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CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION (CRC)

In the matter of:

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2020

9:30 a.m.

Transcription by:
eScribers, LLC
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Friday, October 30, 2020     9:30 a.m.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you. Good morning, everyone. Welcome back. I will go ahead and first start with roll call.

Marian?

MS. MARIAN JOHNSTON: Why don’t we start with the executive director introducing our new person who’s going to be taking roll call?

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Ah, I see. Okay. All right. Dr. Claypool, will you please introduce our new staff member?

DR. DANIEL CLAYPOOL: We have the first of our people coming aboard. This is Wanda Sheffield. Wanda will be handling our agendas and taking -- working all the kinks out of this process, and making sure that we run more smoothly in the future, and we’re really happy to have her. She will be working as an office tech.

Wanda?

MS. WANDA SHEFFIELD: Thank you all so much.

MS. JOHNSTON: And would you like her to take the role now?

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yes.

MS. SHEFFIELD: All right. Well, let’s begin.

Isra Ahmad?
COMMISSIONER ISRA AHMAD: Here.

MS. SHEFFIELD: Linda Akutagawa?

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Here.

MS. SHEFFIELD: Did I say that right?

MS. JOHNSTON: Akutagawa.

MS. SHEFFIELD: Akutagawa.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thanks, Marian.

MS. SHEFFIELD: Okay.

Jan Andersen?


MS. SHEFFIELD: Jane Andersen?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Here.

MS. SHEFFIELD: Sorry about that.

Alicia Fernandez?

COMMISSIONER ALICIA FERNÁNDEZ: Here.

MS. SHEFFIELD: Neal Fornaciari?

COMMISSIONER NEAL FORNACIARI: I'm here.

MS. SHEFFIELD: Did I say that right?

MS. JOHNSTON: We'll give you all the names. Sorry we didn't do that before.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Fornaciari.

MS. SHEFFIELD: Dr. J. Ray Kennedy?

COMMISSIONER J. RAY KENNEDY: Here.

MS. SHEFFIELD: Antonio Le Mons?

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Le Mons is not going
to be with us today.

MS. SHEFFIELD: Okay.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: He sent a note saying that he was going to need to be away today.

MS. SHEFFIELD: Okay.

Dr. Sara Sadhwani?

COMMISSIONER SARA SADHWANI: Here.

MS. SHEFFIELD: Yes. Patricia Sinay?

COMMISSIONER PATRICIA SINAY: [Sin-eye']. Here.

MS. SHEFFIELD: Sinay.

Derric Taylor?

COMMISSIONER DERRIC TAYLOR: Present.

MS. SHEFFIELD: Pedro Toledo?

COMMISSIONER PEDRO TOLEDO: Here.

MS. SHEFFIELD: Trena Turner?

COMMISSIONER TRENA TURNER: Here.

MS. SHEFFIELD: Angela Vazquez?

COMMISSIONER ANGELA VAZQUEZ: Here.

MS. SHEFFIELD: And Russell Yee?

COMMISSIONER RUSSELL YEE: Here.

MS. SHEFFIELD: Thank you.

That good?

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Thank you very much, Ms. Sheffield.

All right. So let me just go ahead and go through
what our agenda for today will be. I will -- just
briefly before we start, I will open up for public
comment, but before I do, I just want to make --
actually, you know what? No, let's do this.

Jesse, will you read the instructions for public
comment, and we'll go ahead and just read off -- start
with public comment, and then following public comment,
what I'll do is I'll just give a brief report on our
closed session meetings, and then what we'll then move
into is, first up will be agenda'd (sic) item number 13,
which is about cybersecurity. We will then go on to
agenda item 15, 16, depending on what time we finish, we
will then go to agenda item 17, or what we'll do is,
we'll move to agenda item number 8, which is the local
field level nonprofit panel. So that is the initial plan
for this morning.

So Jesse, would you please read off the instructions
to call in and make public comments?

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. The telephone number is 877-853-5247.
When prompted, enter the meeting ID number provided on
the livestream feed. It is 9851259245 -- or 2479 for
this week's meeting. When prompted to enter a participant ID, simply press pound.

Once you have dialed in, you will be placed in a queue from which a moderator will begin admitting callers to submit their comment. You will also hear an automatic message to press star 9. Please do this to raise your hand indicating you wish to comment. When it is your turn to speak, the moderator will unmute you, and you will hear an automatic message that says the host would like you to talk, and press star 6 to speak.

