discussion about future meetings. And as always, we
will take public comment. We will accept public comment in the morning, our return of lunch, and before adjournment of the meeting.

So at this moment, Kristian, can you invite in public comment, please?

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Certainly, Chair.

In order to maximum 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 live stream feed is 877-853-5247. When prompted, enter the meeting ID number that is provided on the live stream feed. It is 957-6586-8432, 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. To indicate that you wish to comment. Please press star 9. This will raise your hand for the moderator. When it is your turn to speak, you will hear a message that says the host would like you to talk, press star 6 to speak.

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

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

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

The Commission is taking general public comment at this time.

We do have some people in the queue, Chair. As a reminder, if you would like to give a comment, please press star 9.

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

(Pause)

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Caller, you have the floor.

MS. CLARK: Good morning. Thank you. Good morning, Commissioners. This is Jaime Clark from the Statewide Database. Again, Jaime Clark; J-A-I-M-E, C-L-A-R-K. And I understand there were a couple issues raised during yesterday's COI tool subcommittee report, and rather than sending an email, I just wanted to call in so in case there are any follow-up questions, we can get them answered right away.

First, as we emailed the subcommittee back in early January the tool had actually been live for about a month as part of its soft launch and for internal testing as we moved over to its permanent server. The only recent
change that we've deployed was to switch out the underlying geography from the Census prototype geography to the final 2020 geography. That was a big step as the Commission previously decided it did not want to do a hard launch until that was complete. And that being said, there was absolutely nothing done yesterday by the Statewide Database to promote or to launch the site. We didn't even know about the Redistricting Network tweet until the Commission started talking about it in yesterday's meeting. Not sure exactly what prompted that tweet. Possibly it was triggered because the site had been down as part of the geography update and they saw it come back up, but regardless, we've been following your lead on when to take the next step of the launch.

And second, during the soft launch and beyond, we will be capturing anything that comes in from the public and hold it until the Commission is ready to receive input. We've been in communication with CRC staff about options should you decide that you want to start collecting input before the data portal is launched. We are also, of course, going to continue to work with you as to how we transmit the data to marry it the portal once that is developed and ready to go. And of course, again it's indecision whether to tie the data portal timeline to the timeline for promoting the tool.
Third, as was said in your meeting in late January, right now the tool is only available in English. I can update you that we have gotten the translations for the additional languages back and we've plugged them into the tool, and they are going through a final round of proofing with translation service provider. We intend to roll them out in the tool as they are finalized, but of course, we don't want to have in the tool if there are any issues with text wrapping or however anything gets copied over in the additional languages. To have the top twelve languages live in the tool in the next few weeks and again, this a CRC decision, whether to wait on those to start promoting the tool or to start promoting the tool when not all of the languages are implemented quite yet.

And fourth, speaking of proofing, we've also been going through continued and extensive multi-layer proofing process for all of the techs in the tool. That said, Director Ceja and I are in communication around where he was seeing text issues. There was one page in our tutorial that still had a test label. While other changes are ballistic, but we're addressing them. We've been addressing them since last night and this morning, and the test label will be updated shortly, if it's not currently updated. That might be happening right now. I
haven't spoken with our developers for the last half hour or so, but that change is imminent and this -- regarding groups who want to submit multiple COIs, this came up in a recent meeting with the Data Management Subcommittee, and it actually is something previously raised by our user group community.

Just to clarify, we're not adding a new feature to the tool, but in talking to groups about sort of administrative procedures they can employee to have the existing tool best meet their needs. And that procedure is pretty simple and straightforward. Such groups could create sort of an organization-wide account that everybody associated with the group could log into and submit their testimony through that account so then all of the submissions can be easily accessed by organizational leaders or anybody within the groups that want to sort of track all of the submissions that community members have submitted. Excuse me.

So again, apologies for any confusion. If it felt like a messy launch that's because, as I've said, we weren't actually launching anything, didn't intend to launch anything, as we're still waiting on a thumbs up from the Commission and we've been planning to coordinate the public launch to fit your timeline. And with that, those are my updates. Thanks so much for your time, and
of course, I'm happy to answer any questions should you have any.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you, Ms. Clark. That's extremely informative. I'm sure the subcommittee is working alongside you to give us the best tool possible. Are there any questions or comments from the Commissioners, really quickly, as we continue with public comment?

Commissioner Akutagawa.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yes. Real quick, Jaime, thank you so much for calling in and clearing up a lot of the questions. It's -- actually I feel better that you were just as surprised as we were.

You know on the languages, is there a possibility that you could send us some type of timeline of when you expect the, you know, the additional twelve languages to be ready and when that launch will be? And then as well as, I don't know if the timeline will be the same for the, you know the video and written tutorials for the cultural, in those twelve languages. Is that something that you can send or is that still squishy?

MS. CLARK: Yes. I can send that, of course some of it depends on the external group, which is of course the translation services and more than happy to send you our best guess based on what we know from our communications
with them.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: And that would be for all twelve, or is there going to be -- if you know --

MS. CLARK: Yes. Yes.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: -- different timelines for different languages.

MS. CLARK: And that would --

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. I think we might have lost the connection with Ms. Clark.

Kristian, can we move to the next caller, please.

MS. CLARK: Oh, hello.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Oh. Commissioner Turner.

MS. CLARK: Can you hear me? This is Jaime.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah. Oh. Oh, good. Jaime's still on. Yes, thank you, Chair. I wanted to just ask, Jaime, on the multiple COI submissions, the administration need -- administrative need, I am very intrigued and excited about the opportunity for organizations to create an organization wide account that everyone can log into. And not to take time this morning, but if the details on how that's accomplished can be either shared with the COI Subcommittee or just something sent in so that we're able to get instructions, I'd appreciate that. Thank you.

MS. CLARK: Certainly. So just it would be the same
as creating an individual account. So the organization could create their own account, share the login information with their community members and then community members can just log into that account and submit as they would if they were using a personal account. That way all of the submissions will be, you know, listed in the tool, captured in the tool. And then additionally, whatever email address is used will receive the confirmation email with all of the files associated with the submission and the organization would have direct access to them that way.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you again, Ms. Clark. I appreciate the updates, and again the subcommittees will remain in contact with you so you can give us the best tool possible. Appreciate it.

MS. CLARK: Thank you so much.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

All right Kristian, can we move on to the next caller please?

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Caller, if you'd like to, please state and spell your name for the record. The floor is yours.

MS. MARKS: Thank you. Hi, my name is Julia Marks; J-U-L-I-A M-A-R-K-S and I am calling from Advancing Justice Asian Law Caucus. Good morning, Commissioners
and Staff. Thank you, again, for your thoughtful work and your leadership in this process. I understand that Data Management is on the agenda today and I just wanted to raise some questions and concerns for discussion. Specifically about the intersection of language access and data management.

So we appreciate your commitment to consider testimony and COI submissions that are submitted in languages other than English. And just looking at the complexity of this process, it would be really helpful, at this stage, to have more details set out about the workflow and responsibilities for translation. You know, as you recognized, there are many moving pieces and we just want to be sure that the translation components are set out clearly from the beginning.

So a few questions we were hoping you could discuss and address today are the following: who is primarily responsible for translating the COI tool text into -- COI tool -- text tool submissions into English if they're submitted in other languages; who is responsible for translating other forms of submissions, such as email or maybe a pdf of a map with handwritten content and comments in a language other than English, how will that be incorporated into the flow and at what stage will translation occur?
We also want to be sure that the budget accounts for the costs related to translation of incoming comments and I wasn't quite sure, from looking at the documents you posted, whether the data management contracts will include the actual translation contracting costs or if that is funded elsewhere.

We are also wondering if the staff at US Digital Response has experience with processing non-English submissions and working with translators.

And then finally we, you know, strongly recommend that you're looking at data analysts to hire and work with on making sure that you ask and look into their experience working with multi-lingual submissions and translation processes.

So those are kind of our high-level questions and we really look forward to getting more information on those items and listening to your discussion later today.

Thank you.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you, Ms. Marks. We appreciate your comments. Those will be incorporated into our discussion and I hope that you can stick around, and someone in your party can stick around and listen to our discussion later on today.

MS. MARKS: Yes. Thank you.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Next caller please, Kristian.
PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: There are no more callers in the queue, Chair.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. I think we've given ample time for people to listen in, catch up and call in, so at this time, we'll close public comment and continue with our agenda.

And we will begin with number agenda item 9E, the VRA compliance with Commissioners Sadhwani and Yee.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Thank you so much, Chair.

So our apologies. We didn't realize that the newly formed Legal Affairs Committee didn't make it onto the agenda for this week. So you know, we include Commissioner Toledo in this update, to the extent possible, as well.

We were very pleased to receive a number of applicants for both the VRA Counsel position, as well as the outside litigation. We will, of course, begin the process of reviewing those applications tomorrow during the Legal Affairs Committee meeting and ultimately making decisions about who will be receiving interviews. We anticipate that that process will move quite quickly. As you will see in the handouts for this week's meeting, Chief Counsel Marshall put together a very helpful sheet of legal parameters for that hire and we'll be working closely with her and the legal team to ensure that as we
advance this process that we are in compliance with State
hiring procedures. So please keep an eye out for that.

In addition, as the Legal Affairs Committee moves
on, we will similarly use a Chair rotation policy.
Commissioner Yee very kindly put that together for us and
about on a monthly basis we will be rotating the Chair
position for that. Please stay tuned for more info.

We definitely are thinking through, in terms of this
process, ways to solicit the input and feedback from the
full Commission. Of course our intention is to do a
thorough review of all of the applicants and bring forth
to the full Commission our recommendation for hires, but
that doesn't mean that you can't, you know, review the
applicants yourselves and weigh in in this process. And
we're going to work out exactly what the best way of
doing that will be.

When we kind of did the test run last
week -- last week or two weeks ago, I guess. The
weeks are going fast here. You know, we worked out
having everybody log off and watch the live streaming
call in. We're going to continue to figure out if that's
the most efficient way of doing things or if there might
be other options to ensure Commissioners have -- have a
chance to weigh in on this process as well. That's both
figuring out like logistics and as well as technical how
all of these pieces can come together.

Commissioner Yee or Commissioner Toledo, did I forget anything pertinent?

COMMISSIONER YEE: So the Chair rotation is in your meeting handouts. There's also a note about a decision we made about voting. As you know, the full Commission, when it takes major votes requires a super majority. So a majority of each, not only all of us, but of each of the three political affiliation categories. And so we decided to apply that to ourselves as well, and since the three of us represent those three categories, votes will need to be unanimous. So that was our decision.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Thank you.

VICE CHAIR TOLEDO: We also talked about bringing the interview questions, and I think you touched on those Commissioner Sadhwani. Just bringing interview questions or having the Commission -- giving the Commission an opportunity to get feedback. And on the interview questions, potentially in closed session, and working through that as well.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah. And so more to come on all of those logistics as we finalize that process with Ms. Marshall.

And actually, I should ask Ms. Marshall, if you have anything else that you want to chime in or add as well,
as we're working closely with you on this.

    MS. MARSHALL: No, not at this time. Thank you.
    COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Thank you.

    And I think that's it. Thank you so much, Chair, for bringing it back to us.

    COMMISSIONER YEE: By the way, there was some back and forth about the interviews being in person versus on Zoom, and we have decided to just do them all on Zoom.

    CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you for that update from the VRA/Legal Affairs Committee. As a reminder, that meeting will happen tomorrow beginning at 9:30 a.m. That's February 10th, 9:30 a.m., Chaired by Commissioner Sadhwani.

    So we move onto agenda item number 9H, the Data Management subcommittee with Commissioners Kennedy -- not Data Management, the Materials Development with Commissioners Kennedy and Fernandez. Thank you.

    COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Thank you, Chair.

    Okay, so we -- we've met quite a few times and quite a few emails between fellow Commissioner Kennedy and I and we did have a couple meetings with Communications Director, Fredy and I think Cecilia was also in that and so was Deputy Executive Director Hernandez.

    So what -- we posted all of the information yesterday and we're hoping that everyone had a chance to
review. The PowerPoint presentation has changed slightly. We've moved some of the slides, the order of them. So it's not a dramatic change, but what we also opted to do was instead of having a short presentation and a long presentation, we left it as a long presentation. And then we left it up, you know, we leave it up to all the Commissioners in terms of what they want to exclude if they don't have as much time. We felt that they can just tailor it to their audience.

And so what you should have received was the PowerPoint presentation, as well as the script. Also, the frequently asked questions document, our fact sheet, and our flyer. And I do want to do a special thanks to Fredy for quite a few changes that we had. And it wasn't major changes, it was just constant, so thank you for being patient with us. And then I would be very remiss in not thanking Commissioner Sadhwani. It's almost like she carried it forward until the last baton, you know, the handoff. So thank you very much for your -- all of your work on this, but we completely understand wanting -- just being overwhelmed and too much.

So with that, I suppose the best course will be to go through the PowerPoint one last time. And I do want to thank those that have submitted their comments, so thank you very much. And as we go through it, just
remember we're going through it for content. If there's any like specific like grammar, small grammar type stuff, feel free to send that to us. We're just -- we're hoping and -- we're hoping that this will be the last time we present it to the Commission. If there's any changes in the future we can always adapt that and make changes. So it's almost like a fluid document. And also, as you go out and you use the presentation, if you have feedback, that would be great too, so we could, you know, tweak it a little if we need to.

Commissioner Kennedy, did you have anything?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Not at this point.

DIRECTOR CEJA: Am I going through it? I'm sorry.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: It's really small right now.

DIRECTOR CEJA: Is it?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: It's not -- it's not a full screen.

DIRECTOR CEJA: Okay.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I think you almost had it.

DIRECTOR CEJA: Yeah, hold on. Is that better?

Yes. Okay.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes.

DIRECTOR CEJA: So we did make changes. We took into consideration some of the comments and concerns from
fellow Commissioners. So the first page still remains the same. We did change the web address here to reflect the new website, but that's on hold until further discussion.

If you move to slide 2, we put in here that reminder that we will not be taking public comment at these educational sessions because of Government Code, Section 8253(3), which does not allow us to take public comment outside of a public hearing, so we made that very clear.

And we also point people to the website in order to fill out a public input message to send to the Commission, or to fill out the COI tool where they will be able to give us direct input immediately.

Number 3 remains the same, What is Redistricting? We do have that amazing drawing by Commissioner Taylor.

Number 4 still remains Your Voice.

Number 5, Why We Redraw District Maps? We just reshuffled some of the points there, but they're still the same contents, they're still the same.

Redistricting Elements, this remained fairly the same. So it's going over the Census reapportionment and the concept of fair representation.

Why Independent Redistricting Matters remain the same. We did include different colors here, so it's not indicative of Republican or Democrat because we wanted to
be more educational than political here. We did include
the percentages here. If Gold were to win, they get one
hundred percent of the five districts, and in the second
iteration here, purple gets sixty percent and they win
the five districts, as an example of what can happen when
you redistrict a certain way.

Here in the Different Redistricting Efforts, this is
more to let people know that we're not the only show on
the road. I did get a public comment via email saying
that not every county, city, and school district has
their own process, so I changed it to some have their own
process. Because some districts are at large, and they
don't have districts. So I made that change there.

As far as the History's concerned, that remained the
same. We go over the Voter's First Act. The fact that
congress -- congressional districts were added in 2010.
And then Other States with Independent Commissions, that
list is growing.

Commissioner Selection. We made very few tweaks to
this slide, but it just goes through the process that you
all went through to get selected from the lottery to the
selection of the final six.

Who We Are. We reshuffled the pictures so that they
coincide with the alphabetical names of the
Commissioners. And we swapped out Commissioner Kennedy's
picture. We have a nice one there.

Commissioner Duties remain the same. We reshuffled the order of the map. So it's Congress, Senate, Assembly, and Board of Equalization. But again, the information remains the same. Just letting people know what a district looks like and the fact that we're drawing for four different maps.

The Outreach Zones remain the same. Color coded to go along with the Outreach Zones A through K, and who the Commissioners that are assigned to those zones are.

Line Drawing Criteria. So what are we taking into account. There is a weighted system that we're using, and we want to let people know that. So number 1 is Equal Population; number 2 is Voting Rights Act; 3 is Contiguity; 4 is Communities of Interest; 5 is Geographically Compact Districts; and then 6 is Nesting Districts. So we just changed the graphic a little more to make it a little more visible.

Communities of interest remains the same. We added Joshua trees here, not other forms of cactus, per Commissioner Kennedy's request. We did add some farmland here to represent the central region of the state to give people an idea of how to describe their communities when it comes to that point.

Participating in the Process. We did change the
Some of our community partners felt that it was too militant. And if and when we do translate this into Spanish or other languages, we will make sure to change that language because it was brought to our attention that it might come off as too -- as an instructional bullet instead of inviting people to participate in the process. But that will be taken into consideration once translate these materials so that they're culturally and linguistically appropriate.

Now, Draw My Community Tool -- or Draw My California Community Tool, I did see that the website was live. I took some still shots of their website, which is amazing. Jaime, if you're on the call, thank you for all your work. This looks really, really good. We do give the web address for folks to login and go directly, and I put on here that the website is live now. I hope that remains the same. If not, we will change that. We'll say -- we will say it's -- it will be live soon.

Then we included a new slide here, the California Supreme Court ruling that extended our timeline for doing our work to December 15th, 2021. And then also makes reference to the fact that if we receive Census results after July 31st, we will be changing or adjusting our timeline accordingly.
And then we give you're the timeline, of course. That was edited or updated. So from February to May we'll be doing educational presentations. From June through September we will be doing public input meetings where we will be receiving input from the community. July 31st we expect Census data to be handed over to the State. Hopefully, July -- or August 31st, we expect the Commission to get that data. September through October, we would be doing line drawing sessions for the pre-maps. And then in October, release the draft maps. November we would continue with public input meetings and line drawing sessions to refine the maps. And then December, release the final maps, continue getting input. And then December 15th, finalizing those maps and sending them off to the Secretary of State.

Then the Contact Us remains the same. Marcy Kaplan, for now, is the head person for scheduling these educational sessions. We also included on here social media handle so that folks can get ahold of us, and just stay abreast of all the updates that are going on because things could change from one week to the next.

And that's the presentation we have for -- for the Commission. And in the script, we actually did include the fact that we do have interpreter services. If community members or community groups request it five
days in advance, five business days in advance of our meetings, we will make sure to get an interpreter there so that we can expand the reach of our meetings to all communities in California.

And then, Commissioner Turner asked me to include that and most documents, or all documents if possible. So I'll be checking in with the subcommittee to do that. It's very important.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Are there any questions? I -- Chair Taylor, did you -- did you want to handle that piece of it?

CHAIR TAYLOR: Sure. Not a -- not a problem.

Any questions or comments? We will start with Commissioner Andersen and then Commissioner Turner.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: First of all, great. Thank you very much. Great job here. Sorry, I got a -- I'm also getting miscellaneous background noise. I do have several comments and things I'd like to do. And I thought -- I didn't know if you wanted to go through each document at a time or how you wanted to do that. I thought we should -- I was going to comment right away on the slides because then a couple comments continue -- it's a similar thing through the other documents. So I just thought, but I didn't want to know -- I don't want to -- I don't want to jump if you have another plan.
CHAIR TAYLOR: Let's -- let's take care of this slideshow first and we can handle each document accordingly.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. If we could go to slide -- slide 14. It's the one about the line drawing criteria by order. Number -- number 5 is the Geographically Compact. I love the way you put the actual definition in. What I'd like to make sure we put in a note, or somehow say it's -- everyone's still, in their mind, they see geographically compact and they think it deals with the shape of the district. It does not. And I -- what I -- so I don't know if we could just add a note, this does not refer to the shape of the district, or it refers to the population compactness, or population density. Something like that, but I'd like us to put a little note in there and I'd like every single Commissioner, when you make this presentation, please say, now remember this does not deal with the shape of the district, because everyone thinks that and it's the -- you know, they ignore everything else. Oh, it's gerrymandering because the shape looks like that, and that's not what geographically compact means. It's only -- it talks about population compactness. So I don't quite know about the wording on that.

And then that, I'd like that same note to go through...
the script, et cetera, et cetera. Just to -- oh, then on
the next, the Community of Interest, the next slide 15, I
think after our presentation this morning, we might want
to increase wording in our Community of Interest
description. But that will be after our presentation
this morning.

If you could go to slide 16. It's a subtle thing
here, but we have been talking about, from our -- from
the get-go, the Commission, we want the public to get
involved right now and submit their comments to us.
Whether it be directly to the CRC or to the community
using the COI tool, and then there will also be public
meetings where they can also put input. I don't want
people to wait for the public input meetings to submit
anything. And so I'd like on this the fourth line, it
says provide public meetings or submit your comments with
the Commission. I'd like that to be submit your comments
to the Commission. You know, even if, you know, through
the COI tool, you know, or directly, and then provide
public input at meetings. And that emphasis needs to
happen in the other documents as well, the order of it.

So then, one last one, and it's very important.
It's on slide number 19. This -- the wording here is a
little tricky. The timing is a bit off and it has to do
with the Line Drawing Public Input Meeting again. So the
definitions here. The way this reads, it looks a little
bit like, September, October, we're doing line drawing
sessions, pre-maps, and then we're drafting -- we're
sending out the draft maps, and it doesn't say public
input before those draft maps. And that's not -- that's
just not correct. And that's not the way it should be.
I'd like to actually work with the subcommittee here on
just which one gets rearranged and which months get a bit
modified because the Public Input meeting, COI, with some
line drawing, is actually pre-maps, as well as after the
maps. So it needs to be just a little rearranging and I
have ideas that I can submit on this.

But I want to bring everyone's attention,
particularly the public, we are not drafting any maps
without public input first. So don't look at this slide
and -- that's -- that's just a mis -- it's just rearranged
the wrong way. It's not correct. We are absolutely
getting public input before we draw any draft maps.

And that's -- those are my comments. And great
work. Oh, one silly one though. The blue -- the purple
and gold, those are Lakers colors, you know. I don't
know if anyone likes that. You know, there's an issue
with going with colors. I don't know why, you know,
we're talking about Democrats, Republicans. I don't know
why we couldn't go red and blue, but one thought was,
because people are color blind, do we want to go hatch
one direction, dots on another, just for shape? But
that's -- that's minutia.
So thank you very much.
CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you, Commissioner Andersen. I
don't think Southern California has a problem with the
purple and gold.
Onto Commissioner Sadhwani, then Commissioner
Turner.
COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Sure I, you know I, first of
all, awesome. Congratulations. Thank you. This is
amazing. I just wanted to share, I had a really great
conversation with a representative from Santa Ana College
when I was doing Orange County outreach this past week.
And she had just reminded me, you know, she's like, we
would love to have someone come and speak. Can you just
make sure to say, you know, tell people why
representation matters. So not just redistricting, but
like why should we care about who our representative is,
right. And she said, you know, for our community, it's
really important to talk about like your representative
is going to make decisions about access to educational
funding or access to education, right. And that will be
different for whom -- whichever group we're talking to,
right.
So if it's a business group it might have to do with like, you want your voice heard when it comes to like business regulations, and such things. So I don't know if there's a way just maybe to create a space early on. And maybe it's just a slide with like pictures of Californians, you know, a diverse set of Californians and depending on what group we're talking to, that we can just make that pitch, right. Like here's why you should care because there are issues that impact you, right, whatever group you're a part of, that a representative is -- is going to be making decision on and you want to make sure that the representative is reflective of your values. Something kind of simple like that, but that could be tailored to whomever -- whomever we're speaking to.

So just one thought, but it looks beautiful. So thank you for all your hard work.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Commissioner Turner, then Commissioner Akutagawa.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you, Chair.

Commissioner Sadhwani, I agree. After one of the presentations, one of the individuals that was very familiar with redistricting kept talking about, yeah we've got to talk about this in terms of why don't we care because it lives in your heart and your belly. You
know, what does this mean to the people, you know. And so yeah, I'll try to think of some words too, but it seems like this could live a little bit more in the heart and the belly. Just one little paragraph or explanation of why people care about the redistricting.