Please make sure to mute your computer or livestream audio to prevent any feedback or distortion during your call. Once you're waiting in the queue, be alert for when it is your turn to speak, and again, please turn down the livestream volume. These instructions are also located on the website.

The Commission is currently taking public comment at this time.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Giving time for the livestream to catch up.

Jesse, I know you'll let me know if anybody joins us for the queue.

COMMENT MODERATOR: I will, Chair.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you.

Okay. So have we had anybody join us yet?
COMMENT MODERATOR: There are currently no callers in the queue, Chair.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Let me do this. We'll leave public comment open, but in the meantime, I will go ahead and just give a brief update about our closed session and what actions we've taken. I have three items that I'll be announcing, and if anybody who is listening is trying to call in, please continue to do so. We'll go ahead and we'll still take public comment, but just to allow more time for people to call in, I'll just go ahead and start this update.

So during closed session, we did take three actions. The executive director, Daniel Claypool, presented to the Commission a staff hiring plan, which we did approve, of which we were able to meet one of the first hires, Ms. Wanda Sheffield.

Second action that the Commission took was the proposal or motion to hold annual evaluations for permanent full-time staff, which the Commission approved.

And thirdly, we're pleased to announce that we have approved and we have had an offer and acceptance, formal acceptance, for the hiring of our new chief counsel, Ms. Kary Marshall, and I'm very happy to say that we will be having her joining us soon, and we will be putting out an announcement via press release of her hiring.
And so I do want to say thank you to our Commission subcommittee, Commissioner Toledo and Commissioner Andersen for the work that they did to screen, and interview, and bring forth the candidates that they suggested for this particular role, and the work that they did to coordinate and negotiate.

I also want to thank Commissioners Fernandez and Ahmad, who worked with Ms. Marshall to notify her of her hiring, or her offer, and also worked with her directly to negotiate the terms and conditions of her employment. And so thank you very much for all the time and the work that you all put in to ensuring that we have a great new staff member. Okay.

Jesse, do we have anyone who's joined us for public comment?

COMMENT MODERATOR: There are currently no callers in the queue, Chair.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Well, we'll go ahead and we'll move on to our first agenda item for this morning. I will also just say, for anybody who is listening or interested, we'll next take public comment again if we have a motion, or we'll take general public comment after lunch.

With that, I am going to turn to agenda item number 13. There was a handout that was posted to the CRC
website. There was a one-pager that will help to inform this discussion about information security concerns.

Commissioner Fornaciari, I think you are going to lead this discussion.

Commissioner Sinay?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Sorry. I just wanted to ask a question. Will we be having public comment after the panel, in case anybody has questions for our panel or wants to add anything?

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yes. Thank you for that. Yes. We will take public comment after the panel, should anybody -- we help each other out. So thank you. Yes.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Sorry. I was laughing at Commissioner Toledo going in a circle.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you. Yes, we will definitely do that. We want to make sure that we do have opportunities for the public to ask questions or weigh in on it. Thank you.

Commissioner Fornaciari, I'm going to turn this over to you to lead our discussion on cybersecurity.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. Very good. Thank you.

Just one comment. I love Commissioner Toledo's new background. Little bit of advertisement for Sonoma County there. It's beautiful.
So let's see. I guess you guys probably know, but I've spent my career working in a government laboratory, and a lot of classified information and security has always been in the forefront of my mind, and so you know, I assume you guys have read the write-up, if you have some questions about that.

You know, we were having our conversation about security and concerns about both cybersecurity and data security the other day. I got to thinking, and I was a little concerned. I mean, this keeps me up at night, but this is just me, and I want to make it clear that I'm teeing this up for conversation.

I talked to Commissioner Kennedy about this when we were reviewing the agenda for next week the other day, and he reminded me that we had talked about having the COI tool team take the lead on this issue. I had forgotten or I would have engaged them, and I apologize for that, but you know, because of the long lead times that we have with our agendas, I put it on the agenda when I was working with Commissioner Akutagawa to put the agenda together for this meeting so we could tee up the conversation, and then I put it on the agenda for closed session. But you know, I want to have a conversation about this topic and just see, you know, where the rest of you were with this and see if this is an issue we want
a discussion in closed session.

Commissioner Kennedy and I have talked about some
guest speakers. He's working on a couple of guest
speakers on this topic. I had asked Raul to see if we
get a speaker from the Department of Technology, which is
the State department that's responsible for these issues.