What I wanted to add was on slide earlier, and thank you, I love the slide, the script. I think you all have done phenomenal work, and it's very user friendly. On slide 16, when we were talking earlier about interpretation, et cetera, and thank you, I had submitted some questions earlier. But I'm wondering if that can live out on slide 16, in participating in the process where we're actually, you know, encouraging people yes, to familiarize themselves with criteria. Everything that's there.

And then for a lot of our Californians it's going to say, okay, so now what does that mean for me? How do I do that? I'm coming from my frame, coming from my language, and so I'm wondering if there could be a place where we explain how they can participate. That this information will be translated in, you know, however the many languages are and wherever the places are. And what to do indeed if they need interpretation. So as we're training about the process and how to get involved, people can share our message in advance, talking to all
Californians about how they also can participate in this process.

So maybe we can build that out here in 16 or a subsequent slide to 16 so that it's not overcrowded, explaining the specifics of that process. Thank you.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Commissioner Akutagawa and then Commissioner Le Mons.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Thank you. I have to say, Commissioner Andersen, that was just really funny that you noticed the Laker colors. I -- I didn't even notice it myself, actually.

I just wanted to -- this is very ticky-tacky, but maybe it was subliminal. Anyway, this is very ticky-tacky, but I just wanted to note on slide 11, Huntington Beach is spelled incorrectly. There's an extra "g". It says Hung and it should be Hunt.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Commissioner Akutagawa if that's all, then we'll move from Commissioner Le Mons to Chief Counsel Marshall.

MS. MARSHALL: I just have a quick comment regarding the ADA compliance. If you guys can make sure we run that through legal to make sure that we are ADA compliant, that would be great.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.
Commissioner Le Mons, Commissioner Fernandez,
Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Thanks for all the hard work.
I wanted to follow up on Commissioner Turner's point on,
I think it was slide 16, which is How to Participate.
And my question is, is there a way to create maybe a
brief visual journey where there's intersection points
where you can see. So it's not -- in addition to the
additional bullets, but to really depict the entry points
of the process visually so that people kind of see the
journey and say oh, okay. That might be another way to
bring that forward without a lot of words.
So that's all. I wanted to suggest that as maybe a
way to help people understand because I think you can see
the -- those bullets, and they make intellectual sense,
but not operational sense. If that makes sense. Thank
you.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.
Commissioner Fernandez, Commissioner Sinay, and then
Commissioner Andersen.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I just wanted to respond to
Chief Counsel Marshall. I believe we did. Fredy, did we
forward those documents to legal? We did. Yeah.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yeah, so if you could
please review them, that would be great if you could
review them and then provide input. That'd be wonderful. Thank you.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Just a couple of -- first of all, this is awesome. Thank you for listening to a lot of our comment. The purple and gold is not the Laker purple and gold, so I think we're okay. It's more pink and gold.

But I did want to say, just if it's helpful for other people, on slide number 6, I usually -- I don't know -- I'm always kind of confused when we say redistricting elements. I'm not sure what that means, but what I kind of -- what I've -- how I've internalized it is, we need three pieces of data, or we need three inputs to create good -- to create the redistricting maps. We need the data of the census data, the reapportionment data, and then we need to hear from you the community so that we can do fair representation. And that seems to help people understand. Understand okay, you know, you can't do it. We -- and right now we're starting with a barer presentation because we don't have the other two pieces of data. And that really gets people engaged and realizes that that piece is important for them. But I feel like we kind of missed, you know,
you need x plus x plus x to get y.

There was something else. Oh, it's just a simple thing to help us all. I really like the mapping, as you were saying, Commissioner Le Mons, and we might be able to do a drawing like that. Just say these are the three pieces of data we need, just so that people kind of see, you know, we need the numbers, and then we need -- but anyway.

And I also use a lot we counted you as individuals and now we want to hear from you as communities. You know, so connecting the Census piece to now the community piece, and that -- and that's been helpful and has gotten people kind of excited.

And the final thing is when this is all done and we've approved it, and I know we're going to change things all along the way, but if we could actually put the scripts in the note section so we don't have to have two different documents. It's easier when you're doing the PowerPoint if you have two screens, obviously. But when the -- when it's just down below in the notes section.

But thank you, this is looking -- this looks really good. Oh sorry, one final thing. The light blue is really, really hard to read, and so things like Marcy's name, if we can put that in the orange, as well as every
time we use our website. You know or draw my California community in orange. If we could put that in the orange, so it really pops out and people can see it easily.

Awesome job.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Commissioner Andersen.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I love -- I'm jumping on what Commissioner Turner and Commissioner Le Mons said, in that slide 16. These sort of list like almost creating like another slide to match the verbiage of it, but particularly what Commissioner Le Mons said is the -- these are the actual ways that people could get involved because this is the one area where we -- so we generally talk about maps and we sort of throw maps around. And this is the one area where we could say no, you don't have to draw your full redistricting map. You can draw your community and that's what we really have to have. The rest is nice, and we can work with, but we can't do our work without your community of interest.

And on -- and the way Commissioner Le Mons mentioned that is I had that aha moment of, there we go. We can visually put in here's your community -- this is the way to put in. You can also do redistricting map, you know, you can do all these different things, but you don't have to do all of them. And I think all too often people are
okay, public input, I've got to come up with a full map.
And in their mind it's a redistricting map. And no, they
don't have to do that much. They have to tell us who
they are. Now, if they want to do all those other steps
eyou certainly may, and that nice little diagram there
would bring all of it -- bring some clarity for, I think,
us as a Commission, as well as the public.

You know, it's another way to put it all together
and I really, really appreciate both of those comments.

I think that's very clear. Thank you.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Akutagawa.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Thank you, I should have
said this earlier. Wonderful work and I appreciate also
all the comments that the Commissioners who have spoken
have also given. It's gotten me thinking about some of
the points that were brought up. And I guess I'll start
with slide 16 since that's where Commissioner Andersen
just left off.

You know, I try to put myself in the -- in the shoes
of just everyday citizen, you know. And one that may not
all be fully engaged in this kind of process and just,
you know, what would I be thinking if I'm reading these
words. You know, what -- I like the idea of what
Commissioner Le Mons said about, you know, making it more
visual. I think whether it's visual or whether it's, you
know, through the words that we use when we present this. Or maybe even just putting it in writing, but I think it would be helpful if we give a couple different examples. Some are going to be a little bit more maybe self-explanatory, but you know, some of it I just realized, what does this really mean? Like, clarify your goals. Like what does that really mean? Provide public input at meetings or submit your comments to the Commission. You know that one seems super self-explanatory. It's like okay, you know, you call in, you write, but I also realized that that could be really intimidating. Like, you know, what if I just want to put one line or do I have to write this long letter. You know those are the kind of thoughts that go through my mind when -- when I'm asked to provide input too.

And I think it might be helpful if we can even visually show an example. Hey, if you want to send a one-line email, that is public input and that's okay. If you want to send this like longer, more formal letter, that is okay. And I think it might also be nice to show that an individual, you don't have to be like affiliated with an organization. You could just be an individual who has an interest in this, you know, calling in or writing in. And that is as okay as someone who's calling in saying I'm representing this, you know, this
organization or these long lists of organizations. I think that's what I realized can be intimidating and I will say that my participation on this has gotten me more aware in what I've been telling people is look, public input is really important, and it could be just us calling in.

So I think maybe some examples might be helpful. And the same for all of the other, you know, areas. You know, organizing your community or advocating. If there's, you know, just some examples to give people a place to start from, then that might be also helpful.

There was also one other area that I wanted to -- and it's up at the top. It's slide number 6. And I have a question. I think, you know, this is listed as Redistricting Elements and I was thinking, I forgot whether it was Commissioner Andersen, or Sinay maybe. It was Commissioner Sinay, you're the one that brought it up about fair representation. I was actually thinking that fair representation is actually the end goal of all of these pieces. It's actually census and reapportionment and then redistricting, which then leads to fair representation. And I think, I don't know, I guess in my mind that's how I was looking at it. It could be, you know, kind of one way or the other, but I just wanted to note that, you know, ultimately, these pieces, the
reasons for these elements or activities, Census, 
reapportionment, and redistricting is so that we can 
enable and ensure fair representation. You know as per 
our democracy. So I think that's it. That's what I just 
wanted to note on these items. Thank you.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Le Mons and 
Commissioners I just wanted to state, that we have about 
twenty minutes before I want to take public comment on 
this issue.

Commissioner Le Mons.

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yes, thank you for that, 
Commissioner Akutagawa, on slide 6. And Commissioner 
Sinay as well. I think that what I took away from that 
feedback was that there might -- it might be necessary to 
rethink the intention of six. Not whether it's how 
intentional we can get with that slide. Because I think 
two very key points were brought out in that.

Additionally, for me the success of this deck rises 
and falls on two things. One, that Commissioner Sadhwani 
raised earlier in the discussion around why does it 
matter. Why does this matter to me and why should I 
care? I think that is crucial. If we don't nail that, 
the rest of it is just information about a process. So I 
think that that's going to be really important. I think 
right now that's kind of missing. So that's really got
to be there I think.

And then the other element is the discussion around slide 16. I think those are the two most important. One is why does it matter that gives me the internal evaluation of me taking some kind of action. And then being very clear on what actions I can take, and the impacts of those actions. So if this -- the decks success is how that gets conveyed to the recipient of the information that helps address those two issues because fundamentally what we need at the end of the day, and I think why we're doing this, is for Californians involvement to help make sure that we create, ultimately, maps that reflect their representation, communities of interest, et cetera, et cetera.

So awesome, awesome, awesome deck. I can't say that enough, but I do feel like those two points really need to get beefed up a little bit, and at your discretion.

Thank you.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Appreciate all the input, Commissioners.

Commissioner Fernandez, back in your -- in your hands.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. Thank you all for the input and feedback. I'm just wondering at this point, we do have all of this information. We'll go back
and regroup, but do you feel it's necessary for us to bring it back to you again or is it okay to incorporate everything and then just send it back out and so that you can use it for your presentations. Would that be okay if we do that? Or is that maybe, I don't know. Okay.

Thank you very much.

And I just wanted to make one clarification regarding the interpreter services. I just want to make sure that we'll go ahead and put something in the PowerPoint presentation, but just for clarification, we do have interpreter services. We will have it at least for the English plus the twelve, and we will try to get the interpreter services for beyond the twelve. I don't want there to be this false expectation that whatever language you request we'll provide, we're going to -- we're going to try the best that we can, and that's what we -- what I explained last time at the last meeting. We'll work, Raul will work with I'm thinking Fredy probably, or Alvaro to try to find someone, or Marcy, I think it was Marcy. And if not, we'll reach out to our community partners. So I just want to make sure that when we're out there and we're talking about the interpreter services, we're going to try our best to do it and we were able to do it last time, which was great. That's just the only caveat, we can't promise it a
hundred percent but we're going to get pretty darn close.
As close as we can get.
And I've got that --

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Kennedy. Sorry.
Commissioner Kennedy and then Commissioner Turner. I
didn't mean to cut you off, Commissioner Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. And I just
want to clarify, and I hope I'm not overstepping,
Commissioner Fernandez, but I do see all of these as
living documents. We want to quote unquote finalize
these and get them out, but even once they're out we, the
subcommittee, want input from you, from the public, on
how we can continually improve these materials. We
don't -- we don't anticipate that, you know, the way they
are after this next round of changes, based on today's
discussions, will be the last changes that are ever made
to them. So please, you know, as you use them, as you
hear form your networks, and for the public, as you -- as
thoughts occur to you on how we can improve our
information products, please let us know. Thank you.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Turner.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you, and Commissioner
Fernandez, thank you. I just want us to be able to set
expectation. I appreciate your comments. Definitely we
want to be accurate in anything we're saying, but as far
as when we're doing the presentation and while we're doing it, I wanted to be really clear in setting the expectation for the public of what they can count on, as they're also helping to share this message that we have. This is -- this is the certain -- these are the languages that it will -- that it is translated in. These are the languages that may be translated, you know, whatever the case -- whatever the right wording is, I just want us to have that right wording so that we're telling people in advance what they can expect for their community as they participate in the process.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Commissioner Fernandez, the floor is yours.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay, and with the presentation, or with the PowerPoint, we also have the script. Obviously, the script will change whenever the presentation changes. I don't necessarily think we need to go through the script unless -- and maybe just open it up for public comments. I'm hoping that you've had a chance, but if not, if you want to go through the script, we can. That's just going to be a longer conversation.

If you have feedback in terms of wordsmithing or maybe adding some. But also, at this point like with the script, it is a script, but I also feel that as
Commissioners we can also adapt it to our audience or bring examples from -- bring our own examples if we want. You know it's not something that you've got to follow, you know, line by line, but it is something that obviously, is providing information to help you go through the PowerPoint.

So if you want, I'm not sure. I know Commissioner Kennedy, do you have a suggestion if we want to go through it or maybe just get feedback.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: I'd say -- I'd say, you know, let's take any feedback that people have. You know I also see the script as, you know, whenever the presentation changes the script will change, but the script can be added to without changing the presentation. The presentation is meant to, you know, highlight key points, but the script can go beyond just the words that are on the screen with the presentation. So let's look at the script as something that can be, and probably should be, longer and more comprehensive and can, you know, include suggested examples and those sorts of things.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: And so I --

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioners Kennedy. Commissioners Kennedy and Fernandez, are you guys open to feedback for
the script and the flyer at this time, from Commissioners?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Well, we've got the flyer and we've got the fax sheet and we have the FAQs, the Frequently Asked Questions. And I'm just wondering is it better to get feedback now, from the Commissioners on those documents, or would you prefer that they forward it, let's say by Thursday, if you can forward any comments you have. I think that might be a better use of our time. So if we could just give a deadline by Thursday, if you could -- if we can have an agreement to just review that and provide any feedback.

And then -- because what we want to do is then turn around and translate some of these. Have these documents translated in the twelve languages and have them available on our website. So if we could have feedback by Thursday, and then maybe by next week we could actually forward that for translation.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Any Commissioners have any material feedback regarding those items right now? Commissioner Akutagawa.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Actually, I guess, I was just checking the script and I guess I'll go back to the PowerPoint, if you don't mind. I may be opening up a can of worms, but I just wanted to ask in terms of, going
back to what Commissioner Le Mons left off with in terms of like why. Why should people feel this is important. In slide number 3, around What is Redistricting, I like that graphic, but it says vote, and then in the definition it says determine, you know, which voters are represented by each electoral district. I mean, I know that this is what the definition of what redistricting is, but for me, I think, there is a little bit of a disconnect between we're just asking all people to give input on redistricting and what their communities of interest are, versus now what we're also seeing is that redistricting is going to impact as people who can vote. When in reality, you know whether you're a voter or not, you're going to be impacted by who's representing you and I think that that is, you know, at least that's what I'm going to see.

And I looked through the script to see if there was any kind of way that that is going to be kind of, I don't know, kind of tight rope walked, I guess maybe or something. I don't know, how are we going to balance that. But I wanted to just bring that kind of quandary up. And so that I guess would be just the one thing that I would say that's both related to the script but also related then to the PowerPoint. One other last questions on the FAQ sheet, I was just wondering if we could put
some graphics in there so that it's not just so text heavy. And maybe a little bit easier to read, so that would be my only other thing that I would say.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Any additional questions or comments.

Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: This is just an aha moment I had while speaking to, you know, community representatives. And Commissioner Ahmad and I asked, you know, do you all want to do the translation yourself, you know, we have a good document, and you all do the translation, or would your community rather that the translation be done by us. And most of the time we've heard, yeah we'd rather do the translation. But what we did hear, from the refugee community in San Diego was we want you all to do the translation because there's a lot of words, jargon, that we want to make sure that we get it right. And you all, you know, there's things in here that, you know, we don't -- we wouldn't know how to translate. And I just thought that that was interesting because we are trying to keep things as simple as possible, but that -- there is that feeling of words like redistricting, you know. How do you say that in all the different languages and things like that, so they wanted to make sure that they had the basics and then they could from there take it and massage it, but they wanted just
some critical work, you know, that piece.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Commissioner Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thanks, Chair. My
understanding of our translation, or our intent with
translations is that we would translate and run things by
the community. I mean, electoral translations are
tricky. I was in a meeting with election officials in DC
twenty-five years ago or so and we were talking about the
Federal Election Commissions glossary of Spanish language
election terms and, you know, the differences between
terminology in Mexico, and Peru, and Cuba, and this that
then, the Dominican Republic, and so forth and so on. So
I would -- I would say that I would like, once we have
translations, I'd like to share them out with community
partners to get their reaction to them before we maybe
start, you know, using them live. Just to make sure that
they are understandable. And this may be an example of a
time where, you know, we have to go with a term that may
not be everyone's favorite term for a certain thing, but
it's at least understandable across all of the different
variations of different languages. Thank you.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you, Commissioner Kennedy. Is
that -- is that all from our Materials Development
Subcommittee? Great.
So I would like to open up this agenda item for public comment.

Kristian, can you invite in the public regarding Agenda Item 9H, the Material Development. Thank you.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair.

In order to maximize transparency and public participation in our process, the Commissioners will be taking public comment by phone. To dial in, dial the telephone number provided on the live stream feed. It is 877-853-5247. When prompted, enter the meeting ID number that is provided on the live stream feed. It is 957-6586-8432 for this week's meetings. When prompted to enter a participant ID, simply press pound.

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

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

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

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

The Commission is taking public comment on Agenda Item 9H at this time. And we do have someone in the queue.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Please invite them in.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And caller, if you would like to give your name, please state and spell it for the record.

MS. GOLD: Yes. This is Rosalind Gold. R-O-S-A-L-I-N-D, and the last name is Gold; G-O-L-D. And I am with the NALEO Educational Fund. I'm chief public policy officer. I wanted to make a comment on a couple of components of the very nicely, graphically designed and comprehensive materials that the Commission has presented.

My first comment goes to slide 7 of the PowerPoint, which addresses why independent redistricting matters. On that slide I would like to strongly recommend that the bulleted examples be removed, or particularly the first two. The first two bulleted examples which talk about redistricting where there is not a partisan alignment between the number of votes that the candidates receive for congress and the number of people who won congressional seats in the same -- with the second
bullet, suggests that the point of the independent redistricting is to achieve something called partisan fairness. Okay, an idea that somehow, you know, you should provide some kind of partisan parody between the votes that people make for congress and the -- and the number of people from a particular party that win a seat. That is actually not a criterion. Partisan fairness or competitiveness are not criteria in the redistricting criteria for the Commission.

And while some people may support the California Citizens Redistricting Commission and hope that that is an outcome, that is -- this -- those two bullets suggest that that is an outcome that the Commission is going to be looking at, when in fact the Commission is really not going to be able to look at, or should not be looking at, partisan outcomes and partisan fairness or competitiveness as an outcome for its maps.

Similarly, in the Frequently Asked Questions there is a question that deals with these examples as well. It's in the Frequently Asked Questions that also talk about, you know, again this idea to -- let me just get the question up here. I'm sorry. We're running through this, but that talks about those examples and also suggests that there's some connection between independent redistricting and packing and cracking. Well, packing
and cracking are prohibited by the Voting Rights Act.

Okay. And if you're going to talk about packing and
cracking it should be in the context of the Voting Rights
Act and not in the context of why you would have an
Independent Redistricting Commission. Compliance with
the Voting Rights Act is required whether you're a
Commission, or whoever is doing the redistricting. And,
you know, an Independent Redistricting Commission, you
know, to achieve better compliance with the Voting Rights
Act, again that's helpful, but it's not something that
is -- well let me try it again. I'm sorry I'm not being
clear. It should be put in the context of compliance
with the Voting Rights Act and not why it is that we want
an Independent Commission.

So I would be happy to maybe submit in writing some
suggested revisions, if that would help, but I did want
to make these points and I want to find out if there's
any questions.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you, Ms. Gold, for your
comment. We appreciate your input, as always. If you
would like to submit that in writing, we would appreciate
it, but again, thank you for your comment. It will be
taken into consideration.

MS. GOLD. Thank you so much.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Any other comments, Kristian?
PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes. As a reminder to our callers, if you would like to make a comment, please press star 9 to raise your hand.

And we do have a caller in the queue. Just a moment.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Thank you.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Just a moment, Chair. As a reminder if the caller could please press star six to unmute themselves. And caller, if you'd like to give your name, please state and sell it for the record.

MS. WESTA-LUSK: Yes. 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 comment has to do with slide number 14, the sixth line drawing criteria by order. I have trouble with putting community of interest at number 4. It is located in the bottom half of the six criteria, so that means it's less important than the top three have in drawing the lines, but yet most of the Commission's work is going to heavily involve communities of interest. And I think it should be moved to number 3 and put contiguous at number 4. I just think the meaning communities of interest to number 4 means well, maybe they're really not that important and then people might get the idea well, maybe it's not so important. It's the fourth criteria in
which the districts are drawn.

It -- it just for all the efforts and the work the Commission's going to be putting in to get public input and communities of interest represented, I don't think it's fair that it's number 4, and that's my comment.

Thank you.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you for your comment, Ms. Westa-Lusk. Appreciate it. Some of our requirements are outlined in legislation.

Commissioner Sadhwani.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I was just going to say that. That that is the order that it appears in the -- in California State law and so that is the reason for it being in that order. That being said, I think it's important to note that communities of interest are the most difficult type of data to capture and why we spend so much time on it. So while it is the fourth criteria, and I think it's appropriate for it to stay in the order as written in law, we will spend so much time because it is so difficult to capture and it is so important.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

MS. WESTA-LUSK: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you Commissioner Sadhwani for your response. Thank you for your call.

CHAIR TAYLOR: And Kristian, I don't see anyone else
in the queue.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: That's correct. There's no further callers at this time.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you, so we will conclude public comment.

Any other questions or comments from the Commissioners?

That being the case -- Commissioner Andersen, quickly please.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah, just because this -- for this last public comment, items that -- this is the criteria, this is the order in the law, one through six, but one and two are federal issues. Three, five, and six are kind of the easy ones, contiguous. You know for us, it's all one piece. Four is -- it's not lesser because it's number 4. It's the first and huge group, like Commissioner Sadhwani just said, first meaning that we're doing all our work with that is strictly California. I mean it's all local, but this is us and what we really have -- the bulk of what we're dealing with. Three, five, and six are kind of easier ones to describe and one and two are -- it's not lesser. I don't want her to think that that's a lesser issue and that oh all these others take so much time. It is huge. It's just a quick order thing. So I don't know if that helps, if it helps
any of the public.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Andersen, thank you for your comments.

Any other questions or comments? All right

Then that will conclude Agenda Item 9H, the Data Development Subcommittee. That will also conclude all of our subcommittee reports.

We have Agenda Item 13, after break, 11:15, Environmental Infrastructure panel. So then we will take our mandatory break right now and Commissioners, please return at 11:13. Yes, I said, 11:13. Thank you.

(Whereupon, a recess was held from 10:58 a.m. until 11:14 a.m.)

CHAIR TAYLOR: Good morning. It is 11:14 a.m., February 9th, day 2 of the meeting of the California Citizens Redistricting Commission.

At this time, we're going to move to agenda item 13, our Environmental Infrastructure Panel. And I'll turn over the floor to Commissioners Fornaciari and Sinay.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Well, welcome. This is the next in a series of panels, informative panels for -- for the Commission. Today we have a couple of speakers who are focusing on infrastructure environment in this panel. And as Commissioner Sinay mentioned yesterday, we -- we had change in plans with our transportation
organization was going to come speak with us, so we are
going to revisit transportation at a later time. But in
this -- so we have -- we're going to discuss water issues
and environment issues and we have Caitrin Chappelle and
Samuel Sukaton.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I'm sorry, Samuel, I
should've checked.

MR. SUKATON: Sukaton.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Sukaton.

MR. SUKATON: Sukaton. Yes, Sir.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Sukaton. Yes.

So Caitrin is Associate Director at PPIC Water
Policy Center, where she manages Research and Operations
and Research Fellow at the Public Policy Institute of
California. Her own research focuses on natural resource
management and California water policy. She's coauthored
work on the state-wide draught, funding apps in water
management, and multiple eco-system stressors in the
Sacramento San Joaquin Delta. Previously she worked for
the U.S. Geological Survey. She holds an MPP from the
Goldman School of Public Policy at the University of
California, Berkeley. And a BS in ecology from Cal Poly
San Louis Obispo.

Samuel is the Redistricting Coordinator for the
California League of Conservation Voters and the CLCB
Education Fund. The CLCB believes that clean air and water, and healthy people depend on a clean government and a healthy democracy. I really got to say I like that, that is pretty interesting. I like that. And Samuel organizes CLCB's work before the California Citizen's Redistricting Commission, and county and municipal bodies. He worked previously at Pico -- at the Pico California Action Fund and Woman Empowerment and with Senator Bernie Sanders. He was raised in San Bernardino, based in Los Angeles, and has a BA in history from UCLA.

So I want to welcome our two presenters. We didn't -- I don't think we decided who would go first. How about Caitrin.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: We said Samuel would go first because he has the big picture.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Oh.

MS. CHAPPELLE: And then we'd go into water.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. Sorry. I forgot.

Okay, Samuel.

MR. SUKATON: Commissioner, let me just make sure -- I got it right too, Commissioner Fornaciari, thank you so much for that kind introduction. Commissioner Sinay, Vasquez, thank you for -- thank you for bringing me to this space. It's an honor to present before the
Commission. And you know, CLCB's really proud that we're
I think the environmental organization with the longest
track record before the Commission. We actually
presented with the 2011 process and we're glad to be
engaging with you again.

I do want to check, I can't see if my slides are up.
Do you want me to present them from mine? From my
laptop?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Go ahead. Yeah. Go ahead
and use yours.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Go ahead and share your
screen.

MR. SUKATON: Understood. Thank you. Make sure I
have that right. There we go.

Just want to get a check from the Commission once
this is -- it should be sharing now. Can you see it yet?
No.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Not yet.

MR. SUKATON: Perfect. Should be sharing right
about now. Okay.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes.

MR. SUKATON: Want to make sure everyone can see.
Perfect. Thank you.

You know, just a quick introduction. My name's Sam
Sukaton. My pronouns are he and him. I've been with
the -- been with the League of Conservation Voters for, God, October. So this will be my fourth month. Very excited. Again, I've spoken before the -- I've called in before and I want to thank the Commission for their attention to this issue.

Just a quick agenda because I am the Lorax and I speak for the trees, the Joshua tree. Just, you may be wondering why we're taking part in this, so a quick explanation of that. Kind of broader thinking about the environment and COIs. Some examples of kind of what the Commission did last time and questions to consider. For those of you who are on staff or with the Commission, and those who are listening in, just a caveat auditor, this will not be comprehensive. To use the old Chinese poet, I am not the moon. I am not even a finger pointing at a moon. I am the finger pointing out of an observatory, so we all go to the telescope and look at the moon together.

California has a rich environmental justice public lands conservation history going back to beyond John Muir. People talk about John Muir and the Sierra Club but even native peoples in this lands have been -- there's a long and rich history of that. And I don't want to suggest that I am -- this is at all comprehensive. It is an introduction to an introduction and you're going to be hearing from these folks as the
process goes on.

To make sure that we know that there is other time, for this process, to talk about specific lines moving forward. So we're not advocating specific lines right now. Though you'll probably be hearing from me as the year goes on and I am going to be using examples from the 2011 process. You can see I use an example of that in one of the pictures. We'll be looking back at 2011 maps pretty frequently. With that in mind, let's proceed.

As I said, you may wonder why is an environmental group doing this work. I'll quote Heather McGhee for the most kind of in quality and climate change are the twin challenges of our time. And as Commissioner Fornaciari mentioned, you know, we don't believe in clean air and clean water without clean politics. We don't believe in a healthy democracy without healthy people. And so expanding the franchise, expanding public participation, civic engagement, is not -- we don't just do this because it's necessary for -- to deal with the climate crisis but because this is -- this is generally healthy. Like we want a planet, an environment in which people live, work, and play, and a whole people. Which means for us, racial justice, access to -- access to civil society, and expanding civil society. So that's why we're supporting in transit, like particularly here in California we took
part in the CRC selection process. We've been present since, I believe April, commenting regularly and then specifically, operating in our wheelhouse. Talking about environmental conservation of public space.

And as other people that have presented we're very happy to be supporting the Commission in any way necessary as a thought partner, as a resource, and as introductions for environmental justice and public lands advocates across our state. I do want to note as part of that -- actually no. I'm getting ahead of myself about geographic location.

So that's why we're doing -- that's why an environmental group's here and because we're Californians, there may be an understanding of what constitutes environment. Like people think of beaches, people think of the desert, people think of public lands. Yes. Absolutely. But there's an old environmental justice slogan that the environment is wherever we live, work, and play, right.

And with that in mind, environmental justice, public lands, conservation, these aren't COIs because we know, under the state constitution, COIs are compact. COIs are contiguous. This is a statewide frame. Think of me as an optician asking, you know, can you see better through number 1 or number 2. You are in the environment right
now, in your room, listening to me. Like you are in the environment. That said, we can divide kind of how we engage with the environment with natural and human built features. They create, they divide, they define communities of interest.

I think the most important thing is that people know and are actively learning their communities right now. Like our environmental justice organizations, people who are doing trail maintenance, people who are doing fire prevention, like this knowledge lives and is like increasing in an iterative way. So you will hear more about this from me. You will hear more about this -- I know this Commission has emphasized individual testimony, individual experience. We have a lot of that. We are very practiced at that and you are going to hear form people that are oriented towards the environment. Towards lands, towards conservation, towards habitats, and towards environmental justice throughout this process. And we're very glad to make introductions if those folks are looking for you or if you're looking for those people.

And another piece. So a lot of people juxtapose environment and urban. I don't think it's useful. City dwellers use green space, use public space. I live in Korea town where we have no parks. So I am very much on
the other side of varying degrees of success. That is also -- like access to green space is also kind of a unifying or defining feature. Rural communities, cities close to big national parks, forests, monuments, they travel. I was talking to somebody in Mono Lake last week. They shop in Fresno. If it's snowed out, they shop in Carson City. Major urban centers are connected to these places. I grew up in San Bernardino. Grew up going out to Joshua Tree. So the idea that there is a clear split, I would suggest that there is more that unites us around these things than divides us.

With those kind of like glasses on, let's move forward.

I wanted to put this up for the -- I know the Commission's edification and for folks who are looking. When I say communities of interest, I'm using Section 2(d)(4) of Article XXI of the Constitution with important parts blued. Contiguous populations, common social economic interests, and common areas where people share living standards, transportation facilities, work opportunities for the same media of communication elements in the process. So when I'm saying COI and how the environment's not one, there are many COIs that are caught up in an environmental and environmental justice frame.
I'm just going to leave that up for a second if folks want to take that down or a screen shot. I know the Commission is very familiar with this at this point but I want to just flag that for our viewers as well.

So again, you can divide, kind of thinking about the environment spatially. Naturally features and man-made features. So natural spaces. We know that geography creates communities. I live in the South Coast Air District, which is informed by the South Coast air basin and the inland valley, right. Those are natural features that happen to catch air pollution and that unite all of L.A. County, all of Orange County, and large parts of San Bernardino, and Riverside. Right. Especially here in California, kind of pre-industrial capacity to cross landscapes; your deserts, your mountains, and form similar patterns. One thinks of gold country. The inland valley versus the high desert and the Cajon Pass that divides them.

Economic, racial, and historical political boundaries are informed by natural features because here in California, our settlement's been informed by what lands been desirable, what's not. Going all the way back to the gold rush. Marriage in ranchos, like again, I use San Bernardino and L.A. as my reference because that's where I grew up. Like these places kind of still live in
our terminology. Rancho Cucamonga, right. Rancho Cordova. And then as we get closer into cities we know that redlining land use and land and air features create compounding health impacts that also define communities. And we'll go into that as we actually move forward.

So natural spaces, whether they are federally protected public lands or just the untouched, or unconsidered natural land itself, create, define, and divide communities of interest. Here are some examples.

From the 2011 process you'll notice that the entire Central Coast from the North Coast, from the Oregon border down to Marin. You can see in those top three maps the Assembly, Senate, and Congressional districts are almost identical, only varying at the bottom end, because the North Coast defines that community, right. Both as a federally protected habitat and just as the major economic feature of the region. So you'll see those counties that are united all the way down to the San Francisco Bay.

Very similarly in 2011, Assembly Districts 36 and 37, Senate District 17 and 19, and then the 24th Congressional District. So that's the Central Coast from about Ventura and encompassing up to Santa Cruz and San Luis Obispo. I also want to note those also, specific -- we had to take a look at those early, around -- some
coastal districts had be drawn -- redrawn early around Article 5 of the VRA preclearance. Shelby v. Holder means that we may be able to look at those on a different timeline, but want to recognize again here, the Central Coast kind of articulates a very clear community of interest in that people who are living nearby, people who are dependent on tourism, dependent on agriculture in this area. So even economic kind of communities of interest kind of overlay and the existing kind of natural feature that is the Central Coast on these.

I put a question mark there by the word "compact" because I know that there's a conversation about like what constitutes compact. I mean Oregon to Marin is not -- might not initially be seen as compact, but again, like the overriding feature here is an economic and environmental community of interest defined by the North Coast.

So flagging that as your beginning to kind of consider your process, this is something that has been done, may be done again. But again, I'm not here to prescribe lines, I'm here to offer questions.

Moving forward. Built spaces. Two things come to mind immediately. Pollution sources and refineries. As an example, so the -- these three Assembly Districts; 70, 66, and 15 are defined in large part by major pollution
sources. So 70 and 66 are also Coastal Districts. But also, both Long Beach and Torrance, not only have a long history of petroleum -- in the petroleum industry, but the petroleum industry's affects. These are communities that are -- that have refineries in their cities. And particularly the last one, AD 15, the large Chevron refinery, defines the economic and environmental life of the City of Richmond. So you'll see in that second map. So D 15 you have Berkeley, you've got El Cerrito, but the largest single city by size there is Richmond.

Transportation Corridors. I was sorry to hear that our transportation partners couldn't join us because we're familiar already with how districts can be defined by already existing highways. So District 40 where I grew up, and 47 next door, those two lines, 47 is partially outlined by the I-15 and the I-215. I-215 has historically divided the City of San Bernardino into west and east. The west side is generally drawn in with Congressional, Assembly, and Senate districts that are dominated by Fontana and Ontario. And the eastern side, as you can see, all of Highland, all of Redlands and Loma Linda, and then big portions of the San Bernardino mountains and Rancho Cucamonga are drawn in with San Bernardino east of the 215.

So 215 historically has divided the City of San
Bernardino, but I-15 can unite the High Desert and the Inland Valley. Folks that live in Victorville, Adelanto, Hesperia will go down the hill for work. Or have family in Fontana, have family in San Bernardino and Rancho. So I-15 not only acts as a barrier in Salinas, but as a bridge.

And then you'll see more about California 8, which I think is the single largest non at-large Congressional District in the 48. Where I-15 and I-395 are two of the major built features in California 8, which runs from Highland in the south to Mono Lake in the north.

Continuing to built spaces, like a very specific example. I remember in December you were mentioning, the Commission was talking about outreach regions in Long Beach to be included into Orange County and I had to call in about that. Because I-710 and the Port of Long Beach are defined by -- so 40 percent of American trade comes in through the ports and that is put on trucks, put on trains and then goes up the 710, goes out into the world. So this is very much like America's closet. And this District, defined by the port, defined by the 710, has no overlap, almost no overlap of Orange County at all. I had to call in about that, but because this community is defined by the last Commission, that was a really clear economic and transportation and environmental feature.
And I'll lay this down to start, that we firmly believe that an environmental, environmental justice, and public lands COI will overlap substantially. Not exactly and not neatly, but substantially with a number of the other factors that the Commission's already considering. Because again, if you'll see this map, so you've Long Beach, you've got East Long Beach, and you're going up into the Southeast. So the 710 articulates a community that's historically disenfranchised. High Latino population, high monolingual Spanish population, really similar economically as well. So we do feel that this isn't one community of interest that's another set of lenses as you're considering the entire state. And we do, again, feel that it's going to overlap substantially with a number of the other factors that the Commission's called to consider.

I've already intimated a bit about how built and natural features interact. I want to use Assembly District 56 as an example. So the Salton Sea overlaps Imperial and Riverside Counties. But this district's defined by the Imperial and Coachella Valleys, which because of their topographical nature, are deeply affected by the air pollution from the Salton Sea, right. So you have a natural feature, the Salton Sea; man made features, kind of the drying up of the Salton Sea; and
another natural feature, the valleys themselves, which
again, are articulating and overlapping substantially
with a historically Latino and historically agricultural
community of interest, right.

You could draw this district in a number of ways.
So like the Congressional District only includes
Riverside. And then Imperial's drawn in with I think 52,
Vargas. But there is a case to be made here, that
there's an environmental, again, that there's an
environmental community of interest, and a public lands
community of interest that overlaps substantially with
historically disenfranchised community and economic
community. Moving on.

Continuing to how these interact. I'll use a couple
210 examples, specifically around public lands, right.
So the Angeles National Forest. If you can see in
District 27, there are a number of communities that are
tied to it through active use. So you've got folks in
Glendora, in Upland, in Pasadena, that their economies,
the lives of those communities are very tied to the
Angeles National Forest. So we have those drawn
together. There's a number of other communities it
touches. So you can see CD 8 there, but down in the
south -- down in the southeast you've got 31, in the west
you've got 28. So these -- but all of these communities
are tied to this public land who use and rely on it.

Another bigger example is what I like to call the National Parks District. As if California could only have one. Again, California 8 overlaps in the North, the Mono Lake, and the Eastern Sierra and the Inyo National Forest. In the south, the Desert National Monuments, Joshua National Park, Death Valley. So CD 8 has, despite again, like I drew of it once, it was I think it was about a day and a night. This community encompassing all of these counties also encompasses communities that are dependent on tourism from Mono Lake, right, active recreation in the Eastern Sierra, visiting Joshua Tree National Park in Death Valley. So you have, with a public land designation, not only an environmental feature, but an economic one.

And again, going back to the question of compact and contiguous, I think people would generally say that Victorville and Mono Lake are contiguous only in a very attenuated way, but again, feeling that the last Commission felt that that might be -- that uniting these broader national parks and national recreation areas, felt -- that they felt that it would articulate a community of interest.

It is up to this Commission to decide whether this still works because as population changes, as recreation
changes, and as communities' views of themselves change,
these districts may be the same, they may be different.
We still don't have the Census data as we often discuss
in these meetings. But again, want to just emphasize,
this is some of the thinking that has gone on prior to
this Commission sitting.

Moving forward, and I mentioned this, I kind of
spoiled, I jumped the gun on myself, we have
environmental public lands and environmental justice.
That frame will create COIs that overlap. Not exactly,
not neatly, but very substantially with other COIs
articulated around historically hard to reach and
historically hard to count populations.

Again I'll emphasize, and I have the Carson refinery
here, that environmental justice communities build and
hold deep knowledge of their own communities. Like you
shouldn't hear about Richmond from me, you should hear
about it from the Asian Pacific Environmental Network.
You're not going to hear about warehouse country in San
Bernardino from me, you're going to hear about it from
the People's Collective for Environmental Justice in the
CCAJ. San Diego's Lagune, San Diego's Coast,
Environmental Health Coalition and Agua Hedionda
Foundation are going to have really substantive
conversations with you about that.
I do want to note, and I know that the Commission's doing very good work in splitting up the state and getting Commissioners to multiple places. Many public lands and EJ communities currently lack representation on this body. So as a San Bernardino person I recognize our Commissioner Kennedy and Morongo Basin, but the Eastern Sierra, the Shasta Cascades and Gold Country don't currently have representation on the CRC and I know that the CRC's going to everything that they can to make sure that having those conversations with folks in those regions as well as the North Coast. And we're very glad to support you in that.

Some of the natural features here, some of the pictures, you can see Mono Lake, Death Valley, the North Coast, the Carson Refinery. And I wanted to use that last picture, so bottom right, that's the L.A. Cornfields Park near historic China Town. It's beautiful. You can have the gold line goes over it, you can walk around with your dog. I use it because it's an example of enormous ambition and not enough public input. China Town's a young community. A lot of kids play basketball at the Alpine Rec Center. The Cornfield doesn't have -- it's exclusively passive use. You can walk your dog there, you can walk around, you can do exercise, like you can run, but there's no equipment. No sports fields. And so
I wanted to emphasize that in that this Commission, and the process itself in California, Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission is the height, is incredibly ambitious. And it's going to work when you trust people and ask for questions -- and ask questions from people that live directly next to their own -- directly next to the issues. People know their own neighborhoods and I want to commend this Commission on their emphasis on individual and grass roots testimony and will encourage that going forward.

And I do believe that is my time and leave some space for questions afterwards, but I want to yield the remainder to Caitrin and her expertise on water.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Thanks, Samuel. Well done. Appreciate it.

MS. CHAPPELLE: Hi everyone. My name is Caitrin Chappelle. I'm the Associate Director of the Water Policy Center at PPIC. PPIC is the Public Policy Institute of California. We're an independent nonpartisan research think tank that works on a range of California Water issues. So I am not here at all in any capacity as somebody who knows a lot about redistricting or anything, or plan to make any recommendations on the job that you guys have to do. Instead, I am here as a resource on a specific topic that is very big, which is
California water.

So I forwarded a couple of materials that I hope you all got that just gave an overview of California Water issues. And I don't have a presentation. Instead I was just going to talk for a few minutes on kind of the water system in California and how it impacts Californians and then hopefully be able to answer any of your questions that you need to have in mind when it comes to California water. And if I can't answer them, maybe get somebody who can for you in the future or recommend some organizations that you might want to work with on these issues.

I at first really had a hard time thinking about how my work intersected with the big effort you all have ahead of you as the Redistricting Commission. But after thinking about it, putting on my thinking cap I came up with a few things that I thought might be helpful to talk about.

And the first one kind of really builds on Samuels presentation on, you know, how do we interact with our natural environment. And so I'm just going to lay out how Californians interact with the water system and talk about who is at play there. And maybe then build on that to talk a little bit about some of the challenges and tensions that we face in the water sector in providing...
safe and affordable drinking water for all Californians
and also protecting our natural resources.

So first and foremost, you know, when I'm going to
talk about California water, I'm talking about the water
that we all drink, the water that we waste, the water
that we see in our rivers and in our streams, but also
the water we try to control. So flood management, storm
water, all of those things. So California water is a
very big issue, and I don't think I can cover it
succinctly in five to ten minutes, but I'll try to give a
little bit.

I also want to just talk a little bit about how
their sheer number of water systems and water agencies
that exist in California to do things like water supply,
management, wastewater management, flood management,
storm water management, are in the thousands. We're
talking about thousands of local cities, counties, and
special districts that work on these issues.

So the boundaries of these local entities vary from
one service area to another. And I really think it would
be quite actually possible to align any electoral
districts directly with some of the services -- service
areas, but I think it's important to keep in mind that
any Californian sitting in, you know, standing where they
are, interacts with some of -- with these agencies in a
lot of different ways.

So everyone, you know, if they are in a home, they're interacting with the water supply agency to get water to drink and to use and to cook with. They have either the same agency or a different one who does their sewer and their wastewater. If they're in a flood zone they also might have another agency or their county working on protecting their homes from floods. If they are in most built environments, in urban areas, there's also people who work on storm water, which is where they capture to either clean or reuse the water that's rolling off of our streets to use for other reasons. And that is all just on the water on how humans are interacting with water.

The other way that we think about California water is through our natural environment. So we have, in California, hundreds and thousands of rivers and streams that are in various levels of protection and restoration. And so all of our water supply agencies and wastewater agencies interact with those natural -- the natural ecosystem as well. And there are some special agencies and districts that are responsible for managing those ecosystems. And then we of course, you know, have statewide agencies that do the same thing.

So when I think about California water issues and
like what it means for the Redistricting Commission, I wanted to highlight that there are a few things to keep in mind. One is the issue of safe and affordable drinking water. So not all Californians have access to safe and affordable drinking water. There are Californians from around this state, but mainly in rural areas where reliable water supplies are not available, either because of long term contamination of their water supplies, usually ground water. They're relying on wells that have contaminated the water. Or because they have not been able to keep up with the expenses to maintain their systems to keep their water safe to drink. So we've got hundreds of water systems. My last count, the last time did the data, ran the data was around 250 systems in California that currently, it's unsafe to drink and use the water.

The other thing is water affordability. So the issue of being able to afford your water bill, is something that's become more and more apparent over the last ten years or so but became really obvious last year during the pandemic when there was actually a statewide moratorium on water shutoffs so that folks would not have their water turned off due to unemployment or lack of income during the pandemic. That moratorium is still in place and because of that there's a lot of conversations...
around this data about how we want to move forward from here to make sure that people have access to water when they need it. But they also, to encourage bill payment from people who can afford it because water agencies rely almost entirely on rates in order to, you know, pay for their infrastructure.

And then the other thing I just want to flag as might be important to think about for this Commission is back to the issue of kind of the water that we try to control or manage with flood management.

Another issue on the minds of anyone working with California water issues is climate change, of course. And some of the ways that climate change interacts with our water system is through floods, but also draughts, and thirdly wildfires. So a lot of California's water supply actually comes from our head water forests and they're being significantly impacted by larger and more severe wildfires.

And so lastly, let me just look at my notes because I've been talking without looking at them. Lastly I just want to flag that, back to this idea that there are lots of agencies that are, you know, tackling water issues, small to large agencies. They vary significantly in size. They also vary significantly in their resources and in their governance structures and their ability to
affect change for the communities that rely on them.

So we've got larger urban water systems that have a huge rate base, and their rate base consists of Californians who are able to afford rate increases in order to make investments into their systems, but there are other systems that don't have that same rate base and aren't able to make the same investments, which has led to inequities around the state on the systems that people rely on to deliver their water.

But also to prepare for climate change, one specific example to flag, building on some of the things that Samuel brought up is the, you know, the communities that live around San Francisco Bay have been able to come together in various capacities, including passing raising local funding to start investing in adapting to sea level rise. Mainly because that was something that as a community they agreed on being able to afford. Whereas there's communities up and down the state of California that that's not something that they necessarily might be able to do.

So that's just the last point I wanted to bring up which is just financing and the role that, you know, our political boundaries play in being able to raise local funds but also get funding from the state and federal government has a huge impact on the water system.
And that's all I wanted to say. It was a lot, and it was fast, but I mainly just wanted to be here to answer any questions that folks might have about California water so I can pause.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Great. Thank you. Thank you so much, both of you for joining us and we'll turn it over to the Commission for questions. Chair Taylor, do you want to handle the questions, or would you like me to do it?

CHAIR TAYLOR: I'll take it.

Any questions or comments from the Commissioners?

Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I've had longer time to think a little bit about this as we were trying to think through what are the intersection between environment and water. And I appreciated, Samuel what you said is, we need to ask the question because I kept thinking well, how will we know when communities are united or when they're divided by the built or the natural environment. And you showed us examples of both on being united and divided. And then you answered it by saying well you've got to ask the questions. Are there questions that we should be asking that we might not be asking. You know, what would be some of the questions around environment and water to make sure that, you know, we're hearing from the
communities that we should be on these issues?

MR. SUKATON: I appreciate it. Again, I don't think any of my answers are comprehensive. And I think one of them that I would -- I would suggest would be like asking for the natural boundaries of the community, right. Like I use the I-15. I have to use the I-15 because the 215 is very clearly in San Bernardino like west side, east side. Like west side is things on the other side of -- of the freeway.