And I think Commissioner Kennedy has his hand up?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you. Yes. Just two
things. One, the COI tool team has discussed this, and
they -- we were basically caretaking this issue. We are
happy to hand it off to a dedicated subcommittee, if that
is something that the full Commission would like to see,
and the Chair would like to appoint.

And just while I have the floor, I did contact the
Department of Homeland Security through the U.S. Election
Assistance Commission. They routinely provide security
check-ups, and advise, and so forth to jurisdictions
around the country on cybersecurity, so I did contact
them on Monday, proposing that they offer us a guest
speaker, and potentially, eventually, some assessment of
our cyber infrastructure, our IT infrastructure. I have
not yet heard back from them, but I will follow up next
Monday if I don't hear from them by then. Thank you.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: So I mean, I thought it
was a conversation worth having. You know, I feel like
It's certainly part of our duty here in the Commission, especially in the environment we're in now, and especially with the -- you know, what's at stake for people, that, you know, it's not inconceivable that we're going to have folks trying to manipulate the process, and we just, you know, do the best we can to ensure that we're protecting the data and that we understand the data integrity.

And so in order to have a closed session on security, we need a two-thirds vote of the Commissioners who are present in the meeting at the time. So we could either do that vote now or do it next week, but I just wanted to open it up for conversation.

Commissioner Andersen?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: This is something I think about, also. I think this comes from the engineering in us. And I do have certain contacts in, you know, obviously Silicon Valley, because I'm, you know, right here. I have a lot of computer tech people who are -- I could call up. I could find out, you know, who does what at Cal in their -- they have a new computer science crossover division, and I know the guy who runs that. And so I could get some -- I could probably get some speaker, if we want some speaker or something like that. I'm certain he could find someone or someone who could
come in and just do a short presentation, particularly if we want to do something in closed session, which some of the things that they might be saying, we should talk about in closed session, because that is, you know, it's about a vulnerability.

This is not -- this is not being not transparent. This is something that, you know, you don't want to share your particulars or what -- you know, how you're approaching something, if people who might not have the Commission's best interests at heart could be overhearing that. So I would certainly -- I would certainly be in favor of going to a closed session about this. I don't know if we want to do this now or at some point, but I do think this is a very serious topic, and I'd be more than willing to help out getting people together, or being on a committee, or something like that.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. Well, thank you for that. Well, we'll see when we check in, probably later today on the agenda, what our speaker situation looks like, and if we need -- or if we're looking for another speaker, we'll get a hold of you. I think two probably would be enough at this time, and I think we're going to have two.

And you brought up a good point that I meant to bring up. And part of my intent with this write-up, too,
was to share with the Commissioners, share with the public, to share with our partners. You know, my intent in proposing to go into closed session is really to focus on security issues. It's not to hide what we're doing in mapmaking, or map drawing, or decision making, it's just to ensure that the data is secure. And that --

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: -- Commissioner Toledo was next.

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Yeah. I just wanted to remind the Commission that our chief counsel does come from the Department of Technology, and does have experience. And in particular, when it comes to transparency, the public interest, and balancing those rights and obligations with the importance of protecting the integrity of the process and the IT aspect of it. So it'd be good to have her as part of those conversations as well, and fortunately, she'll be joining us, so.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. And actually, that -- you know, reading her resume and looking at the Department of Technology, it also kind of set off a light bulb for me that, you know, they're the State agency, and that's why I asked Raul to get with them to see if we can bring someone in. And now that she's accepted, we should loop her in in this discussion.
CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Do the other commissioners have any comments? I am comfortable going into closed session, and we could take a vote, but I'd like to hear anybody else has any thoughts. I know we've also had this discussion earlier on, when we first had the initial conversation about the COI tool and that was definitely one of the concerns that was brought up, is just the security of the data and to ensure that security, and that obviously, if we're talking about our methods to ensure that security, we don't want to make it so public that we would, you know, open ourselves to any kind of vulnerabilities, as Commissioner Andersen had also mentioned as well, too, so.

Any of the other Commissioners, would you like to weigh in on this? Any comments? And if there is a motion, then, to go to closed session on this, I would also invite that motion, too.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. So we would need a motion to go in closed session, and that closed session would be next week, at next week's meeting, where it's on the agenda. So does that make sense?

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah, it does. I'll motion that we move to closed session next week.