I would say on the one hand, the yes, no. Like does 15, does 10, does the 710 divide your community. And then the open-ended question so like where does your -- where does your neighborhood end. Where does your city end. Like where do you go and not go. Sometimes the line is very clear. Like when I was working on a campaign we talked about the Coachella Valley, and I was like, people say the Coachella Valley, the East Valley. I was like, where does the East Valley start. And somebody said very bluntly, Jackson Street. Jackson Street in Inyo. That's the line.

Sometimes the line is not right. I think when -- in the aggregate, I think it will be. You're going to hear folks say no. Like for me, my neighborhood growing up in San Bernardino, ended at the 210. I live north of 210. I would walk as far -- like I was on 46th Street, I'd
walked as far as 30th. Because 30th is kind of the on ramp. Mostly just because walking past 210 is just too far in a day. I just got exhausted. And I'd go north. So my community's Cal State University, the neighborhoods around there and like the bottom of my world would be 210, right. If you asked a bunch of other people in San Bernardino, they might say it's -- they might say it's 40th Street. Major economic engine. They live between 48th -- they live -- they live near Parkside Elementary between 40th and 210.

That varies. I also walk really far. Like, you know, I'll walk five miles in the morning. And so the more times you ask that question, I think, where does your community begin and where does your community end, and then just the yes, no. Like, is 210 a walk line for you. I was like no, I go past the 210 all the time. Is 710 a line for you? No, no, I cross 710 all the time.

I think transportation will open this up a bit more because somebody who bikes, versus somebody who drives, versus somebody who walks, I think is going to have a very -- or those folks can have very different answers because somebody who walks underneath a freeway to get to school, or walks across train tracks to get to school, is going to have a very different answer than me, who I didn't have to, right. Like I didn't have to walk. I
didn't have to cross 210 to get to school.

And so that question, I think. Asking were folks --
what people have to cross to go shopping. What people --
what do people have to cross to go -- to go to school.
What do people have to cross to grab water. To Caitrin's
point about, like a lot of folks just don't have access
to clean water or have to go far distances for it. What
are the major challenges to get resources, spatially.

What's your commute look like, I think, are also
questions. I would love actually -- I'm going to sit in
once you reschedule transportation because I think those
are like, particularly as commuters as Californians, like
where do you have to go, how long does it take, and what
are the difficulties because sometimes a commute is
uniting. People talk about the Inland Empire like
they're bedroom communities. Or the East Bay, in that
instance. So like folks who lived in San Francisco got
pushed out to Oakland, got pushed out to Hayward, but
they still work in the City. People who lived in Los
Angeles, and then lived in Santa Clarita, and then now
live in Palmdale, but still commute into the city. So
kind of questions about commute. Walk us through a day.
Where do you go. Where are the pain points. What makes
sense.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Caitlin, do you -- I'm sorry,
Caitrin, do you have anything to add?

MS. CHAPPELLE: I think I would just add that when comes to, especially for utilities, water supply, wastewater, flood management, they actually pride themselves on people not knowing much about them. Like they think they're doing their job right if they don't get a lot of press, right. So I think pain points around water issues is a really good question to ask. Are you interacting with your utility a lot. If so why. Are you getting the help you need, the resources you need. If not, why. That'll get to kind of, you know, the boundaries of these service areas that may be working and may not be.

One of the really big things to kind of consider that, you know, wouldn't be a direct -- necessarily a direct result of redistricting, but it's something that's on the mind of a lot of a lot of people who work in California wateries, should there be so many tiny systems. Should we start thinking about combining some of these into larger service areas to provide better services to some of the smaller communities. And there are pluses and minuses to that conversation, but you often find the smaller systems, the ones having the better issues. So you may find that three small systems all really close together, for example, may have the same
problems if you are talking to communities kind of in the same region.

So I think that usually when it comes to water, the people who are interacting with the utilities a lot are not the ones who are, I think with most things, you know, you're not interacting with somebody who -- or with a agency if you feel like they're doing a great job. So usually I would just ask about pain points with that.

And then lastly you know, I think another thing is, this is just a pet peeve question, but some people have a really close connection to where there water supply comes from and some people don't, and some communities don't. That's a result of, to my initial point, of water utilities kind of sometimes keep that to themselves. It's not public knowledge. And usually they have a really closer connection to their water source if a, it's polluted or b, they are really protecting it for, you know, either their own recreational use or, in the case of some Californians and especially in -- for tribal communities, because of a strong connection to it for cultural and community reasons.

So I think those are some good questions to ask.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Commissioner Andersen.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you both for this
really good presentation. And what's really nice about, first the subcommittee, thank you. What you're bringing forth is something very different from -- we've all been looking at very specific localized communities that have also -- clear across the state, but you're looking at larger issues which are across different zones. And it's a whole different perspective. So I essentially have two questions.

One is, tips to get -- when we go into our communities, to say what is your community. Some questions about how do we get people to think about outside of their immediate one, but recognize in their same neighborhood, that there are these larger areas. So that's a question. How would you propose we might do that.

And then two is really specific. You know the water communities, is there a -- can you give us essentially a breakdown of what communities are where? We sort of divided up the state in essentially zones. And if each of our zones knew hey, you know, you are dealing with, particularly I know in the Inland Valley, this -- that's where most of the little, tiny, small communities of water are. Where, you know, the Owens -- the Owens Valley, et cetera. That's one great thing, sort of, funnel.
So if you could have that list that could -- you could send us -- to the Commission, that would be extremely helpful. Or other sort of ideas. If you have, you know, this is an area in each of the different zones in our state that you could help us with, so.

MS. CHAPPELLE: I'll jump in and then I'll let Samuel.

On that second question, it would, I mean, there are like 400 water agencies across the entire state, and that's just the ones that serve more than 300 customers. Once we go under 300 customers, we're talking thousands of systems. Either very small systems or people who just rely on wells. So I couldn't give you a list of systems by zone. What I could do if somebody follow-upped with me on zones and questions, I could give a sense of like this is an area that these are the challenges related to water in those areas that I could kind of come up with. I could definitely do a little work on that. Especially because, like you mentioned, there are some regions of the State where small water systems are more prevalent, or more likely to have contaminant issues. And then there are other regions in the State, for example, the North Coast, there are smaller water systems up there, but the bigger issue up there is really related to the interaction between the water and the rivers up there.
There's a lot going on with dam removal and things like that.

So if I got the zones, I think I could do a little. These are some good things to keep in mind on water for those zones. So if, Patricia, I don't know if someone wants to follow-up with me I can put that on my to-do list.

And then to your second question about tips about, you know, what to ask these communities. I, you know -- you know, besides the pain point question, I would just, you know, think about asking them, you know, what do they consider, you know. So I'm thinking about like big disaster stuff. Because that's a lot of -- like floods, and fires, and climate change, and sea level rise, and stuff like that. And that's where sometimes a single person -- when do they see their neighbors impacted by some of these natural disaster issues. Even if they're not personally. Even if, for example, where I live in the East Bay, I was not personally impacted by any of the wildfires myself, with my home, but obviously my neighborhood -- neighbors and I were with power outages and things like that. So when are they seeing themselves or their neighbors impacted by some of these -- these bigger national disaster issues.

And that could give you a sense of kind of where --
where they're defining their community when it comes to water, especially beyond just their own tap, you know, when they're thinking broadly. Unfortunately, I don't think a lot of us are good about thinking about water issues beyond our own tap, so that is something that I think conversations like this help to illuminate. But the -- that's a -- that's just a quick thought.

I mean if you even asked people if they knew where their water came from, most of the time the answer is no, so.

MR. SUKATON: Caitrin answered those questions much better than I could've, but I also, very similarly around water, we're doing something around major environmental features. So like EnviroScreen sheds as well. And definitely glad to provide that once we have a bit more data in there.

Around the questions, around -- to your first question. I think, like I said, I use the old slogan, like it's everywhere we live, work, and play. So I think the questions, like the questions you're asking on that are like, where do you live. Like where do you live and not live. Like what are your limits to that. Where do work and not work. Like what are your limits for that. And then where do you play and not play.

Like to concretize this, my sister lives in the
Banning Pass. Actually, she lives in Banning. And so Liv is very clear, like the boundaries of her world around Liv are Banning, Beaumont, very possibly have San Jacinto. Work. My brother-in-law's a construction worker and so his world goes from Orange County to Brawley. And then play, you know, they'll have mom up. Before the pandemic, mom would come over and they'd all go to Morongo together. And so kind of like thinking about the questions about like walk me through your life, walk me through your work, and walk me through kind of what you do when you're not working. And ask that in a number of different ways to kind of start to inform okay, people in Banning, like this is their -- these are the borders of kind of what they think of their community and then what's a long trip. And I think the what's a long trip is a useful one, in addition to disaster. Like who's touched by fire or when you're out of town, or when you're, like for me, when the last fire happened. The big one in 2000 I think '02, '03. San Bernardino is definitely my community. I had to evacuate. My grandmother's in Grand Terrace. And so for me, Grand Terrace, Colton, is a little more distant because it's far enough away from the mountains. Like okay, the natural disaster, the fire, won't affect me there. And so I think that question like, where do you
go when a disaster happens. Like how do you react spatially. When you're leaving your -- when you're leaving your world when things are difficult. Like what constitutes a long trip. What constitutes a far trip. What constitutes stepping away from your home and like, I think, the old saying, you don't know what you've got till it's gone. Like when people think about that, like when something's wrong, where do I go. That very clearly defines that's not home. Like when I have to leave home and then defining yourself in opposition to it.

So those questions. Like where do you live, work, and play. And when things go wrong, where do you go. Where do you leave.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you very much for your answers. Any other questions or comments from Commissioners? Commissioner Yee, then Commissioner Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER YEE: Thank you. Thank you to our presenters.

I think I'd like to hear a little bit more about how to weight competing interests. You know, where thinking about the environment is kind of as it is, but of course it's always changing. And the classic example, I suppose, is development, right. It changes the environment in ways that are often -- involve competing interests, and so, you know, how to think about that.
And how to receive input from those competing interests and weigh them. I mean where do you see the role of the Commission? You know we're not here to adjudicate those competing interests, but we do end up drawing lines that may affect them in different ways, so how to weigh those.

MR. SUKATON: That's a -- that's a broad question, Commissioner Yee. I think my immediate answer would be like what are those interests. I think you weigh that question with a question. I can only speak for -- to return to the question, I think -- I think 710 is a really interesting -- offers some interesting light to answer that question in that logistics development has definitely been one of the great drivers of the last 20 years in Southern California, right. It's like this transition to kind of being America's closet for e-commerce and then -- and broader global trade. I think in that instance, development. That is, we've got the ports. We've got trucking. That's an interest. You've got environmental justice communities who are dealing with health and welfare and increases in air pollution along 710. That's an interest. I don't -- and while those interests are very often conflicting, I think that they both -- there was an understanding that that conflict, their conflict, their work in general was driven by the 710 itself, right. And so the Commission
there didn't adjudicate. There's no -- there's no
decision there about who's right and who's wrong, but
they did articulate like listen, like all of these
interests are specifically oriented around this spatial
feature, which -- and this spatial feature thereby,
probably needs to be very closely, like considered.

And so obviously there's not a 710 Congressional
District, and there's not a 710 Assembly District. So
you've got AD 70, you've got AD 63, and I think that runs
up the 53 in Huntington Park. But, very specifically,
they recognized that the 710 articulates a number of
communities of interest, whether -- regardless of what
the Commission's decision on that -- on what those -- on
the validity of those interests. On how you feel about
those interest. But the 710 itself, economically,
environmentally, air pollution wise, regardless of how
you feel, like unites something. Creates a conflict.

And so I think, on development, I don't think it's a
question of like we need to draw a warehouse district.
We need to draw -- or a district that is good for
development or bad for development. We just need to
recognize, there's a lot of warehouse here. There's a
lot of people that live here that work in these
warehouses. And so that might be a community of interest.

    Again, I don't mean to prescribe lines, but kind of recognizing that -- to paraphrase from an old Hamilton mixed tape, like I don't know the answer, but the question is real. And I think that's the -- that's the piece to consider. Like -- and I think that your concern, like we're not here to answer questions. That's healthy. But asking like, what is -- what is the natural feature that creates these questions.

    COMMISSIONER YEE: That's helpful. Thank you.

    CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

    Commissioner Fernandez and then Commissioner Kennedy.

    COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Thank you, Chair.

    Actually, I just wanted to thank both Samuel and Caitrin. Commissioner Sinay is always asking for aha moments, and so as you were both speaking, I was thinking wow, there's four in my household and I think we would each draw different lines. Based on environmental, I've got my boys that are very environmentally aware more globally than locally. And then, I'm in the Delta area, so Caitrin, you know I'm well aware of water issues. And I have a well, so --

    MS. CHAPPELLE: It's a requirement there.
COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes, it is.

MS. CHAPPELLE: You're -- I'm not talking about you when I say you don't know where you are.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Oh, I know.

MR. SUKATON: She's talking about me.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: No, because I have a well, so I know where I come from.

MR. SUKATON: She's talking about me. I learned a couple years ago that San Bernardino has its own aquifer and then Los Angeles. And I drove up to Mono Lake for work and I just was given an earful about, forget it Jim, it's China Town and the whole conversation about the Owens Valley. So no, Caitrin was very specifically referring to me not knowing where my water comes from.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: So anyway, I just wanted to thank you both for just like my little aha moment where I think when we go out there I just want to make sure that families, you know, not just one of you draw a line. All of you draw a line because it can be different. And I'm just thinking of the different phases in my life. You know, in my twenties when my kids were young versus now, I have different communities, obviously. So I just have to -- my mind set is no, all of you draw a community, not just one for the whole household. So thank you very much for my aha moment.
MS. CHAPPELLE: And I'll take this moment to say I think one thing to -- that I haven't mentioned that is a boundary that we don't talk about very much, but is really important, is water shed boundaries. So the broader water sheds around our rivers and our streams that they'll -- these, you know, and I don't think that you guys, you know, I'm not saying you guys should do your boundaries on water shed boundaries, but that might actually be an interesting map to see too, the water sheds across California. That's just a thought.

If I was to draw the boundaries, I'd probably start there. So I was saying that that might be a map that you guys might want to just see, just for information on that.

MR. SUKATON: Absolutely. Water sheds and, somebody used the word air sheds, which I don't think is actually the word. But water sheds and air sheds.

MS. CHAPPELLE: Yeah.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Commissioner Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair.

Mostly for Samuel, but not exclusively. I wanted to get a sense from you if there are environmental issues or water issues that you would see as predominately federal in nature versus state in nature. I mean it -- we're
going to be drawing different sets of districts and it occurs to me that, you know, one of the things that we need to be looking at is okay, what's the purpose of this district and if one district is to advocate in Washington and a different one is to advocate in Sacramento, are there -- are there environmental issues that are more appropriate to take to Washington than to Sacramento, and vice versa?

MR. SUKATON: So I want to quote James Woodson, actually, from the Black Census and Redistricting Hub actually said this when I initially came on. He mentioned that, you know, a COI is a COI is a COI. So no matter how you draw the lines around them right. So I think the focus is on the built-in blocks. So articulating one, the lens and two, the -- the existing communities.

So actually, I'll use the Salton Sea on this one. So like it's very clear, the Salton Sea itself, like the natural features, the Coachella and Imperial Valleys, right. We've cut that up in a lot of different ways in that the Congressional District, it's two. So Vargas, I think gets fifty-two and Dr. Ruiz is thirty, I don't remember them. But San Bernardino and -- so it's like, so the Riverside District and the Imperial District are both -- are separate Congressional Districts. They are,
however, they are also separate Senate Districts. So you have Senator Melendez, and Senator Hueso. But they're one Assembly District. And that is Assembly Member Garcia.

And I don't know that those were drawn with specifically okay, like we need two people in Congress to talk about the Salton Sea. We need two people in the Senate, and we need one person in the Assembly. Like I don't think that was the equation, but I think there is a recognition that you can, rather than looking at it purposefully, like we need to draw these lines to advocate for the Salton Sea. I think we draw the lines around people. And ask what is -- what are the combinations by which these communities define and are already advocating for themselves, right.

In that, but in all of those situations though, in all of those Districts, Imperial County is in one, right. So Imperial County is clearly in one Congressional District, is clearly in one Senate District, and is very clearly in one Assembly District. So in that case you have the environmental issue overlapping with the idea that a community of interest is a contiguous, and existing community that needs to remain united. In this case, Imperial County.

And that part of Riverside County, that -- I think
it's the 5th District, either the 5th or the 1st, where
that encompasses Palm Springs to Blythe. So in all of
those situations, that single Supervisorial District in
Riverside, and that entire county in Imperial, remain
contiguous. Maybe they're -- maybe they're together and
maybe they're not, in the cases of the Congressional and
Senate seats, but they themselves remain as whole as
possible. And so in that case I think you have the happy
accident of having consistent representation at the
county, state, and federal levels, even though it looks
and feels a little bit different.

But to answer your question directly, I do believe
there are some issues that -- where federal precedent --
where federal takes precedence over state government.
I'm not sure that that is -- that should be an
overarching consideration for lines. It is a
consideration. And I would say --

COMMISSIONER SINAY: You know, okay, I'm just going
to interrupt one second, just because I know Caitrin has
to leave.

MR. SUKATON: Absolutely. I'm terribly sorry for
rambling.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I just -- I didn't want her
just to have to leave without people just saying thank
you, Caitrin, so much for our briefing.
MR. SUKATON: No, absolutely.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: And if people have additional questions for Caitrin, you do have her email address and link, or you can send them to us, and we'll get them to her. But thank you so much for your time today, Caitrin.

MS. CHAPPELLE: Thank you, and just know that the PPIC website has a lot of great information for a lot of issues you guys might be working with. So when you are tackling -- I think one of my colleagues, Eric McGhee, might be presenting to you, or has already. But if there's anything else that we can help with, let me know.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Okay. Thanks. Samuel, sorry to -- sorry to interrupt.

MR. SUKATON: No apology necessary. Thank you.

But to your point -- to your point, Commissioner Kennedy, I think there are certain issues in that California, the State of California, has more emphasis, like clean air kind of occupies both. And I think land use runs more state and county. But also, things are so tangled that I don't necessarily think that it's either necessary or, "appropriate" is a strong word. But I don't know if -- if we should be -- if that is as critical a question on drawing lines. I think -- I think, again, the substantive, but not -- the substantive of the not meet overlap, I think is going to create that
kind of -- those opportunities for federal and state coordination and advocacy without us intentionally thinking about it on the front end if that makes sense.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: I will say that I was at the hearing in Palm Springs in May of 2011 and I remember very clearly that there were people advocating for two Congressional seats to represent the Salton Sea area. Now, whether that was their whole purpose in advocating for that or if they had some other motive in advocating that and were just using the Salton Sea as a convenient excuse, I'm not going to go there, but I do remember that discussion very clearly at the hearing in May of 2011.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Commissioner Fornaciari.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, it's unfortunate that Caitrin had to go because she gave me an aha moment that I want to share with everyone.

There are thousands of special districts in California. Thousands of them that manage our water supply, flood control, you know, a wide variety of things. They're managed by Boards and have very, very little oversite, but a huge impact on our lives. And they manage billions and billions of our tax dollars. So it's probably worth our while to make a bit of an effort to try to somehow gauge special districts and understand
from the special districts what, you know, what the
issues they may have and from their perspective what we
should think about because, you know, there -- a lot of
special district that are really ineffective because
they're so small, as Caitrin said.

So just something to think about.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Any other questions or comments? Commissioner
Andersen.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I actually similarly had a
couple things for Ms. Caitrin. But along the lines of
what Commissioner Fornaciari also said is in water, it's
not just where it's coming from in your tap, but it's
where is the water ultimately coming from. And there's a
lot of connection, which people don't know. I
actually -- I was a civil engineer. I will -- not only
do I know exactly where my water's coming from, I can
draw the lines from what, you know, in the Sierra
Nevadas, where it's coming from, what tunnels it's going
through, how it's getting through the hills, where my
pumping stations are, where my water treatment plant is,
and where my sewage treatment plant is. So you know, I'd
have to draw all of these pieces and I'm so appreciative
of talking about that these are terms and terminology
that I'm day in, day out. You know, your water shed,
your -- let's see, the water shed, your built
environment. All of these considerations and I'm so
please to bring this to the -- that you bring this to the
whole group.

But getting in touch with our Boards in our local
areas is absolutely crucial because not all of them work
together, and some of them would really, really like to.
And I think if we reach out, they would be so
appreciative of that and would really have good ideas
about what is ultimately good for their entire area, but
they just don't have a voice. So I really appreciate
these items being brought up and the thoughtful questions
by the Commission. So thank you, everybody.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Any other questions or comments?

Samuel, I hope that you don't have to run. I would
like to open this up for public comment. Are you able to
stay on for about fifteen more minutes or so?

MR. SUKATON: As I was told that this would run
until 12:30 and I'll, you know, I'm in front of the
Commission all day, so this is -- I just happen to -- I
just happen to have my camera on today. So yes,
absolutely. I am here -- I am here to participate.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. I appreciate it.

Kristian, could you invite in public comment as it
relates to agenda item number 13, the Environment and Infrastructure Panel, please.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair. And actually, Katy's with us now and Katy will be helping you out with that.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Hello, Commission. Yes, absolutely.

In order to maximize transparency and public participation in our process, the Commissioners will be taking public comment by phone. To call in, dial the telephone number provided on the live stream feed. It is 877-853-5247. When prompted, enter the meeting ID number provided on the live stream feed. It is 957-6586-8432 for this week's meeting.

Once you have dialed in, you will be placed in the queue. To indicate you wish to comment, please press star 9. This will raise your hand for the moderator. When it is your turn to speak, you will hear a message that says the host would like you to talk. 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 live stream audio to prevent any feedback or distortion during
your call.

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

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

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. We'll give it pause for two minutes.

(Pause)

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And we still do not have anyone in the queue, Chair.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

And Katy, I'm seeing no one in the queue, correct?

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

All right, any final questions or comments from the Commissioners?

Samuel, as a graduate of John Muir High School, you made me feel like a 16-year-old kid. So many references to John Muir. His treks through our -- through our national forests. We might be kindred spirits. I appreciate you and Caitrin, coming to help shape our perspective and our -- and informing the public on this matter.

So if there's no further comment, that will conclude
agenda item number 13, our conversation on Environmental Infrastructure. Although we know that the consideration will continue as we go throughout our deliberation process. Thank you very much.

MR. SUKATON: Thank you, Chair Taylor. Looking forward to continuing working with you. Appreciate it.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

All right, Commissioners, we are at 12:25 p.m. Before we break for lunch, a couple of small housekeeping issues. A small point of clarification, which we can lean on Director Hernandez to explain, as outlined in his Outreach Strategy. Again, as a point of clarification, we do not -- It's not required that we record a public education meeting. Is that correct?

COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: That is correct. We're not requiring to record, but we're going to ask if we can record, to then post, and also for use of some of those -- the content for media purposes.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. And that's just as a point of clarification. It's not required. If we're able to record we can then relay that to staff. It can be posted or used for our reference, correct?

Go ahead, Commissioner Andersen.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Can we at least document those groups that are not allowing us to record so we can
make sure that we're not giving them grant money? So there's no conflict there.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Andersen, can you further clarify what you -- what you said. The grant money and the recording, I think are -- I'm --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Well, it's -- it's --

CHAIR TAYLOR: Can you please clarify?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Any meeting that we're not recording, that we are going to be in there, could be considered a secret meeting because people can't look at it and don't know what's being said. So if we're also -- that particular group, we're also giving them grant money, that's obviously a serious conflict, so we -- I think we -- that's maybe a separate issue, but something has to be -- should be brought up about that.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Yeah. As it stands right now, I am, and I welcome any reply from Commissioner, granting and -- it's separate from -- separate issues that I see.

Commissioner Turner, I welcome.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you. Yes, I appreciate the clarification and the perspective. I'm just wanting to state that I'm seeing that as punitive behavior,
almost, if we were to deny or refuse a grant based on the -- whether we do or do not have opportunity to record the meeting. And so I'm hoping that we're separating those and understanding that again, based on the integrity of the Commissioners, and us conducting an education meeting based on the amazing guidelines and script, and PowerPoint that we have that that would be the record of what was covered and discussed in the meetings. And to allow Californians the opportunity to conduct or to have a meeting that, for whatever their reasons are, that they are not having comfort in having it recorded. Let that be -- let that stand as is and as a separate issue than whether or not we would provide them grant money.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you, Commissioner Turner. I think you helped to -- COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Can you just bring it up at a later point because it's obviously something that -- yeah. It's about perception.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Yeah. Thank you, Commissioner Turner. Thank you, Commissioner Turner. I think you helped to get me where I was.

Our educational outreach is not contingent on a grant and that would be better served under the granting framework. If that's a stipulation that we want to talk
about in that context.

Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I completely agree with what Commissioner Turner has said, sorry. I don't want it to be punitive or not punitive. If we do go in that direction, we also have to -- and this may be something we want to do anyway, is we're all doing outreach and talking to groups individually, which is even more -- could raise more eyebrows. So should we have a list that's running on our website of which organizations we talk to as Commissioners. But, you know, I don't think that the public education sessions would be a place to, you know -- we can't ask a group, help us do outreach and help us raise the awareness, and then say oh, since you won't do it our way, you can't get any funding. Since these are some of the groups that are the most vulnerable.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Any further questions or comments regarding clarification?

And our last bit of housekeeping. It has been -- it's been recommended that we refrain from using the chat feature until we have a formal policy or procedure in place. So once again, we're putting something else on the Finance Committee, Finance and -- Commissioner
Fornaciari, Finance and Administration Committee to help to shape and develop.

Thank you.

So with that, any other questions or comments from Commissioners?

We will break for lunch. We will take -- let's give ourselves an hour, ten. Let's come back at 1:40. 1:40 for lunch. Thank you.

(Whereupon, a recess was held from 12:32 p.m. until 1:40 p.m.)

CHAIR TAYLOR: Good afternoon, California. Good afternoon, those that are following and watching. It is 1:40 p.m. February 9th, day 2 of the California Citizens Redistricting Commission Meeting.

Before we get into our last few agenda items, I would like to open up our meeting to public comment, general public comment.

So Katy, can you invite in the public, please.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes. 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, enter the meeting ID number provided on the livestream feed. It is 95765868432 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 into 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'll hear a message that says the host would like you to talk, 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. And again if you are in the queue for public comment and you would like to make a comment, please press star 9 to raise your hand indicating you would wish to speak.

And we do have someone in the queue.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And the floor is yours.

Hello caller? Hello caller?

MS. HOWARD: Can you hear -- okay, I think I got muted again.
PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Oh, no, no, no.

MS. HOWARD: Can you hear me now?

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: You're live, I can hear you. You're not muted.

MS. HOWARD: Okay.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Don't hang up. The floor is yours.

MS. HOWARD: Okay, thanks.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: If you would like to state your name, you can.

MS. HOWARD: My name is Deborah Howard, D-E-B-O-R-A-H. My -- last name is H-O-W-A-R-D. And I'm calling on behalf of the California Senior Advocates League.

And I have two questions. I'm going to ask them actually -- well, my first question is regarding the polarized voting analysis that was conducted for the 2010 Commission. And I think there have been previous voting rights serving public records requests for this. But I'm not ever sure that it has been answered publicly whether you're going to be release it or if it has been released. So I would like to add that to the conversation. And the on the record that I think one, it should be public and would like it to be made available.

And then my second question has to do with the
public outreach meeting. Commissioners have been very
active in their zones and reaching out to organizations
and trying to really be available to the community and
let the community know what will be available. I agree
with many of the callers last week who weighed in on this
and was really glad to hear that Deputy Director Alvarez
had indicated that there would be a list of meetings
posted. But I can't find that. I know that you're
having -- I know you're working on all of this but I'm
just looking for help in getting in the meantime while
we're still working the system.

And then I do want to raise a little bit of a glitch
and that is that even with that -- there's been a lot of
discussion about having those meetings recorded. And I
think that might jump the gun a little bit because on the
one hand, you're trying to be very open and transparent
and respectful of the community. On the other hand,
there's not even a complete list of those meetings.

And so I mean, I think just getting the basics down
would be really helpful. And -- it would be helpful.
And I took these contacts -- I really don't want to sound
grumpy because I do really appreciate the work that
you're doing and recognize how hard it is to do that. As
a team that never hardly met each other in person, you're
doing it all over video, you're having to do it in
public. There's all of these things that make it extra
difficult, but this is the world that we're in and I
would very much like to be able to access both of these
tools for tracking the work of the Commission and its
work in California.

So I thank you for the opportunity in commenting.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you, Ms. Howard, we'll take all
your comments under consideration.

Director Claypool, I am unsure if we can take action
on the 2010 public records request. Do you have any
insight as it relates to that matter?

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: I'm going to defer to counsel
for that.

MS. MARSHALL: Is there a request for a public
record from 2010?

CHAIR TAYLOR: Yeah. I believe it's related to the
Racial Polarized Voting Analysis --

MS. MARSHALL: I --

CHAIR TAYLOR: -- and --

MS. MARSHALL: No, go ahead.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Go ahead. I'm sorry, I didn't mean
to cut you off.

MS. MARSHALL: One second.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: While we're waiting, what
group did Ms. Howard represent?
MS. MARSHALL: Okay. I'm back. Thank you. In regards to a request for 2010 information, whatever's assessable, it can be provided but there are some things that are still under attorney-client privilege. But I would take a look at it.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

And Commissioner Andersen, I believe it's the California Seniors Advocate League.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Katy, do we have anyone else in the queue?

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We do not, Chair.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Director Claypool.

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: Chair, we received good news just a little while ago. As of February 9th, the chair of the Joint Legislative Budget Committee has released your funds for outreach. So it's going back through finance and that $2,065,000 is now available for us to use it for outreach.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. And that is indeed good news.

Any other questions or comments from the Commissioners?

Without anyone else or any additional callers in the queue, we will close public comment at this time.
And we'll move on to agenda item number 11, the Grants Committee with Commissioner Akutagawa and Commissioner Le Mons.

I'm not seeing -- there's Commissioner Le Mons. Right on time, sir.

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: I was listening but I was having a little difficulty with my camera.

So what we needed to do last session -- excuse me, last sessions of meetings we introduced a couple options in terms of a path forward to making grants available to the community. And hopefully everyone had an opportunity to review it. Again, we did discuss it in the last meeting and we wanted to give both ample time for Commissioners to review and think about as well as the public.

So we don't have anything additional to add. We can entertain any questions that may have come up between our last -- excuse me, our last meeting on this matter. And then of course we could hear from the public, Chair. And then -- I guess before moving to the public, we make a motion to have a vote on which option Commissioners are desiring to go with. So that's what we want to accomplish in this agenda item today.

CHAIR TAYLOR: So if there's -- does -- any questions or comments from Commissioners? And if not, we
can entertain a motion.

Commissioner Andersen.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Just a question. I believe -- I'm flipping back for the materials themselves and was there like an option A or option B?

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: It was 1 and 2, and the distinction is option 1 is we go with the third party. And option 2 is we facilitate it in house.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you.

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: You're welcome.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Le Mons, if you wouldn't mind, can you give a very high level, possibly a plus or minus for each option, the option 1 and 2 --

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Sure.

CHAIR TAYLOR: -- to sort of refresh the --

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Sure. The -- we didn't approach it from a pros/cons perspective so I'll start with that and we did that intentionally. What we did was align the process flow for each and what the implications were.

So some of the distinctions are if we go with option 2 which was the direct approach where we the Commissioners will facilitate that process, we would have the responsibility of reviewing multiple applications who have the administrative responsibilities of disbursing
the resources. We would have to increase staff in order
to carry the load for those administrative
responsibilities because of the number of potential
grantees that would be entered into the disbursement
system. So those were some of the considerations for
option 2. And then we would also be directly connected
to the release of the resources to the recipients
themselves.

In option 1, we would venture to have less
applications to review because we would be issuing an RFA
for a third party to take on the administrative task of
dispensing those resources for us in accordance with the
parameters that we as the Commission set forward. They
would have the responsibility of not only disbursing the
resources but also managing any reporting directly with
the recipients and then providing us with an appropriate
final report at the end of that process. So they would
take on all of the administrative responsibility.

And we would be open to in option 1, because there
was some concern, that we would be open to multiple
awardees in the option 1 category as well. So we would
make that determination based upon the applicants and
their scope in terms of reach and able to disburse
resources throughout the state. Not meaning they have to
be able to do it throughout the state but we want to make
sure that the state was covered, if that could be covered
by one entity that might require more than one entity.
So that was the point there.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.
Commissioner Turner, then Commissioner Toledo.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you. I'm ready to make
a motion. The motion that I'd have is that this
Commission move forward with option 1 to issue an RFA for
a third party to dispense the resources and the further
explanation of option 1.

COMMISSIONER YEE: And I was just going to --

CHAIR TAYLOR: I think Commissioner Toledo stole
your thunder, Commissioner Yee. The motion has been
properly moved and seconded. Any need for further
discussion?

Commissioner Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes, I would -- I would --
as you know, last time I was against this option. But if
it is going to be the choice of the Commission, I would
ask that maybe our staff have a little bit more oversight
just to ensure that it is an out -- you know, outreaching
and inclusive as possible. That was my concern last
time. I just want to make sure it gets out to as many
community partners, big, small, known, unknown, as
possible. That was really my concern. So thank you.
COMMISSIONER LE MONS: We agree with that, Commissioner Fernandez, and that's going to come down to our making sure that what we put in the RFA as a requirement for whoever is the awardee, that they're able to deliver on our needs, including reach. So we are going to manage for that.

But we do want to separate the Commission and the Commission's staff from the oversight responsibility as it relates to the administration of the grants themselves. But we will of course have our criteria and parameters in the RFA as it relates to the awardee carrying out the actions on our behalf.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Does the administration -- does that also mean that we can't use our infrastructure to promote the grant once the grants are available?

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: No.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Okay. So -- so I think, I mean, good. Because we've been building up a database and stuff to do --

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yeah. No, no.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: -- exactly that but I just want to make sure that I've been communicating properly.

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yeah.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Fernandez.
COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Just quickly. Just so when you draft the RFA language, I would recommend that you -- it would be something where if we do find additional funds for outreach, that we can just add it to that contract instead of having to go through the whole process again. So I forgot to mention that earlier. Thank you.

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: And our goal -- may I continue, Chair?

CHAIR TAYLOR: Absolutely.

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Our goal was to -- as mentioned in the previous -- I do want to address this, in the previous sessions, we had mentioned that we wanted to have a draft RFA by this set of meetings. Unfortunately, we don't have that draft yet so the draft is forthcoming and our goal would be to get on the next slate of meetings so there'll be still plenty of time to get feedback on the draft RFA before we move forward.

So I just wanted to -- since we did say that in the last meeting, I wanted to address that. So we'll keep you posted on a delivery date on the -- I don't know if Deputy Director Hernandez has a projected date on when a draft might be available.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Looks like probably early next week.
COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Awesome.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Any other questions or comments?

Katy, can you invite in public comment as it relates to agenda item number 11 and our votes on option 1 for a grant structure?

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 provided on the livestream feed, it is 95765868432 for this week's meeting. When prompted to enter a participant ID, simply press the pound key.

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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 agenda item number 11, option 1 on voting about grant distribution.

There is not anyone in the queue at this time.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. We'll pause for two minutes.

(Pause)

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: The instructions are complete on the stream, Chair.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. And I'm seeing no one in the queue; is that correct?

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair, that's correct.

Oh, wait, someone just popped in.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Invite them in, please.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair.

And the floor is yours.

MS. WESTA-LUSK: Yes, this is Renee Westa-Lusk. Just asking a question.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Ms. Lusk.

MS. WESTA-LUSK: Hello?

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, the floor is yours.
MS. WESTA-LUSK: Yeah. Yeah, this is Renee Westa-Lusk. I just -- I have some quick questions regarding this. The third party would be responsible for advertising to the community-based organizations throughout the state that this grant money would be available. Is that part of their, the third-party responsibility for administrating the grant?

CHAIR TAYLOR: That is correct.

MS. WESTA-LUSK: Okay. So there would be some notification on the wedrawthelines.ca.org website about this application for the grant program and how to get in touch with the third party?

CHAIR TAYLOR: That is correct.

MS. WESTA-LUSK: Okay. I see no problem with a third party administering the program. I think it's a good idea. I don't see how the Commissioners are going to have time to run a grant program on top of all their other tasks. Thank you.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you, as always, for your comments.

Do we have any other callers in the queue?

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: No, Chair, that was it.

CHAIR TAYLOR: All right. So that we will close public comment at this time.

Executive Director Claypool, can you call the roll
for a vote, please?

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: Yes, Chair.

Commissioner Toledo.

VICE CHAIR TOLEDO: Yes.

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: Commissioner Turner.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yes.

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yes.

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: Commissioner Vasquez.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yes.

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: Commissioner Yee.

COMMISSIONER YEE: Yes.

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: Commissioner Ahmad.

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Yes.

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: Commissioner Akutagawa.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yes.

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: Commissioner Andersen.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes.

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: Commissioner Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: No.

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: Commissioner Fornaciari.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yes.

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: Commissioner Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yes.

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: Commissioner Le Mons.
COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yes.

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: Commissioner Sadhwani.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes.

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: Commissioner Taylor.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Yes.

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: The motion passes.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Commissioner Akutagawa, Commissioner Le Mons, any other issues before us?

All right. So I think for this meeting, we can move from the Grants Subcommittee on to agenda item number 12 and the Data Management Commissioner Ahmad, Commissioner Turner.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you, Chair.

On behalf of Commissioner Ahmad, myself, and on the Data Management Subcommittee. So we've had a series of meetings over the last couple of weeks. And first of all, I just want to say we're really grateful for the responsiveness and the thoroughness of the U.S. Digital Response Team, USDR, Jamie, also Karin, also our data line drawing subcommittees and all the public comments that we've received. And a host of others, really, that's supporting us in attempting to have the best product and process that's possible. This is not an easy process. So Commissioners, there are three things.

But first a quick update from yesterday.
Commissioner Ahmad sent an email to USDR to see if there were any flags with NationBuilder in hosting a table or any system interaction. Anyway, and they're going to continue researching that and they'll get back to us but it won't be in time for the close of this meeting today.

So the three things that we'd really like your input on I'll name them and then we'll kind of go through them. Number 1, we do want input in regards to the specifics of translations as it relates to dataflow. We'll talk today about role differentiation and clarification between a line drawer and a data analyst. And then we'll like to gather types of questions that we hope an analyst can answer for us.

So we're going to start with the language translation piece. Okay? How will language translation be embedded in the dataflow process? So we shared on, I think it was our January 26 meeting, the dataflow chart. We looked at it, asked a lot of questions. And then we had a caller, public comment, grateful as always from Julia Marks today from Asian-American Advancing Justice, that's asking who is primarily responsible?

So we want to know a couple of things. Number 1, we see where language translation is on there. We're wanting to determine from the Commission who actually is going to do that translation? Who's primarily
responsible for translating it to English from the other languages? Who's responsible for translating the maps, the PDF -- let me get into that part later, that was another one. I captured all of Ms. Marks's questions on who's responsible for translating maps, PDF into the flow and will the budget account for the cost of translations? And then did the staff of USDR have experience in multilingual translations? And then to make sure our data analyst is used to working with multilingual translations.

But the piece that we want to start with here is is the actual translation embedded in the dataflow process, are, we know where it should happen but we want to have it named who's responsible for that. Who's going to take care of that?

So what I'd like, Chair, is to kind of break these out, so and to have some discussion here about this translation flow process and get some response from the Commission, and then I'll move to the other pieces.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner --

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Commissioner Ahmad.

CHAIR TAYLOR: -- I would like -- yes. Yes, I'd like to hear from Commissioner Ahmad and then Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you, Chair.
And thanks, Commissioner Turner, for that overview.
And just to add a little bit more context to help guide
our conversation, we've talked about translations. We
have a language access process in place. My question
is -- or our question is that we've been bouncing back
and forth, does that process include translations of
public testimony or is that something we want to consider
separately? And I'm seeing nods.

But I don't know, Commissioner -- Chair Taylor how
you want to field questions or guide this conversation.

CHAIR TAYLOR: We'll run it like we run it.

Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I think my question was kind of
along -- along those lines, so I'm not -- I'm not that
helpful.

And so is it -- does the person who translate this
need two -- two different expertise that interpreter
translation as well as understanding the data piece?

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Turner, Commissioner
Ahmad, do you have a replay to that?

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah, so I'll defer to
Commissioner Ahmad but I'm thinking if they're
interpreting, if they're interpreting the information --
I -- well, I don't know how I feel about that. I
think -- I think as long as they interpret it as it was
COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Yeah. And I don't think the person translating needs any content or data expertise in this area. It's just literally taking, you know, I ate spaghetti for lunch in one language and translating it to another language. We don't want to get into interpretation and all the different things that that brings up. But for the specific role in terms of getting information from a non-English language to an English language, you wouldn't need that additional understanding of the data.

I hope that answers your question.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Akutagawa, then Commissioner Kennedy, and Commissioner Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I guess I will just -- I think what you're saying is correct. I will, however, just add a caution that depending on who is making the translation -- or doing the translation, we should just be mindful that there may be words that may not be easily translated from a language into English and then try to explain the context of what is trying to be communicated from the person is -- I don't know if there's an easy way to solve for it short of just finding a second person, maybe, to check to make sure that this is correct.

I just wanted to just add that in there. And I
don't know if -- I was trying to remember -- go back -- I know that it's optional for people to provide their contact information through the Communities of Interest tool. But they could choose to anonymously also submit something. And so in the cases where someone who chooses to be anonymous submits it in a language other than English, we may not be able to fully -- I'm not -- I think the one challenge that I do see is how do we clarify intent? You know, what they're trying to -- their intention in terms of what they're communicating. So I do just want to put that out there in terms of the translation.

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: I think that is the question on the table is who is doing that translating? Whether it be for this dataflow process or for, you know, informational flyers, presentations, et cetera. So that question, I think, is valid across all of the different translation pieces for process.

CHAIR TAYLOR: And to further the discussion, when we say who, are we asking do we contract out for that service? Can we define who or that question what are the different options of who that we have in front of us?

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah, I think it's all of that. So we on the flow and since we've been talking about this, we've been saying, you know, and at this
point interpretation or this is translation or this is what -- but we've not slowed down enough as a Commission to talk about are who we desire to have that done by.

And so I think this open conversation now and a subcommittee we talk about it. And as we're talking, some of the data elements and pieces with USDR, they're asking the questions. And what Commissioner Ahmad and I don't want to do is be in a subcommittee meeting trying to make decisions on behalf of the whole team as far who.

So I think, Chair Taylor, what is this Commission's desire to have happen for that process?

CHAIR TAYLOR: All right. It seems that that's one of the questions that we have in front of us is the who. Who is the who? Who is the who?

Commissioner Kennedy, Commissioner Fernandez, Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair.

As colleagues might imagine, I've had occasion to manage -- or not manage, not manage directly, oversee the management of language services units supporting my work and the work of my teams oversee. So just a couple of thoughts as we go into this.

One is there will be a significant level of specialized vocabulary. And it's not intended to set up any sort of barrier to anyone but we do need to be
thinking in terms of developing or finding glossaries of this specialized language in the other languages so that that will help ensure the consistency of both translations and interpretation.

Second of all, we're dealing with unknown quantities. And I think Director Claypool has been very consistent in that throughout our discussions on this. We simply don't have any knowledge at this point of how much of a workflow we're looking at. It could be small, it could be enormous. So we need a significant amount of flexibility as we go into this.

I think we're realizing as a result of the conversation so far today but also on other occasions, we're looking at translation needs and interpretation needs coming from various sources in our overall Commission work. So there is translation -- there are translation requirements for items coming out of the materials developed in subcommittee. There will be translation requirements coming out of the Communities of Interest tool. There will be interpretation requirements coming out of meetings. There will be interpretation requirements coming out of community hearings and so forth.

To me, all of this says we need someone managing all of these distinct elements to ensure smooth and timely
workflow. Now, you know, do we need a dedicated manager at this point? That goes back to the issue of unknown quantities. We can try managing it with the staff that we have but if we see that we made the facing significant quantities of inputs from these various sources, I would say that we are going to need a dedicated manager to ensure smooth and timely workflow in all of our language support services.

So that's what I have at this point. Thank you.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you very much, Commissioner Kennedy.

Commissioner Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I actually just wanted to answer Commissioner Ahmad's question from the beginning. You were asking about translation and interpreter services. So at our last meeting, we did approve translation services for the fourteen quests. Anything that's in writing, we will translate. So if it's from the COI tool or if it's from a written testimony or an email, they will all be translated. And that's the contracts that we currently have in the process.

And then in terms of interpreters, what we have said is that we will provide interpreters as long as we were provided five working days' notice, or business days' notice, advance notice for the twelve languages.
However, we may be able to find someone for the languages beyond the twelve. And when they give us the five business days' advance notice, we will try our best to try to find someone.

So I was getting back to you. I'm hoping that answered your question for both Commissioner Turner and Commissioner Ahmad.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you, Commissioner Fernandez.

Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you, Commissioner Fernandez. I think I was -- I was trying to think through what are the choice -- what are the options because the question was so broad. And so I think I was doing what Commissioner Taylor was saying was who's the who? And I saw it either as kind of an interpretation translation group team, contract, whatever. And then the data management team and if there's pros and cons going either way.

But I would go with what Commissioner Fernandez said. I mean, I think that the answer's already been resolved but I like it staying with the same kind of contract with the other interpreters and translation just because that allows us for consistency going back to what Commissioner Kennedy was saying as we create that vocabulary and words and such, there will be some
consistency in the translation.

And so we pull in the interpretation group as we need.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: So.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Turner.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: So on our flowchart that we have, just to kind of walk it through to know who we're handing it off to and to kind of start answering some more of the who is the who.

So of course if someone's sitting at home and they enter information into the COI tool, we'll go through the Captcha, there will be translation services in the COI tool. So if I'm sitting at home and I speak one of the twelve languages, I'll be able to have that translation happen. Great.

If indeed I now send that information following our flowchart that we sent out, if I send that information in directly to the Commission, not through the COI tool, there's a line there that says that the data manage -- it will go to the data management team. And then for translations, the who there is -- that's one of the who questions. It's going to go non-COI tool files that will go for translation. Is that over to the -- who's the who there? Where's that going specifically? We don't know that yet, that's what we're trying to determine. You see
that box, it's the blue box there, non-COI tool files for interpretation.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Le Mons.

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: I don't have the answer to that question. I didn't raise my hand to answer that question but to suggest that we need to figure that out, I guess. I know that's not -- I'm trying not to state the obvious. But going back to Commissioner Sinay's point a moment ago in terms of the options. I guess that's my question, what are our options? Because this would need to be -- in my mind, it would need to be an established group of people, right, who are staffed somehow and maybe Commissioner Kennedy has some insight on how to build this particular team. Because there's all these different translation opportunities that are going to be flowing through this group for at least 12 languages at a minimum, right? So I don't imagine that's one person or even two people. I don't know how many it is. Right? And who will be creating these relationships with to do that for us for the course of this process? Right?

And then the second thing is I feel like we're kind of jumping back and forth between the interpretation the translation in terms of live translation and what Commissioner Fernandez was talking about a moment ago
which is contacting us to participate in our meeting
where the translator is made available similar to what we
did in the last meeting which is separate and apart from
this translating of written commentary that comes in
through email or however these different mechanisms. All
of which have to be translated before it goes into the
data capture piece in the flowchart. I don't remember
what it's exactly called, I'm not looking at it but I
think you understand what I'm saying.