COMMISSIONER YEE: I'll second.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Is that -- okay. So Commissioner
Turner moved and Commissioner Yee seconded it. I saw Commissioner Sinay and Commissioner Andersen raise their hands? Oh, okay. It was to make the motion? Same thing? Okay. All right.

So any discussion?

MS. JOHNSTON: Seconded, Madam Chair?

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Yee.

And Commissioner Fernandez?

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Actually, it's just more of a comment. This doesn't keep me up late at night, because I have so many other things that keep me up at night, so I just want to thank Mr. Fornaciari for bringing this up and having our backs on this. So thank you so much. I appreciate that.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. If there are no other comments, this might be the fastest and easiest motion that we've gone through, so --

MS. JOHNSTON: And there is a special rule, as Commissioner Fornaciari mentioned, that you need a two-thirds vote to go into closed session, under that section for security, terrorism, and threats.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: And is that two-thirds of each of the -- each of the parties or the groups?

MS. JOHNSTON: Two-thirds of those present.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Okay. Thank you.
MS. JOHNSTON: Commissioner --

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Well, let's go let's take a -- let's take a vote.

MS. JOHNSTON: Do you want to public comment first?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Comment?

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Oh, yes. Thank you for sharing that.

Jesse, let's go ahead and let's open it up for public comment. And if you would read off the instructions?

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. The telephone number is 877-853-5247. When prompted, enter the meeting ID number provided on the livestream feed. It is 985 1259 2479 for this week's meeting. When prompted to enter a participant ID, simply press pound.

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livestream volume. These instructions are also located
on the website.

The Commission is taking public comment at this
time.

Chair, there are currently no callers in the queue.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. We could give just another
minute just to give people -- I know that if they were
trying to scramble writing in the phone number, want to
give them time to be able to call in. Okay.

Jesse, anyone in the queue?

COMMENT MODERATOR: There are still no callers in
the queue, Chair.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. All right. I think let's
go ahead and let's move to calling a vote.

MS. JOHNSTON: Commissioner Ahmed?

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Yes.

MS. JOHNSTON: Commissioner Akutagawa?

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yes.

MS. JOHNSTON: Commissioner Andersen?
COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes.

MS. JOHNSTON: Commissioner Fernandez?

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Yes.

MS. JOHNSTON: Commissioner Fornaciari?

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yes.

MS. JOHNSTON: Commissioner Kennedy?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yes.

MS. JOHNSTON: Commissioner Le Mons? Absent.

Commissioner Sadhwani?

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes.

MS. JOHNSTON: Commissioner Sinay?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yes. Sorry.

MS. JOHNSTON: Commissioner Taylor?

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yes.

MS. JOHNSTON: Commissioner Toledo?

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Yes.

MS. JOHNSTON: Commissioner Turner?

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yes.

MS. JOHNSTON: Commissioner Vazquez?

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yes.

MS. JOHNSTON: Commissioner Yee?

COMMISSIONER YEE: Yes.

MS. JOHNSTON: Motion passes.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Wonderful.

There was also another proposal or request to form a
subcommittee and taking it out of the COI tool subcommittee.

And Commissioner Kennedy, I believe you made that suggestion. I don't believe it requires a vote. I am happy to ask if there would be any volunteers interested in a cybersecurity subcommittee. I do agree that this is something that is not just limited to the COI tool, and I think it's more important to have more of an overall, I think, look at where cybersecurity is going to impact all of the work of the Commission.

So Commissioner Fornaciari, can I take that as you are volunteering? And Commissioner -- I know that others did also. I maybe might be interested, but Commissioner Kennedy, I know that since you made the suggestion, I will take it that you're also interested.

In fairness, I would like to ask if any of the other Commissioners are also interested.

Commissioner Andersen, you are --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: If Commissioner Kennedy is not, then I would. But if Commissioner Kennedy is, I would hand it to him with Commissioner Fornaciari.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Kennedy?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yes. Am I on mute?

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yes, you are interested?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: No. I mean, I'm happy to do
this, but if someone else is really, you know, gung ho to do this, I'm not, you know -- I'm not committed to it 100 -- you know.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Andersen, how committed are you to this?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I do have a few things on my plate. It is a field where I feel I could really help, but I did see Commissioner Taylor also raise his hand.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Taylor, okay. And Commissioner Yee. Okay. So you're both interested as well, too. Okay.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: I know that I am. I want to be respectful of the party affiliation, but if not, you know, it is something I do from time to time as a profession a little bit, so.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: So unfortunately, I realized, I think all of us are Republicans here except for Kennedy, but I would certainly hand it off to Taylor. I can just -- I can just add my two cents in so I don't have to be on this one. Thank you, though.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay, Thank you, Commissioner Andersen.