So I think we need to get -- get that resolved
because it really is going to influence what this
subcommittee's work gets, you know, continues so like
working with the vendor and us understanding how this
stuff is going to actually get moved from -- we've talked
about it philosophically but we've not talked about it
practically --

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah.

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: -- the actual practical
application.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Turner, I would like to
have Commissioner Fernandez, she might be able to add to
the conversation.

Commissioner Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes. I believe when
Commissioner Akutagawa and I worked on this, maybe it's a
bad assumption but our assumption was that the under
Director -- Executive Director Hernandez, that would fall
under his realm because he's also responsible for all the
data coming in and also overseeing that translation
services contract. So my assumption was -- or our
assumption was that it would go to that area. I mean, I
would like to defer to them to see if that is an accurate
assumption.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Turner, then Director
Hernandez.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yes. And I think this really
helps and gets at I think what the issue is is that it
was not necessarily named. So in creating a process flow
and building systems and all of those piece parts, not
necessarily sure who the holder of the actual
Commissioner Le Mons talked about getting into the
specifics.

Overall, we talked about a flow, a process, et
cetera, and we keep just referring to and this other
group is going to step in but I don't think there's been
anyone named that specifically is going to do that. So
now we're getting questions, you know, it's time to
answer questions about that to be able to plug that into
the process. And it just has not been worked through.
So I think this is why we're here. So this is great.
CHAIR TAYLOR: Director Hernandez.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Yes, thank you.

So that is correct it is going to fall under my purview under the data management. Just like we have currently with any translation, we go out to the contracted translator and they will do the translations, send it back to us.

For the data management piece of it, we are going to have to designate a specific person to follow up, follow through with those translations to make sure that they're getting out and then coming back as well. So that will be part of that oversight of the data management. We're still, I think, working that out. But it would fall under me.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Commissioner Akutagawa and then Commissioner Le Mons.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Two things. One, I may be committing myself and Commissioner Fernandez to some more work. But speaking of assumptions, I guess I did maybe have in the back of my mind this assumption that while, you know, committees can come and go, some of them never die and I think this is one of those that I was assuming that yes, while our work technically seems like it's finished, it's not fully finished and that I suspected
that we would continue to be engaged in some way, shape, or form around this because I think these questions will continue to come up. So I don't think we're going to be fully disbanded. I think that's one.

Secondly, speaking of assumptions also, I wonder if this might be a way to go since a lot of the work around translation and the data management is going to fall under Director Hernandez, perhaps it may be helpful for all of us to -- we could provide input like we're doing but perhaps it may be helpful for him and his team to come up with what they feel is the flow that would need to happen amongst the staff and then come back to us to react to so that then we would have something a little bit more concrete to look at.

Because I feel like there's these questions being asked but this is one of those moments where I feel like we're really trying to one, create something while we're moving along and perhaps this might be better delegated to him to help put it together based on what his team's capabilities are and then let us react to it afterwards.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Le Mons.

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: I agree. I was going to go in that direction as well since we got the clarity that Director Hernandez's area is going to be responsible for that. The moment he said that, I thought to myself but
how, to be honest. It's like, okay, I'm glad you're taking responsibility. But how is that going to happen? And I ask that of myself in the context of the fact that we do not know the sheer volume, that's the part that really concerns me. So I'm not taking it as staff meaning literally it's his current staff that will be I heard that he said facilitating or administering. But what is that backend engine going to look like? And I know there's been some concerns among Commissioners about certain services, meaning translation services. It may be unavoidable. But I know that that's been raised even by some public comment around how a service translates or excuse me, let me back up -- not a service but mechanical or computer translations where stuff is fed through a system and it kicks out a translation.

So I think it is important for Director Hernandez's team to come back to us with the actual mechanism so we can vet against some of these concerns to make sure that the way this process is happening is in line with the values and things that we hold true in this translation process which has been presented on a lot by the translation or the language subcommittee. So I just wanted to echo them bringing back the how so that we can respond would probably be very helpful.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Ahmad.
COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you. I don't want to
speak for Commissioner Turner but that conversation that
just happened the last two minutes provided some real
clarity for me. It seems as though language translations
is an aspect that runs -- is weaved throughout our whole
process. And now I can point and say who's the who?
That's Alvaro, he's the who.
So it helps to know that we have a home for that.
Whether he presents, you know, in-house capabilities or
presents a plan to contract out, whatever that plan looks
like, it really helps me think through that dataflow
process of being like, okay, if you submit your comment
in this language, whether it be written or verbal, this
is what will happen to it in order for it to come back in
English for the Commission to consider. So that helps
me.
Commissioner Turner, I don't -- do you have anything
else on this?
COMMISSIONER TURNER: No, absolutely. And I think
that those were the questions we needed. And then also
because I don't want to lose sight of Ms. Marks' comments
that she made. So who's primarily responsible in
translating the English? Director Hernandez through the
data management team that he'll have oversight for and
any contracted individuals or whatever the process is
that he's going to bring that'll present to us the how
he's going to do it.

Which would be the same for our next question.
Who's responsible for translating maps into the flow?
That still will be that data management team and that
will remind of course that Director Hernandez is over
that team as well.

There were two more questions under this translation
piece that Ms. Marks brought up. Does the staff at USDR
have experience in multilingual translations? They won't
be doing the translations of the multilingual
translations, not the USDR staff.

And the update analyst to make sure they're working
with multilingual translations. And I think that'll be
worked out again through whatever how process Director
Hernandez brings back.

So I think that's we needed under the language
piece.

I want to move to the data and -- yeah, to the job
description of the data analyst unless we had anything
else under translations. I don't see any.

So for the next piece we are, as you know,
developing a job description with USDR for data analysts
but we need guidance on the specific roles of a data
analyst versus a line drawer. We understand what was
done in 2010, we've had lots of support and help and
 testimony, and now with the introduction of a COI tool
 and the fact that we don't yet have a line drawer, we
 have some questions. We really do -- are trying to
discern and get some input from the Commission on where
does the line drawer role end and the data analyst role
begin?

And because we've been in lots of conversations,
this -- sometimes they start to merge and start to look
kind of similar. And just wanted to lift this. What is
the difference between the roles of a line drawer and a
data analyst as there seems to be some overlap. And
rather than waiting to a line drawer got here, what we're
hoping as actually as employers of this line drawer or
the analyst that we're going to bring in, what do we want
as employees, what do we want to tell our staff that they
should be doing? How are we seeing this process?

Do you want to add to this, Commissioner Ahmad?

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: No, you covered it.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: So there is our next open
question, open dialog we're going to have.

CHAIR TAYLOR: And it's appropriate that it starts
with Commissioner Andersen and our line drawers, one of
our line drawers subcommittee members.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: And since Commissioner
Sadhwani bailed on me -- no, I'm only kidding.

There are certain areas where it's in one expertise's -- one area's person of expertise and others would be in another area of expertise. And we should not be as a Commission saying you're going to do it like this when that might not be the most efficient way.

That said, then, you know, there's the details of it versus the overall. We should be telling the overall of how we want this item to work. But the details of it is, you know, who does what part and then I hand it to you. That part they should work out. And in our job description for the line drawer, we specifically wrote it as there -- you will work with our -- the Commission's consultants to let's see. I can't quite remember the exact wording. But under the direction of the Commission to essentially make a good product for us, to follow certain rules.

I can actually get you the exact wording, but basically it's you guys are going to work together to help each other get to the certain point. And that part needs to go into your RFI or RFP or whatever it is.

I think the bigger issue is -- an issue that keeps coming up is who is in control of what data, where is what data going? And some of that is if the line drawer is working with the drawings and stuff and certain files,
they need to have a certain amount of control of that
until they can turn that over to the Commission.

Now, is there certain amounts that they can be
pulling like, you now, like say from the cloud type of
scenario? Again, for us to be dictating no, you can't
have it in the cloud, you have to have it on our server,
again, that's a bit too detailed for -- we might be
stymying them. Okay, if you really want us to do it that
way, we can do it that way but it's not the best.

What I think we need to work on is in the process of
collecting our COI. We have our COIs, now we want to
start looking on the line drawing how we're going to
evaluate it in which case the evaluation material comes
out in the analyst's hands not the line drawer. The line
drawer is more of, they're documenting what's come in and
who said what and how many of them they have. Who wants
to go, okay, well, so, you know, what about what criteria
are we looking at? How many of those groups fit this
description, whatever the description is that we want.
That's the data analyst.

And I speak a different language so I don't know if
that came across to anybody on the Commission. But if
that helps at all and if you ask any questions, I can put
it in slightly different terms. But there's only -- only
so much we can delineate at this point.
COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah, one of the things that we heard that I heard you say this go around, Commissioner Andersen, is that the line drawers are documenting and the analyst is doing the evaluation.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: We're actually going to do the evaluation.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Well --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: The data analyst is gathering the information for us so when we ask a question, they have it all. They can say, you know, that kind of stuff. Okay. And I see Commissioner Ahmad raising her hand. Like no, no, that's not how she would interpret it. So there we go.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Ahmad, please go ahead.

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Yeah, maybe let's try this in a different way. So in 2010, we had a line drawer. The role of that line drawer was very prescribed. There was a clear-cut responsibility for the line drawer that they would be present at public testimony meetings, they would be taking in that information, they would be drawing out maps as people stood there and said, hey, my community is from 1st Street to 10th Street. And they would say, hey, is that what I drew on the board correct? Or whatever GIS tool they were using. And the person would say yeah. And then they would submit it into the system.
This time around we are bringing in an analyst because we have a COI tool. Because there's an electronic way, an automated way for hundreds and thousands of people potentially, to submit that type of information simultaneously from their own homes. And bringing in that influx of information, we need some way to make sense of that information. To me it's pretty clear, and please correct me if I'm wrong or if I'm not understanding this correctly. It's very clear that the data analyst should be able to answer questions for us such as you received X amount of comments from Redding, California. Or you received, you know, 30 comments from Santa Clara County, those types of things.

Where I'm unclear is where that data analyst role ends and where the line drawer role begins. Because in 2010, the line drawer, if I'm understanding it correctly, was also responsible in overlaying the maps submissions. So they would take let's say ten maps submitted from a general area, put them on top of each other to see where the lines line up perfectly, where there's a difference, and then bring that forward to the Commission for deliberation. Like, hey, these ten maps have three-fourths of their lines exactly the same. However, this one-fourth of this map is different. Do you all want to explore that further?
Where I'm confused is if the line drawer will still be taking on that role or if that responsibility is now put on to the data analyst.

And I hear you, Commissioner Andersen, that they have to work together and collaborate and, you know a cohesive team environment but it makes it really hard to recruit someone when we can't tell them hey, this is what your responsibilities are.

Does that clarify --

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Andersen, do you have a --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Could I answer that? Because I think it's going to be --

CHAIR TAYLOR: Yes.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes, we do have our COI tool. At some point, we're also going to have our line drawer going out in the public and some of that information who will also be drawing a little bit like 2010, not quite. And so they will also be collecting some COIs. They might also, people also at that point might say hey, here's my district. Okay. Two different things. COIs, districts.

Ultimately the maps, all of them will end up with the line drawer. All of those COI maps are all going to be with the line drawer. The same way all of the data of
it, you know, where is it, you know, who's doing it, how many are you getting, will also be with the data analyst.

So you know, in terms of who we want to say, you know, do we want the overlay? So the line drawer will ultimately be putting them on there. We're not asking for, my understanding is, the data analyst is looking at, okay, you should have 16 from Redding. It looks like, you know, they're this type with that kind of stuff. Visualizing it, it's the line drawer. I guess, are you looking at the numbers or are you looking at the pictures? Numbers is data management, pictures is GIS, line drawer.

Does that help?

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Turner, Commissioner Ahmad before you reply, Commissioner Akutagawa, go ahead.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Here's how I'm looking at the data analyst question. And Commissioner Ahmad, I appreciate what you just said, it's an alignment with what I said. I guess two things. One is even to the COI tool, while there will be maybe a map, I also suspect partly because of just human nature, I think we're going to be receiving lots of input. Some of which will be maps, some of which will not be maps. And I think that's where the value of the data analyst is going to be to me. Because it's not as simply as just looking at let's put
these maps together, but taking both the communities of interest input through the tool that the statewide database is creating but we're also going to be receiving lots of data from other means.

People can send in public comments, they can send their own hand drawn maps. They can just send in letters saying this is how I would describe my -- my community of interest, or my district, or et cetera. I think the data analyst part of their role or if we get a person with the right kind of expertise is one, to look for patterns and then secondly, to analyze what do those patterns mean in such a way that they can help to inform the line drawer and us that, you know, all these other kind of -- I don't want to -- you know, these other nonmap kind of data pieces. Right? How do you make sense of all of that?

And given that even in 2010, they received a lot of information and they were literally, I mean, the way I heard it is that they were just kind of going through it by -- not by computer but by hand. I mean, it was overwhelming. And I think that's where the data analyst is trained to take all of these various inputs and to create order and to look for patterns and then to translate what do those patterns mean that would be relevant to what we want.

There is a high likelihood that they are going to be
working very closely with the line drawer, that makes total sense. But I think to me those are the distinctions that I would see and what I would expect from a data analyst is to help translate all those other bits of information that we're going to get and look for those patterns.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Fornaciari.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yes. So I'm -- I concur very much with what Commissioner Akutagawa just said. I think it's going to be a real close partnership and there's -- the line between the roles and responsibilities is going to be necessarily fuzzy.

I think if the question is if if I can, you know, pull on something that Commissioner Andersen said, I think the question is around visualization, looking at the maps, looking at the pictures. I think primarily and I don't think any of us really knows how this is going to happen but my thought would be primarily that responsibility would be on the line drawer. But it would be a close working relationship between the two. But if we had an analyst who could do some visualization work, too, that would be awesome.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Ahmad.

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you, Commissioner Fornaciari. Would you please define visualization? What
does that mean?

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, sorry. It's some way of projecting the maps that are put on in a way that we can look at them and compare them visually.

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Okay. Because when I heard visualization, I heard like a heat map or a density map across California where you can see, you know, darker colors representing more comments received, lighter colors representing less comments received. But visualizations you're talking about specifically the COI tool lines.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. And so that's --

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Okay.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: -- that's a great question. And I would expect fundamentally an analyst should be able to put those -- those kinds of visualizations together. I mean, that's fundamental part of their job is when they're conducting some sort of an analysis, some visual representation of the outcome of that analysis so we can make a determination.

But I think there's a slight -- so that's like graphing, charting, visual display of quantitative information. That's how I would categorize that. And then visualizing the maps. So I think those are kind of two different things, two different skill sets.
Did I make it more confusing by that last statement?

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: No, no, no. I think I'm just coming from it from a very different angle in which in my mind an analyst can do that. An analyst should be able to tie a quantitative value to a visual map using some statistical method.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Some sort of visual representation, correct?

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Yeah, to visual representation to be able to tell us that, you know, there's a 10 percent difference between thirty maps submitted from this area or something like that.

But that's where I'm getting kind of confused is because I'm hearing that the line drawer will potentially be doing that but then -- and if that's the case, then that's the case, I'm fine with that. I'm not one way or the other. I'm just trying to get clarity on what that process looks like, what that dataflow looks like in terms of what we have been discussing as written comments versus visual maps. And are these two being separated and looked at by two different parties?

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Because added into that, we wanted to ensure that there was no prioritizing one over the other or they were now unequally weighted. And so in
all the conversations when we get to the place with
talking about having line drawers creating maps simply in
one place and then the quantitative information in a
different place, the verbiage that's coming in from
people are maybe not complete maps or their testimony
being held in a different place. It started to feel like
there would be possibility where there was weighting one
over the other. And we're trying to just again ensure
that that's not taking place as well. So we didn't want
the analyst to hold all of the written, you know, content
that was received, testimony, and then have line drawers
drawing lines outside of the COI tool and taking in
through the COI tool.

You know, so that's some of the other underlying
trying to seek for understanding of where -- how they're
going to work together.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Andersen.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you. I kind of like
the idea where Commissioner Akutagawa was saying where
the data analyst is really going to come into play is
we're looking at Redding just say, just again out of the
blue, Redding. Could be, you know, who knows what. But
so how many comments have we received from Redding?

And data analyst would have to say 45. We'll say
how many of those were maps, like COI maps? Sixteen.
Now, so line drawer, what can you show us? Well, all sixteen COI maps and possibly some of those comments out of difference between forty-five and sixteen, say ten of those had general areas which you can kind -- which has been sort of also translated to a visual, you can put on the air on that. Or some of them are just these are all comments about them.

Now, what the data analyst could also tell us four of those maps came from large organizations that represent 6,000 people. Eighteen of those maps -- I'm not keeping what my numbers are -- of those maps came from individuals. So it's kind of a question of how many. But in terms of -- so that's what I'm expecting from the data analyst. Right?

So you know, you've got two COIs say drawn. How -- you know, one COI was submitted by one person, one COI was submitted by a large group. These are issues that people have been saying. Well, are they all going to be evaluated the same? Are they not going to be evaluated the same? These are Commission issues. We just need the data analyst to be able to tell us about each one.

Where the line drawer might be able to show us the pictures and say this is Dataset A. You know, this COI was done by a name. And then the data analyst can say that name is sixteen people. Or B, is that one is done
by one person. And, you know, that sort of thing. That's what I'm expecting from the data analyst. The data analyst would also say we've got seventeen other comments about this area and so there's a lot of great concern in water, say, versus, you know, they don't want the highway there.

And that would -- so that is another -- we can picture it because it's all on a map, you can see the highway, you can see the water, you can see all that as well as the individual community of interest maps that are there.

And as far as the COI stuff coming in from -- a community of interest no matter who draws it, it's going to look the same. It doesn't matter if -- there is no hierarchy that came in through the COI tool versus it came in through the line drawer themselves, it's the same layer, it's the same thing. So I don't quite understand the oh, you're going to like one versus another. They're not going to be -- if they're going into the GIS system, they're all in the GIS system. So I don't see that issue at all, so.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Ahmad, do you have a reply? Then we're going to go to Commissioner Akutagawa and to Commissioner Sadhwani.

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you, everyone, for being
patient with us while we dig through this.

Commissioner Andersen, you said something and it is sparking a point of clarification that I need from you. What you said makes sense to me if that's how the flow is established. However, where my question comes is if the line drawer is using some other tool and we have the COI tool on the other end, is there a mechanism for us to deliver just the COI maps from the COI tool back to the line drawer?

In order for the example that you had outlined to be valid in that there is no hierarchy between the different inputs, all of the COI tool images, maps would have to sit in one database with one analyst in this case you're describing the line drawer. Currently as it stands, our data management flow chart thing that we presented two weeks ago does not have a line from our database back to the line drawer to deliver the COI tool images that are submitted. That's where the point of clarification comes in.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I'd say it needs it. Yes. I mean, either, you know, at one point we were talking about the COI --

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Sure.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: -- the analyst is going one way, the data is going the other.
COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Uh-huh.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: And -- but there's a connection, there's an intimate connection, you can't just divide them.


COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: And I --

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: I would take that. I would take that and be like that's a -- if that is the case, why is the line drawer not using the COI tool? Why is that not something --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: They might be. They might be. We don't -- again --

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Okay.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: -- the whole idea we don't know. They might go, cool, looks good to me. Or they might say a little cumbersome, I'll just incorporate all that into, you know, I'm doing -- it's in maps, I'm doing -- it's EFIS I can't remember exact the name of it is.

So there's a little bit of, a little bit of a change. That's okay. You know, but so I'm just going to copy this and save it. Ultimately, it's all going to end up in whatever the software is that the line drawer's using. All of it will end up. The COI, the everything is going to be on one system. They're not going to use
two different systems in putting together our line. It would like -- it would be like Word Google. They're not going to do one thing in Google Doc and one thing in Word and then try and stick them -- no, they're going to put all into one and work with the one, whichever that is.

And they might -- they might say hey, this COI tool is pretty handy, you know, I'll do it that way. You know, I don't know. That's a question you'll have to ask.

Now, if we said we really want them to, that would be something we'd come and ask them about and say how, you know, how would you like to do this and why would you really not want to? And then we could evaluate how valid that is.

You know, it might be for a -- there might be more capacity if we incorporate it into -- well, okay, let's Word to Google. If it's in Word and you pull into Google, then you can share it with everybody. And whereas if you take Google and put it into Word, then everybody has to do it individually. It might be something kind of like that. It might be if I take all the COI that are maps that are individual and bring it into this other program, then we can from there we can expand that.

But it's still like -- it all comes in on the same
level, it isn't like there's a different hierarchy.

Well, again, it's like -- it's like, okay, when you start editing on a document that was a Word that came into Google, you're editing on the same document. If that helps.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Yeah, let's invite in some -- Commissioner Akutagawa, Commissioner Sadhwani, then Commissioner Turner.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I guess I have to go backwards now. I think with what Commissioner Andersen was saying, I guess maybe one of the thoughts, Commissioner Ahmad, is maybe there's like a dotted line between the database and the line drawer. I mean, ultimately I do agree. I mean, the line -- I mean, all of the data is going to have to be in one place. And whether it's the data analyst or it's line drawer, you know, the level -- I guess the question I have and this is where I don't know enough about the line drawer is how much detail will they need?

So in other words, is the data analyst going to be the one that's going to go into the weeds and then pull up, you know, the data to a higher level where the data analyst can use it? And then if the data analyst wants to go into the weeds to verify something, I mean, you know, the accessibility is there so that's why, you know,
maybe that kind of dotted line idea from the line drawer
to the database I think is what you're saying there's
currently not a connection. So that would just be, you
know, I guess just a question, comment on that part.

I also want to just say I think in terms of to your
earlier question about like, you know, understanding what
is needed for a data analyst. One of the thoughts that
had popped into my mind as Commissioner Fornaciari was
talking about like visualization and, you know, that
could mean so many different things. I mean, my first
thought when I thought of visualization is just, you
know, taking the numbers and the data and creating like
some kind of easy to read info graph just to, like,
digest the information and make it easily understood.

But what that also led me to think about is that
just because somebody may be good at pulling up the
patterns, creating kind of a report on, you know, what
does all of this data that was collected, both the public
input and the COI tool input, you know, I think the data
analyst should be looking at all of that so that
equality occurs. But just because somebody is good
at analyzing it, they may not be good at putting it into
a visual form. And that, I just want to say may be a
completely other different kind of skill set.

But you'll have to decide, do you want someone with
that skill set or is that as important of having somebody
with the skill set of being able to create to do the
analysis of all of these different reams of data and to
pull out the relevant kinds of patterns that then will
help us to make the decisions and the line drawer to also
make or draw those lines, you know, based on our
guidance.

So maybe more questions.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Commissioner Sadhwani,
Commissioner Turner, Commissioner Yee, and then we're up
against a break in less than eight minutes.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Oh, I guess just some
general thoughts here. And I apologize because I had to
step away.

First I just want to thank the subcommittee for all
of the work that they've done to really think through
what the process of all of this data -- what processing
this data will actually look like because I think that
that's a huge undertaking. And I just so appreciate you
all thinking about that.

I think, you know, when it comes to the analysis,
what is the role? I agree with Commissioner Akutagawa
and Commissioner Fornaciari and others that have said
it's going to be fuzzy. And I very much agree with that.
And I think had we realized all of this earlier, you
know, if we could go back in time, I think we could reenvision the RFP process even for the line drawer and really think about, okay, well, what does it take to have a line drawer and that assessment and analysis. And can we build that into an RFP? Can we find a line drawer who's going to have someone on their staff who can conduct this kind of analysis that it sounds like we want. Right? And maybe that's a lesson learned for 2030 like be thinking of data analysis up front.

Because I can see how it's going to be a challenge to have, sort of, like an outsider or our staff member working with a line drawer consultant and making sure that that relationship, that it just gels, that it jives.

I agree also with Commissioner Akutagawa that the, you know, the analysis can be different from visualization. You know, I can analyze data in one format, like in Stata but using R to do ggplots (phonetic) and such things, it's like I struggle with it. Right? So they can potentially be different skill sets.

I agree.

The other piece in terms of timeline, if we could go back in time, I think we could rethink this process. But we are where we are. And in three weeks, hopefully, we're going to have a line drawer. And I just wonder if we can hold the -- like all of this great thinking on
what the process, how we will process this data until we
have that line drawer so we can better answer what does
that data analysis actually look like? And what
capabilities will our selected line drawer have or not
have, right, to actually do some of this for us.

Maybe they'll have someone on their staff who can do
it. I don't know. We didn't include that in the RFP but
maybe we'll get lucky. Maybe we won't, you know, and
we're going to definitely have to hire like an analyst,
someone who can do the visualization and the data manager
like I'm not -- I think I struggled with this
conversation because I just -- I don't know the answer.
And I think once we have a line drawer on board, we'll be
better situated to answer it and assess our needs. And
the good news is hopefully that's only three weeks away.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Turner, then
Commissioner Yee.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yes, thank you.
Thank you, Commissioner Sadhwani.

I think with the delays that we have, and we
actually have the luxury of waiting those extra weeks to
try to figure out what that's going to look like.
Because one of the other flags that continue to come up
for me, at least, is around the usage of the COI tool or
not and understanding why we would not use the COI tool.
And it certainly can't be because it's either cumbersome or it doesn't do something or it doesn't -- because that would not be, I would imagine, the message that we want to send to the community that there is other ways to draw outside of what's been allowed through our COI tool.

And so I would want to for sure ask that question, what would be preventative about a line drawer using this tool that we've asked all of California to use? And what -- why they would need to do something different.

So. And I think we now have the time to wait on understanding that as well.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Commissioner Yee.

COMMISSIONER YEE: Thank you to everyone for this conversation. Thank you to the subcommittee.

You know, it's such a complex task being done still in the abstract, you know. I think what's going to happen is, you know, you're going to get a lot of inputs. It's going to look different from region to region, of course. And I think what we need right now is a lot of flexibility. Because we don't know what, you know, what mix of data we're going to get.

But so I'm trying -- I'm trying to keep it all straight in my mind. So in my mind, a line drawer, what are the lines the line drawer is going to draw?

Ultimately, the lines of the final maps that we submit.
Before that, the lines of draft maps that we develop.

Before that, and this is what we're talking about now, is maps for discussion based on COI tool input, I guess, and other inputs in concert with a data analyst.

So it seems to me that if that's true, then the data analyst needs to actually be primarily responsible for all -- all inputs, whatever form they take because somebody has to be responsible for them, you know.

There's going to be such a mix. I mean, I can imagine a COI tool input submission that may have a really cogent narrative attached to a map that actually doesn't quite match the narrative. I mean, you're going to get all kinds of inputs that takes some judgment and interpretation. You know, that alongside merely verbal or solely verbal input and so forth. So somebody is responsible for weighing all that. We're going to be trusting the judgment of that person quite a bit. But that hopefully is going to get us further than 2010 had when nobody was doing that in that role.

So I think I'm agreeing that we don't want different kinds of input to be analyzed by different -- by different people here. Right? Like, a line drawer versus a data analyst. But we're thinking that the line drawer has mapping skills and so forth that the data analyst may not have. I guess I need some assurance that
the proposals that we're putting out are flexible enough, specific enough to make sure that somebody will do that work and it won't be a case where neither is actually responsible for doing that work. I guess.

It's not super clear but that's -- I'm just trying to check where my thinking is right now.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you, Commissioner Yee.

Commissioner Andersen.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: How about if we come at this from a completely different way?

Number 3, it says types of questions. We're grappling with, you know, who's dividing up and all this analyzing, analyzing. What do we want? What are we asking? What are we, you know, we're sort of envisioning there's these communities of interest and so what are we -- you know, try to kind of spin that in our minds. What questions are we asking? I mean, why -- another way to put it, why are we asking for a data manager? And then, let's go to number 3, what questions are we asking? Because that might really come back into how we look at the data analyst and the line drawer. Or at least give us really good questions that we could ask those two contractors to talk about.

Because the data analyst needs to know. Well, what do you want to know? And so what do we -- what do we
want to know? What are we -- you know, what are we sorting? What do we want that needs to be sorted? And I think that's a question that -- that's a Commission question that the subcommittee really needs kind of direction on so you can move forward. That's -- I -- that's what I think and then that might help us go back in to as opposed to us trying to delineate, delineate, then go oops, well now, oh, I didn't need that question in the first place, I don't need that information.

What information are we looking for is what I would propose. Let's skip this and move to number 3. Or come back to number 3.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Thank you. We are right at our mandatory break. So let's pause and be back in 15 minutes. Be back at 3:26, 3:26, and we'll pick up right where we left off. Thank you.

(Whereupon, a recess was held from 3:11 p.m. until 3:26 p.m.)

CHAIR TAYLOR: Good afternoon. It is 3:26 p.m., February 9th, day 2 of the California Citizens Redistricting Commission Business Meeting.

We left off at agenda item number 12, the Data Management Discussion. And I believe we last left right before Commissioner Turner.

So Commissioner Turner, you have the floor.
COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you, Chair.

I wanted to just respond to Commissioner Yee. You were asking questions and making a statement, actually, about being responsible for all different inputs and what have you. I just want to say that's what the data manager will do. So I just wanted to clarify that position.

And to be able to say as a subcommittee, we're comfortable waiting until the line drawer is hired since we have the time to do that. We have a couple of weeks to be able to continue in a conversation about the difference between the line drawer and the data analyst and where they will interact with. So we're comfortable in doing that.

So the last piece that we wanted for this part was to thank you, Commissioner Andersen, for her comments before. But with the piece that says what type of questions we're hoping the data analyst could answer.

And Chair, if you don't mind because again we have the time and to not necessarily take time here, we can ask the Commission to submit their responses through email and then just bring back all of the questions in public format, the public forum, at that time.

And so what we're looking specifically for and if for sure the Commission -- or excuse me, the public as
well want to participate, certainly that's fine, they can send it in. But we're just looking for the types of questions we're hoping a data analyst can answer for us and love to hear your thoughts and inputs on that so that we will have that available when our line drawer comes on and as we continue the conversation about a data analyst.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Turner, Commissioner Ahmad, we have time if you want to field a few of those questions right now to sort of get a flavor of the questions we want to ask. So we do have a few moments right now if we want to hear from any of the commissioners as to those types of questions.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: We are ready, yes. Commissioners, do you have anything that stands out for you that you'd want to have answered by an analyst?

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I don't know if this is too broad. But I would hope that the data analyst could help us to see what areas we have been getting good input on and what areas we need to do more outreach on.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Got it.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Ahmad.

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Just to clarify. Commissioner Sinay, when you say -- what does it mean when you say good input?
COMMISSIONER SINAY: Are we, you know, I keep going back to having like a map on our Facebook page -- not our Facebook page -- on our website that every time I see a COI tool comes in, it goes, you know, you get a dot on the map. So just, are we getting COIs? And this would be in addition to us having the meetings but just in general. So it would be --

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: So good meaning just the quantity --

COMMISSIONER SINAY: The quantable coming in.

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: The quantity, the number.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: The quantity, the number of.

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Okay. Not as in good or bad and that --

COMMISSIONER SINAY: No, no, no, no, quantity. Sorry.

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Okay. Thank you for that clarification.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I'm just going to build on Commissioner Sinay. It would be important for -- and we'll be able to see this, like where are our gaps, you know, we'll be able to -- they should be able to hopefully tell us where our gaps are, where we may want to concentrate a little bit more.
And I would also be very interested in terms of are there a thousand that are the exactly the same type of maps? So that's important to me as well. Thank you.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Yee.

COMMISSIONER YEE: Yeah, basic characterization of the inputs that have come in so number, what form, do there appear to be a bunch of duplicates, what language, languages, you know, basic information like that.

And then some interpretation. You know, like what issues seem to be coming up. Right? I mean, start drawing our attention to what the input points to as, you know, points of -- points attention that we'll need to make decisions about.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Andersen.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you. I always wonder at some point are we going to have to come up with criteria to when we, you know, we have six COIs, they interlap, they don't interlap, we've got to have a draw, we're going to have to create a district somewhere between them.

At some point we're probably going to have to evaluate them and I really hate to have to do that on the spot. I think we should kind of have a look of criteria. And so in the questions, what criteria would we need to do something like that? And I don't quite -- I can't
grasp around what the criteria would be.

But -- and this -- just kind of throwing this out to
the Commission. If we -- when we find ourselves in this
situation, what do you think we might need?

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Commissioner Sadhwani.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I think my thoughts are
somewhat similar to Commissioner Andersen's, actually, so
I would ask a data analyst to identify the areas in which
COIs are overlapping as well as identifying areas where
we seem to have multiple conflicting COI submissions that
we would have to kind of work through and think more
about.

And then as to Commissioner Yee's perspective of
thinking through the different types of submissions, I
would add to that different COI types. So those may
include things like racial or ethnic groups. It might
include environmental as we heard today. Business
regions of some sort. Something tied by transportation
lines or geography.

I'd be really curious if an analyst could identify
submissions in those ways, like label them in such ways
upon input so that as we're receiving, okay, we have ten
COI submissions in one area. If we can look at like
racial and think about that in terms, you know, vis-à-vis
these other kinds of types of COIs. I think it would
just be a helpful way of perhaps analyzing it when it comes to making key decisions. As we invariably have to make tradeoffs and I think that might help us in doing so.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Ahmad, then Commissioner Turner.

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Sorry, I'm just asking clarifying questions so to make sure I document it correctly.

Commissioner Sadhwani, you said overlaying, you would want an analyst to be able to tell you the overlays of different COIs in relation to some secondary or tertiary characteristic of that area, that region?

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah, potentially. So if --

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Okay.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: -- people are saying what -- why the -- I think the question on the COI tool is like what ties your community together? Or something like that. If it's -- if it's -- this is a historic, you know, Latinx community, I'd like to know that versus we're tied together as the Foothills community, or as an LGBTQ community or something of that nature so that when it comes to actually drawing those districts, we understand, okay, it was a COI, but it was a certain kind of COI. And perhaps that will weigh in to our decision
making more, less, or not at all.

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Got it. Thank you.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Turner.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: I'm going to read some of these back. It's written a little bit differently in case it jogs someone else's thought.

So what are areas that we're receiving information in? Where do we have lag? Where are our gaps? Which inputs were identical, multiple times submitted.

Characterizations of inputs, the where, what was said, the interpretation of. Evaluation of criteria, the process whereby we would evaluate criteria. Identify overlapping areas of COI inputs, conflicting COI inputs, the ability to identify the type. What was tying them together, what they say are tying them together, is it racial, environmental, region, transportation?

What are some other things we're thinking about?

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

Commissioner Andersen.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I have two. One I just remembered. The -- looking at COIs on a map, they populate. The statewide database said they would work -- help -- would work with us to create that image because, you know, they're getting them in so they could kind of
populate that and we'd have to put it on our website.

But two, we're talking about, you know, looking at COIs, we have COIs and stuff. This time we're going to have a whole bunch of people submit district maps. And how do we compare those? How much time do we spend? Are we just essentially evaluating district maps? A lot -- that's a whole other can of worms that we actually haven't talked about. That's a whole other thing.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Sadhwani.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah, just to throw in one other monkey wrench. I think in the coming weeks, the VRA subcommittee will most likely have a document to share with you all from a professor who is a VRA scholar who's going to raise some interesting points around the creation of the area districts using total population, using citizen voting age population, using various forms of population in conjunction with a racially polarized voting analysis.

I don't anticipate that the data analyst has to do too much there. But I think at least a familiarity with those different kinds of population -- populations I think would just generally be helpful.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Commissioner Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I apologize if I'm repeating if somebody else said this. But I think
would be interested in the type of data submitted, was it through the COI tool, was it written? And I would actually be very curious as to are there specific areas that don't use the COI? I think it would just help for future outreach purposes just to know potentially language access or whatever the case may be of the COI tool not being available.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Commissioner Akutagawa.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah, I want to just follow up on what Commissioner Fernandez said. I think keeping in mind some of the -- some communities, not just rural, but there are other pockets that don't have really good Wi-Fi or broadband access and, you know, I think keeping that in mind as well too.

I know that Commissioner Kennedy sent me a note and was suggesting maybe some other means to collect that information that mimics the COI tool.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. I think that's a great place to start. Any other questions or comments so we can submit them to the Data Management Subcommittee.

Commissioner Vasquez, I'm saying your name just because I haven't said your name.

Do you, Commissioners, have what you need to further your conversation?

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Yes, we do. And I just want to
say I really appreciate this conversation, it was really
fun for me. We didn't jump into machine learning or AI
or anything like that but. Maybe in 2050 or something
like that. That's even a correct year but sometime in
the future we can jump into something like that.

But this conversation was extremely helpful in
helping us move our objective forward, especially from
the line drawing subcommittee providing the context of
bringing in that line drawer. And that's something
Commissioner Turner and I have had conversations with
USDR about is that -- is the data analyst role reactive
to the line drawer or supplementing the line drawer?

And just waiting for that entity to come in is going
to make delineating the roles and responsibilities so
much easier. And now that we have, you know, time, a
little bit of extra time, we are excited to use that time
to make sure that we continue to develop a robust process
for our work moving forward.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: My question goes back to what
Commissioner Akutagawa just said. You had said that you
and Commissioner Kennedy had sent a note talk about how
to do the -- how to mimic the COI tool outside of kind of
being able to use the internet to access it. That's a
big issue with incarcerated people. So I was wondering,
are you all looking at that already or is that part of
the COI tool working group?

    CHAIR TAYLOR:  Go ahead, Commissioner --

    COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA:  It's -- I actually wanted
to approach Commissioner Kennedy, it was his idea, he
just brought it up, we haven't talked about it yet.

    CHAIR TAYLOR:  Commissioner Kennedy.

    COMMISSIONER KENNEDY:  I just forwarded the request
to Director Hernandez to see what staff can come up with
as far as a mocked up paper COI tool form and we'll take
a look at it and come back to the full Commission with
our thoughts on that.

    But yes, the incarcerated populations are a perfect
example of a good target community for a paper COI tool
form.

    CHAIR TAYLOR:  Commissioner Sinay.

    COMMISSIONER SINAY:  I was just going to say we
will, then, what we learn, Commissioner Fernandez and I
learn as we're having these conversations, we will make
sure we're sharing it with you all as well as you're
creating that tool.

    CHAIR TAYLOR:  Any other questions or comments?

    Commissioner Akutagawa.

    COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA:  I think keeping in mind one
of the suggestions about postcards, particularly for the
incarcerated people. Perhaps it could be a rather large postcard but at least something that they can also provide input in.

I think it, you know, the other impetus, too, is thinking about some of the more rural communities but also communities again where access to broadband may be spotty, you know, paper might be preferable. And then also for those who are not comfortable going online, again, paper might be comfortable.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Question for Director Claypool. Do we have a business reply permit or could we obtain one and that way we could go ahead and print the -- we can have these forms available as business reply mail. Thank you.

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: Raul has actually established a relationship with small business and so we can do that.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Any other questions or comments?

And the Data Management Subcommittee, is that all? Or any further discussion needed?

COMMISSIONER TURNER: I think we're good. Thank you so much for your time, thank you for your input. We're learning, we're getting it there, we're getting closer.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Thank you. Good
All right. So that is agenda item number 12.

Agenda item number 14 is not needed.

We're on to agenda item number 15, discussion of future meeting dates and agenda items.

So the floor is open. Is any adjustment to our meeting days needed? Do we need to move into the month of March?

Commissioner Vasquez.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: We had said last meeting that we may be open to a conversation about time of day for upcoming meetings. Whether one's already scheduled and/or thinking about our March schedule. So just wanted to reopen that conversation.

CHAIR TAYLOR: That's correct. Commissioner Fernandez, then Commissioner Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Actually, I just wanted to clarify. The appropriate place for us to document our future agenda items because this last week, or last three weeks we've been going back and forth in terms of where to post and it's been a little bit frustrating. Because I know at one point I had posted something to be on this week's meeting and all of a sudden it wasn't on this week's meeting because it had to be somewhere else. So if we could just get like, okay, this is where to go to
post, that way I know it's not being changed and
hopefully will be looked at for future. Thank you.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Director Claypool, what is our
optimal process for agenda items?

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: So that's actually under debate,
Chair. We had originally established agenda@crc.ca.gov
as a place to put the media materials to post. And then
it became kind of a catchall. Then at some point there
was a doc in Google Docs, a share drive that allowed us
to put in the different meetings and presentations and so
forth that we wanted to post or that we wanted into the
agenda. So we've been using both.

I believe that Commissioner Andersen had discussed a
way that she would like to simplify the process and it
sounded like a very good plan. So I'm going to defer to
her to explain how she thinks we should do this.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. And just as a point of
process, I believe from Commissioner Kennedy to
Commissioner Le Mons to myself, we used Google Docs as
our basis for -- for our agenda building.

Commissioner Andersen.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes. I -- that is indeed my
proposal is that we use Google Doc as our primary and
especially singular source for everyone posting their
agenda items to that.
And I don't know if I can share my screen, actually pull up or if someone wants to pull up the Google Doc sheet. What we've done is added two columns to it so now it's five columns.

Can anyone quickly do that? I mean, I can try but I may or may not be successful.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I got it if you want me to pull it up.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Sure. I'd appreciate it.


See now we have new categories. Agenda posting date, meeting date, proposed agenda items, who's proposing. Those are exactly the same. The two on the outside are the new ones. So the proposal would be -- and you notice here's the meeting we're in. Everything was up there. The one on the right is -- that is the -- your handouts have to be posted on that date. And those handouts are posted on the website which I believe is agenda -- correct me on that one. What's the website on that to post the handouts? Send it to, send it to.

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: Agenda@crc.ca.gov.
COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Right. That's where all your handouts go. And the idea is that's the date by 5:00 p.m., everything has to be sent there.

And if you -- if -- Commissioner Sinay, would you pop down to the next page. And you see how on this one for the next meeting, we already have down, we already sort of did this. February 1st, that is the date where your agenda items have to be on the Google Doc by that date. And hopefully at that point, they are as specific and as close as to what you ultimately want to have on the agenda.

So then the Chair and Vice Chair can just grab the contents, put it on -- in an agenda, you know, just clean it up a little bit, basically send that out.

So the idea is -- notice I have 10:00 a.m. on that. If you submit your ideas, make sure everything's on it by 10:00 a.m., then -- and you'll get a -- hang on, put on by 10:00 a.m., then there should be essentially -- you know, submit that by 10:00 a.m., and then by or I guess, you know, 3:00, by -- it'll post to that day by 5:00. I think the Chair might, if we wanted to do a separate document of this is actually what we look at as the agenda, that would be a separate document, we could do a Google Sheet that would be boom, here it is, look at it by 3:00, make corrections because it's going out at 5:00.
Those details, eh, you know, we -- necessary. But the idea is that's the date, you have to get all your agenda items on the agenda document. And the idea keeping it all in one place, this is shared to the whole staff and the committee because you can see sometimes, ooh, that meeting is too dense, I will shift my item to the next meeting. Or vice versa, oh, I'm going to move my item up because I'll put it there.

But items can't get lost and missed an email because it's all here. And so that was the proposal. And I don't think it's actually that different, it's just it was never clarified and it kept on getting goofed around and then it would get reedited and it was just too confusing.

So that's my proposal. I think it's -- I'm just clarifying what has been happening but any questions or comments or let's change something or other. What does everyone think?

Thank you, Commissioner Sinay, you can take that off.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Kennedy, Commissioner Le Mons.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair.

Two points regarding agendas. First of all, I was just looking at our list of upcoming meetings that I have
in my handwritten notes and comparing that to the
upcoming meeting page on the webpage. I think part of
what the public has been telling us and we haven't done
anything about it is on the page where we have upcoming
meetings, you know, let's put all of those dates. Even
if we don't have the agenda yet, even if we don't have
the handouts yet. Let's put all of those dates so that
they can know when these meetings are coming up. Let's
not wait until we're two weeks out to put a meeting date
up if we know eight weeks out that we're going to have a
meeting.

Second of all, I guess the one question that I would
have in response to Commissioner Andersen is we have --
we have the discussion on future meeting dates agenda
items, as agendized item for our meetings. Is -- we're
essentially talking about replacing that. We're mostly
replacing that with a process that just has these things
going on to a Google Doc. Are we -- is that where we
want to go or? I just want to make sure we're being
sufficiently transparent in the building of our agendas.

Thank you.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Commissioner Le Mons.

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Well, to Commissioner
Kennedy's question, I don't think that we're suggesting
replacing it, just an efficient way as to the Chair's
point has been operating since you were Chair. So it's just clarifying for people to know what to do because seems like we're not catching on.

The other thing that I find confusing and I think kind of confuses people is when the agenda -- at least it confused me, I'll speak for myself. I was under the impression that this is the process we were using so we get the agenda sent to everybody to do something with, it comes like, well, what are we supposed to do with this, why is it being sent to us? I don't think that step is necessary, quite frankly. Usually the Chair and the staff works that out based on the Google Doc. And if everybody's put their information in the Google Doc, then they should be able to feel confident that it's going to show up on the agenda, I guess otherwise told by the Chair or Vice Chair.

So I think that we're taking a process that can be pretty simple and making it way unnecessarily complicated in between I think with all the attempts at communication. At least that was what my experience was. You know, because I even had a commissioner call me and say what are we to do with this? I said, I have no idea why we got that but I'm going to -- I'm going to ignore it and assume that if I put my stuff in the Google Doc, it'll be on the agenda. And that's really what my
expectation is. So I don't really need to get involved in that any further.

So I think if we're just all on the same page, that we're going to use this process. It's the in between chatter that ends up making it confusing when we laid out a process that has been operating across three chairs at this point.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I completely agree with Commission Le Mons and that's why I was a little surprised when the process changed all of a sudden. So where we stopped using the Google Docs for a couple of meetings. So I agree, we don't need to review the agenda prior to it being released. As long as there's agreement that they're going to the Google Docs and if they want to, they can check with the subcommittee members to make sure they still want it. But other than that, assumption should be it'll be on the agenda. Thank you.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. And I've found the Google Doc to be invaluable so I thought it was a great source to build the agenda from.

Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: The Outreach Committee has been using that Google Docs since the very beginning because we were creating all the different education panels and
stuff and we were trying to make sure that they were moving along.

And so just -- the one thing that is hard about it is that there isn't -- it doesn't go across and so when you add things, just be careful when you add things that you move the leads, all the lines across as well because I've gone in there in the past and they're all over the place and then I just kind of try to shift them around.

The other thing is I think we all do shift things around, especially if they're education panels and we're like, okay well, we can push it off to the next one. So having that date is a good idea so thank you for doing that.

Maybe the Chair of the -- when the date is up and it's already been, you know, it's already in stone can highlight it or something so people who go in there to change something know they can't change it at that point. I know we should all know, but just to make it -- to make it clear.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Director Claypool, did you have a comment?

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: No, I'm getting clarity out of this so this is great.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. And I'll also add that with your submissions that you provide a time estimate.
You can have three or four different things on the agenda and the Chair doesn't know how long that it's supposed to take or anticipate. So a time estimate is helpful.

Any other questions or comment related to the agenda? Then we are left with Commissioner Sadhwani.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: So this is not related to the process but about future meeting dates. Is it appropriate to raise that?


COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Perfect. Thank you.

So the Legal Affairs Committee next week will need to be conducting interviews of our applicants. Just as a reminder, all of those applicants are all posted on the website under job opportunities. So please review them there.

We wanted to simply ask the Commission as well as the Chair and Vice Chair of the meeting for next week. We just had two days of meeting, we went through all of our subcommittees, we've had a lot of great conversations. I know that there are -- we do have a panel, we have a couple of agenda items that require action for next week.