Commissioner Yee?

COMMISSIONER YEE: Echo the same. And if Commissioner Taylor has background, then I would
certainly defer to him.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Commissioner Kennedy, if you're comfortable with it -- okay. Thank you.

Commissioner Taylor, then thank you for volunteering along with Commissioner Fornaciari. Then, I am pleased to appoint the both of you to the cybersecurity subcommittee. Thank you for volunteering. Okay.

So we have now a new cybersecurity subcommittee that will be also now looking across all of these areas that we'll all be working in, so thank you very much. Okay.

Let's go ahead and let's move on to agenda -- okay. So just for clarity, agenda item number 14, which is the communications director and chief counsel update, we did put this on the agenda in anticipation that we would have both of the roles already filled and in their place working on behalf of the Commission. However, at this time, since we've just only announced today our chief counsel hiring, and our communications director is still in process, we will move on, and on agenda item 14, nothing to report.

We'll go to agenda item number 15, counsel update.

Marian?

MS. JOHNSTON: As you know, I've been trying to find some parties to associate with to do an amicus brief in the New York vs. Trump case. We know that the California
attorney general is filing an amicus brief, but to date, is not willing to include the commission on that brief. There are some feelers out to other entities. I have nothing further to report. I don't know if the subcommittee has anything further.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: You know, if I can, I'll just go on record. I don't understand what the issue is and why the attorney -- and this is not directed to Marian. Let me make that clear. You know, I think just to go on record, I don't understand what the attorney general's issue is here. The issue is about a full count of all Californians and all residents nationwide as well. This particularly pertains to our work. So you know, we're trying to put out, you know, some feelers to figure out why they are not willing to represent or work with us. It doesn't make a lot of sense to me, because at the end of the day, I believe that we're all in the same position of wanting a full and accurate count. And so I would say if, you know, if people are watching, that this is an issue that we should be demanding the attorney general give us a better response.

MS. JOHNSTON: And I would add, if I may add, the two explanations I were given did not make sense. One was that they're going to be filing it in a case, where at first, they said they were party, but then admitted
they're not yet a party in the New York vs. Trump case, so they will not be coming in as a party, it's simply as amicus, so it would be no problem to add us.

The second explanation I was given is that because the attorney general represents all state agencies, that he would have to include other state agencies as well. And I pointed out that this Commission is in a unique position in its interest in redistricting and the accuracy of the census report, so I did not see that other state agencies would hold the same position of essential participation as does this Commission.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Vazquez, and then Commissioner Fernandez, I think I saw your hand, too.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: This is something that perhaps we could put a bit more formality to the request to the attorney general by writing a letter on behalf of the Commission, with our points, and if so, I'd like to make a motion to do that.

MS. JOHNSTON: Given the time, I would think that a more direct communication might be appropriate, but I'll certainly, if you'd like to make a motion.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Is there a second? Commissioner Andersen, do you second?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Well, before we second, is it -- okay. There might be, you know, certain political
reasons for not to have us with that, in terms of just how it might look overall, is possibly maybe where he's going. I mean, there is the idea of, you know, if one agency joins, then he should open it up to every other agency, you know, just in terms of that's just kind of the way it works, bureaucracy-wise. Is it, I mean -- should we just do -- were we considering writing just one of our own, as opposed to being with someone else? I mean, you know, I'm thinking with other, you know, other commissions like us might be more powerful than just with our state because, you know, it's the whole idea of this is a -- this is not just a California item, although our items, I guess, we would be bringing about California. But I'm just wondering, in terms of do we want to push this, or are we going to write our own? I don't know. The subcommittee was probably already addressing that. I don't know. If you can -- if you could answer a bit more information.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: My apologies. Commissioner Fernandez, did you have a comment that you wanted -- okay.

MS. JOHNSTON: Commission Sadhwani, did you want to address that?

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: So maybe, Marian, if you could address, like, why it's advantageous to work with
the attorney general's office?