We wanted to find out if we anticipate definitely using all of the time of those two days or if people feel...
like hey, you sufficiently given your report back on your subcommittee and maybe don't need to have such a long meeting next time. If we could start -- start some of those interviews on that second day which would be the 17th. If not, if we feel like we definitely need those full two days, that's okay, we will do interviews the 18th and 19th. But we just wanted to float to that to the Commission as we are meeting weekly this month of February. So I just wanted to raise that.

And I see Ms. Marshall is raising her hand. So maybe we can't do that, I'm not sure.

MS. MARSHALL: You're correct. We weren't calendared --

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: We weren't calendared?

MS. MARSHALL: We weren't calendared to start interviews on that date, the 17th. Just makes it more exciting. We'll work it out.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Okay. All right. We had high hopes because the RFIs had said that interviews would be the 16th through 18th. So we were hoping maybe we could start the 17th. But that's okay. That's okay if it's not a possibility.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Fornaciari.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Let's see, so if I was just -- just a heads up here, looking at the February
24th through 26th meeting, there's not a date on there but of when the information is due for the agenda. But by my calculations, tomorrow. Or today.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Director Claypool.

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: It is today. And I was going to be getting -- I've already circulated the draft to both the Chair and the Vice Chair so today we need to have these in and we can post it up.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Is there any way -- maybe I'm at the Google Docs, if we can put who the Chair and Vice Chair is because honestly I don't remember when my turn is. So I was thinking is that my turn? I'm not sure. So. There needs to be -- I'm bad, but there needs to be some way that someone can trigger us that oh, you're up next, you've got to -- you've got to get on it.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I don't have that, Director Claypool. I am the vice chair on that one.

VICE CHAIR TOLEDO: And I'm the chair on that one.

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: Right. But you don't have the -- the document that I sent to you, I sent both of them. Both of them, I can resend them.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah, I did not. I just checked. I don't --

VICE CHAIR TOLEDO: If you could resend, that would
be great, no email issues.

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: Okay.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: One thing I do want to say. On the 24th to the 26th, it's going to be very busy because that is when we are doing the presentations and evaluations and scoring and awarding of the line drawer as well as I think -- I'm moving to the 26th, the VRA is doing -- I mean, not the VRA, the Legal Affairs Committee is proposing what? I might turn to the Legal Affairs Committee. I know that's going to be a very crowded three days.

So what was the other part?

COMMISSIONER YEE: VRA council and litigation council. We're going to propose, we plan to propose who to hire.

VICE CHAIR TOLEDO: Or make recommendations. Yeah.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. So then that would kick for essentially other items. We did reduce 16 and 17, but I guess that question is going away. We have to kick that to the next meeting.

But we skipped -- we're not doing anything the first week of March, we have something down the next two days of March. So I -- you know, just for people's consideration.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Chief Counsel Marshall.
MS. MARSHALL: This is going back in response to Commissioner Sadhwani. I'm looking at my work calendar and it does have the 16th through the 19th regarding meeting for the LAC and the VRA council and litigation council. However, when I look at the actual agenda, it just has the schedule for one day. Unless my agenda is not up to date. But I'm a little perplexed right now. So I'm going to take the time to take a look at it. I'm not sure if the Commission wants to give a preliminary yay or nay on additional time but I have to figure out these dates because they're not really jiving right now.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Could I say in terms of the agenda that's actually went out, it's the 18th, 19th, and 22nd, as needed. I don't --

MS. MARSHALL: Maybe I --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: -- if that --

MS. MARSHALL: Maybe I don't have the updated version of the agenda.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. Because that did get posted is my understanding. 18, 19, and 22nd, if needed for the Legal Action Committee.

MS. MARSHALL: You said 18th, 19th, and --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: 22nd, if needed.

MS. MARSHALL: Okay. And that is on the agenda?
VICE CHAIR TOLEDO: Yeah, and it's posted.
MS. MARSHALL: Okay.
VICE CHAIR TOLEDO: Online.
MS. MARSHALL: All right. So Commissioner Sadhwani, how does that work for you because I was like -- I was looking at we only had one day with the agenda that I was looking and that was just the 18th. And so we do have three days.
COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I'm sorry. So what are the three days that you're proposing?
MS. MARSHALL: I'm not proposing any date. They're saying on the agenda, it's 18, 19, and 22nd.
COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah.
MS. MARSHALL: That's what --
COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah.
MS. MARSHALL: Okay. That's what's on the agenda. I thought it was -- you mentioned the 16th, no you mentioned the 17th becoming a half day.
COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah, we just weren't sure if we needed the full two days for the full Commission meeting --
MS. MARSHALL: Okay.
COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: -- especially since we had just met this week as well.
COMMISSIONER YEE: And the RFIs mention that
interviews could take place from the 16th to the 18th and we -- we have six potential interviews so we're just trying to find a little extra time somewhere to make it more manageable.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Correct. Yeah, so there's a discrepancy between the RFI and the agenda.

MS. MARSHALL: We'll work it out.

CHAIR TAYLOR: All right. So have we -- are we Commissioner Fornaciari.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Don't believe we've addressed Commissioner Vasquez's question.

CHAIR TAYLOR: That's correct.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: And I'm --

CHAIR TAYLOR: Because our February calendars remain the same. We eliminated the first week of March. We haven't built out in March meeting days at all. Or addressed March; is that correct?

Commissioner Andersen.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: The only date that we -- we do have a couple that were penciled in in March. The only date that we removed is March 3rd and we took that off the schedule.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Correct.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: We do still have the March 8, 9, March 16, 17.
CHAIR TAYLOR: Okay.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: And also penciled in March 29 and April 1st. Those were penciled in and that's as far as we got. But -- and we did talk about, you know, maybe Saturday the 20th for a little workshop. We talked about a couple of different workshops floating around. At one point they were talking February but -- that we said, we paused and went back. So I think that's where we are. My understanding. But.

CHAIR TAYLOR: So any alternatives to these March dates suggested? Some outside of the box thinking.

Commissioner Andersen.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I propose a half day on Saturday the 20th with the idea being possibly for line drawing workshop.

I also threw out but I don't quite know if I'm speaking out of turn here for the legal affairs or VRA, I also have penciled in VRA workshop question mark on Monday, the 29th. And I don't know if I was, you know, racially polarized, I was moving that ahead. I don't quite know. That could have just been I was penciling out loud. But that's what I had.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Sadhwani.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: My understanding when we discussed this last time was that we were going to hold
off on such a workshop until April just to give us a little bit of a break.

If you want to go forward with the 20th, that's fine. I personally can't make it that weekend but, you know.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Turner, then Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you, Chair, and thank you for taking us through this.

I just wanted to say if we're going to move out into the weekends in which I do think that's a good thing, I even for April, my weekends are -- gets super busy. And I don't mind moving things but I need them further out. So I don't want to wait till further in March to determine when April weekend meetings are going to be.

So if we can arrange them now, I can certainly alter my schedule to accommodate what the Commission needs. So I'd like to say weekends, yay, and let's get them in early.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: And I was going to say, I'm all for doing the later. We had talked about instead of starting at 9:30, starting, you know, at 3:30 and going later. My only concern right now, as we're doing public education sessions, is a lot of those sessions are in the
evenings and so we're already, in some cases, doing Commission meeting in the daytime, and then resting for an hour and jumping onto a public education one.

I'm hesitant to take up our evenings because that's going to make it even harder to schedules those for some, but -- anyway, I just want to put that out there.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Akutagawa.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Excuse me. I want to echo what Commissioner Sadhwani said about pushing the line drawing workshop out a little further. I also, I guess I'd like to put in a, maybe a word in for -- for the evening meetings. I understand, you know, Commissioner Sinay, what you mean by the public education meetings. I don't want to assume that all of them are going to be in the evenings and then I think it's also important that we also start thinking about our business meetings like this being held at more of a variety of times so that others who do want to take part in this can also take part in it. And I think I'll also say, for those of us who are working full time, too, that that variety may also be a little helpful, too. So we'll still be working the full day no matter what because even after these meetings, I'm still working. It's just shifting what work goes first, so I am fully in support of evening options for those who may only be able to listen in during the late afternoon,
evening hours.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

So Commissioner Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: And also, as Commissioner Kennedy suggested that if we post our future meetings and we also post the times, that way the organizations will know when we're available versus not available if we have a meeting. Even if our meetings start at noon versus 9:00. 9:30's kind of like an odd time to start. I don't know why we don't start at 8:00 and then finish earlier, or -- if we start at noon and finish, you know, by 6:00 or 7:00. That's good as well.

I would also recommend, and maybe I'm going to throw this to Executive Director Claypool until we get a Board secretary, or someone that can, at every meeting, it would be very helpful if maybe on this Agenda Item, in terms of discussing future meetings, if we could already have like the future meetings noted in there, so I'm not having to go through my calendar to try to remember what the dates are. So that would just be very helpful in that. Yeah, apparently I'm not as organized as I would like to be. So thank you, all.

CHAIR TAYLOR: All right. So I'm hearing two things. One is that we want our future meetings listed somewhere. Be it on the agenda or on the website,
probably -- preferably both so that the public, as well
as us, can be aware of those -- of those dates.

And then two, as of right now our dates are
unchanged. February is unchanged. March is unchanged.
So if we're going to move to some of these novel
thoughts, we have to put them forward and accept them.
If not today, next time.

Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: What if we've got a funky
meeting anyway March 29th, and then we skip and then we
go April 1. So we could try on March 29th to move that
to a later time, so we start, you know. That might be
too out there to start experimenting and we'd like it
earlier.

Don't tell me, Commissioner Vasquez, you can't do
that one.

CHAIR TAYLOR: So --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: It is Holi, so does that
come up with the, you know, evening events. It's the,
you know the Holi Festival. It's where the celebration,
the 29th of March. We can all bring paint. White
clothes and paint.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Chair, if I may. I --

CHAIR TAYLOR: Absolutely.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: I was going to propose, maybe
we could experiment on the 8th and 9th, with a later
date, a later time start for both days. I'm open, in
terms of like backwards mapping when people think they
will need to end. So maybe not going later than 8:00.
So backwards mapping from there. How long are our
meetings? Seven hours. So maybe start them after lunch
at like 1:00.

CHAIR TAYLOR: We do have to be mindful of staff
that is present at our facility. We don't want them
leaving the building too late for various security
reasons. We don't want staff having to leave the
building at night, 10:00, 11 o'clock at night if they
don't have to. So I would probably think a tick earlier
so that we can be done by 6:00 or 7:00.

Commissioner Akutagawa.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I'm just curious is
there -- is for them to, for the staff, and is it an
option or could they work from home on those evenings or
on those days when we would have a late evening.
Although, I guess because of the streaming it's just
going to happen. Actually, forget I asked that question.
I just realized the streaming makes it also complicated
too, so.

CHAIR TAYLOR: And I think per statute we have to be
there.
Director Claypool.

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: So the streaming can be done from their studio. It doesn't have to be done from this facility and we could also have staff on those days come in from home. So we could -- we could vacate this facility to accommodate that.

MR. MANOFF: I, I mean, if I could just interject. I know that that's not our prerogative in this, but there is -- there would be set up time required when we change venues. So part of -- we're kind of taking advantage of having a home base here. So that's just something to keep in mind, that there does need to be a lead time.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you, Kristian.

Commissioner Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Just another variable in this and maybe addressing Commissioner Vasquez's request, but pushing it by a week. If we push it by a week, then we have daylight savings time starting on Sunday the 14th, so that the meeting that's currently on 16, 17 March would be with more evening sunlight.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Commissioner Vasquez.

COMMISSIONER VASQUEZ: Another creative thought. I know we have full days currently blocked off for 8th and 9th. What about three days of six-hour meetings, or
five-hour meetings. Breaking up, going across three
days for a shorter time so that we could end by like 6:30
if we started at 1:00 and went from 1:00 to 6:30, or
something. However the timing works out, for three days.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioners, any thought to that?

Comments?

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Oh, I see a lot of head nods.

Yay.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Ahmad.

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Just only one thought to that,
Commissioner Vasquez, we would -- we would be paying for
three days instead of mushing all of our business stuff
into two days. That's the only thing that I can think
of, is fiscal consideration.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Any other thoughts or comments?

Commissioner Vasquez.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yeah, thank you, Commissioner
Ahmad for flagging that, and I will say I think by
that -- by this point I think most of us will be also
giving presentations on various days and I know we're all
sort of mushing time. Mushing our time together in
various ways. So I think that's a good note and, you
know, those three days are going to happen for me during
presentations, et cetera, so.
CHAIR TAYLOR: Any thought to experimenting with
time on the 16th and 17th, perhaps a noon start.

Commissioner Akutagawa.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I'm okay, you know,
starting then too. I would like to, for I think our
understanding and clarification, I'd like to ask
Kristian, when you say you need advance notice to set up
at your studio, versus setting up or taking advantage of
your setup at the -- at the building that the Commission
is currently houses in. One, how much -- how much
advance notice do you need. Is that -- is that
exponentially increase our costs to the earlier point
around, you know, shortening the time and spreading out
over three days, versus just smushing everything into two
days and having that longer time frame.

MR. MANOFF: I mean we will do our best to
accommodate whatever schedule you all provide and it's
really no -- it's really no trouble either way. The more
notice I get, the better, is the answer, so.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Thank you.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Director Claypool.

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: I've already spoken also with
Kristian. I will come in. We'll work out of this
facility, just to keep it all here. It doesn't matter
when we go home from here. So we'll be set. So it will
be the three of us. We'll protect each other on our way
out the door.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Andersen.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I don't think we can do
later times, we have to figure out how it would work and
all the logistics of it. Another wrinkle is you know
March 17th is Saint Patrick's day. I mean, I don't think
there's going to be large roving bands of people in
downtown Sacramento, but you know, it's Saint Patrick's
day and I don't know what times we're talking about. If
we want to try in, given more daylight, in really the
16th, 17th, to get later. But just another thought.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Sadhwani and then
Commissioner Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I don't have any
reservations about moving it to evenings in general. I
would, you know, I just wanted to pause and take a step
back. And for the month of March we are scheduled to
meet two days every single week and I just want to ask
ourselves like, do we need that much time. Are we -- do
we feel like we have a lot on our plates in March to --
that we have to be meeting every single week? I don't
know.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Just a point, we're not
meeting every single week. We're meet -- we are meeting
three of the four. The 29th and 1st of April, but it's 8, 9; 16, 17. We're not meeting that weekend the 22nd, the 26th of March. We are not meeting then.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Oh okay. I still have that on my calendar as that we are meeting.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I think, because I did the same, that's in February, you know it's -- the calendars look exactly the same and I had -- I was looking at the wrong month before. So in March we just have 8, 9; 16, 17; 29 and then we have April 1st.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Okay.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Akutagawa.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I guess -- I guess, not to complicate things, but I am going to make one that may seem complicated, but I think may provide various options for different people. I do -- I personally like the idea of going until at least 8 o'clock, even if it's 7:30 because there's some people that get off work at 5:00 and they won't be able to -- if we're ending at 6:00, 6:30 they just won't be able to participate. So that, that is a concern for me.

Perhaps the middle kind of option is we continue, you know, one set of meetings that's in the mornings like we normally do. Maybe have one that starts a little bit later in the afternoon where we finish by, you know, 6
o'clock. So we just start a little bit later and then one other set that, you know, will end later, you know, closer to 8 o'clock so that there will be different options. Whether or not we need all those meetings, I guess, to Commissioner Sadhwani's question, I think better that it's on our calendar on hold, and then for us to decide as it gets closer whether or not we need it. Because I think, like Commissioner Turner, my calendar gets filled up and it's better that I have it on hold and then just be able to cancel it and I'd feel like it's a bonus because I have all of this time all of a sudden that's going to be open that I could kind of fill up if I want, or just leave it open to do other stuff, so.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Copy. So Commissioner Turner.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you.

I'm -- I wanted to agree with Commissioner Akutagawa, with one exception. In times, the question that I believe Commissioner Sadhwani posed was do we need the days. If it's close, if it's looking like perhaps, I'm in total agreement that it needs to be there as a place holder and when we get it back, yes, we all celebrate. But if we can't answer that we think need them, I would rather clear them on calendar -- on the calendar and be able to continue in other business.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.
Commissioner Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Oh, this is great, chair.

Just a reminder, no Wednesday nights because I believe Commissioner Sadhwani has -- she specifically rescheduled her teaching for Wednesday night. So let's keep that in mind.

Also, I do agree with Commissioner Sadhwani, too, in terms of as a Chair and Vice Chair, I would really challenge all of us to maybe take a look at not only the meetings that you're Chairing, but maybe the future meetings. Because if there isn't much, like for the next set of meetings, maybe we try to move that up to a meeting that is going to happen to clear up some time.

Because honestly, I really feel like I could -- I could use that time to really expand on my outreach efforts in my zone, which is -- I would really like to get out there to do. And I love the meetings, but it does, you know, take up that chunk of your day and then sometimes I need the next day to kind of recoup.

So anyway, yeah. Let's just try to remember Wednesday. No Wednesday evenings and then try to be a little bit more forward thinking on agenda items and keeping the -- our agendas full, which we have been, but just looking ahead.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Andersen.
COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: On that specific note, I was trying to do that same thing. Could we just quickly, just a quick, you know, heads up, oh, this is coming. Run through the subcommittees in terms of what -- what do we still need to work on. You know I know line drawing. I needed that 24th, 25th bingo and then I'd like to put a workshop in there somewhere. Those are things that I have in mind. Other subcommittees, I know Commissioner Le Mons said he has, what was it? An RFI or something or other that was going to come out. That needs to go on somewhere. You know, can -- what subcommittees have items like that that we need to put on the agenda. Because we could very quickly figure out yes, we do need these days, we don't, and when we can maybe take a two-week break.

CHAIR TAYLOR: That, Commissioner Andersen, I would think that that would be the purpose of our Google Doc. And --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Great. We don't use it.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Yes. So what I'm taking is you want to employ, or you want to make use of that Google Doc so that we can see it our next meeting if we're able to eliminate a date or have a more efficient use of our time.

Any other questions or comments?
Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Just a quick one. The -- a lot of the education, I'm calling them education panels. Anyway, that Commissioner Fornaciari and I are doing, as well as other members. Those can be moved around, we just need to know ahead of time. So if there is -- you're like, oh wait, I need to fill in two hours, you know. I know we can end the meeting early, but if we're already there, let's be productive. We can -- we can bring people in or move them around but we just need to know and so we have been moving them out. So I just wanted to always put that out there that we're flexible on those unless we've already told the group this is the way we're doing it.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Commissioner Turner.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you. When we come back, it will be February 8th. Do we know now if there was a preferred Saturday that we're going to want in April? I'm still trying to push to get any weekends booked. Let's schedule the meetings now or block the date now.

CHAIR TAYLOR: So the question we have before us, and we're going to have to bring this discussion to a conclusion, is there a preferred Saturday in April that the Commission would like to meet on?
COMMISSIONER TURNER: Or would we be looking at May and then we can wait until February?

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I -- I'm going to say the ones I don't. I'd rather not do it on the 3rd and the 10th of April. Just because it's the kids spring break.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Vasquez.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: I can't do the 24th.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So the 17th.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: 17th. Lot of thumbs up for the 17th. We're going to swing for the 17th.

So for the moment, our agenda days, our meeting days remain the same for February and for March. The times may become subject to discussion for a future meeting, but right now, everything holds fast. And we have scheduled for Saturday, April 17th as a meeting day. Do we have a time for that Saturday meeting? 10:00 a.m., it's Saturday.

10:00 a.m., Saturday April 17th.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Is it a half day or a full day? What --

CHAIR TAYLOR: For right now I would think of it as a full day until someone says otherwise.

Any other questions or comments?

Commissioner Akutagawa.
COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Can I just state that then, if we go full day we're probably ended around 6 o'clock. Not that we should be all going out and having parties and dinners and stuff like that, but you know, it is still 6 o'clock and it's going to hit dinner time. And if we, for whatever reason end up running long, I don't know if it's better to just be willing to wake up a little early and end by around 5:00.

CHAIR TAYLOR: The same thought could be that we've given everyone a chance to, on Saturday, to take care of a little business before they join us on a -- on a meeting too, so I think we go both ways on that as well. So we, yeah, it's -- I'm fine with 10:00. I'm fine with a little earlier. It's up to the consensus.

Commissioner Fernandez, then Commissioner Turner.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Actually, I was just -- I'm kind of going along with Commissioner Akutagawa to a certain extent because it actually depends on is it a full meeting where we're going to go through all the subcommittees, you know, all of that. Or so it could be a condensed type schedule as well and it could be just a standalone where it's not associate with maybe Friday, Saturday meetings. So we could maybe, you know, whoever's Chairing that could work around those type of issues, whether or not we want to make it a full meeting.
CHAIR TAYLOR: So that can be -- that can be addressed in the agenda -- the agenda building for that particular day. So as opposed to having it extend all the way out 10:00 to 5:00 or 10:00 to 4:00.

Commissioner Vasquez.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yeah. I was just going to say with our breaks and everything, typically we go 9:30 to 4:30 and have a natural break at 4:30 and that's when we end, so if we push it to 10:00 we'll probably be wrapping around 5:30.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

Any other questions or comments?

Commissioner Turner.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah. I was just going to say earlier that it's a training. I think we were talking about this day as a training day, which means we can probably arrange it the way that we need to, so 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. should work. And we could bring in training that would accommodate those hours.

CHAIR TAYLOR: That's correct. So whoever's Chairing that meeting, we want them to be mindful of those constraints, possibly a 10:00 to 4:00.

Any other questions or comments?

All right then. We will close this agenda item. We'll move onto public comment.
Katy, can you invite in our Public for general public comments, please?

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: I can, Chair.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: In order to maximize --

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: You're welcome.

In order to maximize transparency and public participation in our process, the Commissioners will be taking public comment by phone. To call in, dial the telephone number provided on the live stream feed. It is 877-853-5247. When prompted to enter the meeting ID number provided on the line stream feed, it is 957-6586-8432 for this week's meeting. Once you have -- oh, wait. When prompted to enter a participant ID, simply press the pound key.

Once you have 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 a message that says the host would like you to talk, 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 live stream audio to prevent any feedback or distortion during
your call.

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

We do not have anyone in the queue at this time.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. We'll give it a couple of minutes.

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: Chair, I just wanted to make sure that Commissioners Toledo and Andersen receive that draft of the -- of the agenda.

VICE CHAIR TOLEDO: I did receive that.

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: Okay.

I'm working right now to place in the presentation from the Google Docs and I can send that over to you next.

VICE CHAIR TOLEDO: Appreciate it. Thank you.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And Chair, the instructions are complete, on the stream, and there is still no one in the queue at this time.

CHAIR TAYLOR: All righty, Katy, I am seeing no one else in the queue. Is that correct?

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: You are correct, Chair.

CHAIR TAYLOR: All right.

Any other questions or comments from the -- from the Commissioners?
Katy, I think we're going to close public comment at this time.

I would like to remind everyone to follow us, like us, on social media, please.

At Facebook wedrawthelinesca. Twitter, we drawthelines. Instagram @wedrawthelines. Find us on LinkedIn and YouTube. Let's build up that social profile and increase our footprint.

Again any other thoughts, comments from the Commissioners?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Just very good job, Chair Taylor. Thank you very much.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. I hope I could be of service, add to the line of our previous Chairs.

Commissioner Ahmad.

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Just one quick question. I see tomorrow there is a Legal Affairs Subcommittee meeting.

For folks, Commissioners who are not on the subcommittee who would want to watch, do we just tune in as a -- as a California?

CHAIR TAYLOR: As of right -- as of right now, we tune in as Californians.

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Awesome. Thank you.

CHAIR TAYLOR: All right. Any other thoughts, questions or comments?
Commissioner Toledo, Commissioner Andersen, we are in your capable hands next week.

And I bring this meeting to an adjournment.

(Whereupon, the Citizens Redistricting Commission meeting recessed at 4:40 p.m.)
CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIBER

I certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript, to the best of my ability, of the videoconference recording of the proceedings provided by the California Citizens Redistricting Commission.

LORI RAHTES, CDLT-108

June 27, 2022

DATE