In terms of reaching out to other states, which was one of the things that we had talked about last time, I have attempted to make contact with Montana, Michigan, and Arizona. One of the issues there is that their commissions, they haven't put this on their agenda. That was the response I got from Montana. I reached out to all of the commissioners individually, as well, and haven't heard back. I'm similarly trying to contact the others, and I haven't received a response as of yet. So I don't know, given the timeframe that we're realistically going to get other states to join us, although that certainly would be nice.

MS. JOHNSTON: And as to the attorney general, from a timing and staffing perspective, it would be easier to join in their brief rather than write our own. Secondly, the Supreme Court does encourage people with the same interests to combine and file a single amicus brief, and I think that the California's interest would be the same as this Commission's interest, so I think it makes sense to be included in the AG's brief.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Toledo?

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: I'll just add that we haven't made contact with the attorney general himself. We've only talked with his staff, and so the next step would be
to reach out to him or his chief of staff, and to work through the request.

MS. JOHNSTON: I have spoken to people in the solicitor general's office, which is the branch of the AG's office that does Supreme Court briefs, and she assured me that she had spoken with the executive staff about the issue.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Sinay, and then Commissioner Vazquez.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you. It sounds like you all have done a heck of a lot of work to try to get people to move, and I'm sorry for the frustration. Is there, and I'm sure you did this, but I just wanted to -- just didn't want to walk away. The Brennan Institute, did we contact them and see what's happening there, and if there was any way they can help us out here?

MS. JOHNSTON: I have had several telephone calls and emails back and forth, The most recent yesterday, where they had no one to suggest to us.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Vazquez?

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yeah. I agree that there is some urgency around getting in touch with the attorney general himself, in just my experience as an advocate with these things, my hope with --
the whole Commission, you know, to sign a letter rather
than working with staff, put some -- light the fire under
executive staff to have an actual conversation with the
attorney general, and perhaps may even have him directly
contact us, so. Yeah. For me, I'd like to make a motion
that we write a brief, but exacting statement to the
attorney general with our points, and request to join the
amicus brief.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Turner, is that a
second, or?

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yes, I do second it, But I
also wanted to find out from just the commission and
Marian, for those that have contact availability to him
directly, is that suggested? Would you like for me to
reach out to him directly, or wait on the letter? What's
the desire? Because I do have contacts that can get
directly to the attorney general.

MS. JOHNSTON: I would say, by all means.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yep.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes. And just to report,
I've asked a couple of my contacts to try and reach out
to him, either directly or through staff. I think most
people have said, let me go through stuff first. So I
think if you have access, then yes, please feel free to
do so.

MS. JOHNSTON: I can draft a letter and get it back to you all this afternoon, and with your approval, get virtual signatures on it so it could go over today.

Public comment?

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Can I just put out there, I think one of the questions that we should think about is how, obviously, we're discussing this in public session now, you know, what level of, for lack of a better term, campaign, do we want to make of this? Is it a letter and just a letter? I would assume a letter that we send out should be posted on our website. Is it something we want to engage other groups in pushing? I mean, ultimately, the real goal here is a full count, right? So I just want to put that out there, like I wouldn't want to -- I want the attorney general's support on this, but at the same time, I wouldn't want to, you know, develop a poor relationship with his office, particularly if there's going to be a need to coordinate with them in future matters regarding maps or anything of that nature. So I don't know if anyone has any thoughts about that, or if Marian, if you have any advice or tips.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Vazquez?

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yeah. My thought had solely been to just give some weight to our direct ask,
especially if folks are reaching out through their
networks to get in touch with the attorney general
directly, that they would have something firm, and you
know, in writing from the Commission as a whole. I
certainly don't think, at this time, it makes sense to do
a whole -- to do a whole grassroots campaign. We don't
know exactly what he thinks, and so I think it would be
great to just get in touch with him directly, and have at
least an email, if not a phone conversation, with him.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Perfect. Thank you. I
appreciate that.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Commissioner Toledo?

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: And I'm also happy to reach
out, because I do have contact, but I just haven't. I
wanted to work through staff first because that's usually
the protocol.

And the other thing that I think we should be
thinking about is given time constraints, drafting our
own amicus brief, or at least the points for the amicus
brief, in case we can't find another entity to go along
with us, and so that we are ready, because time is
ticking. It's almost November.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. We do have a motion, and it
was seconded. Do you want to vote on --

MS. JOHNSTON: Public comment?
CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Oh, yes. Okay. I just want to check, Commissioner Vazquez, do you want your motion to still stand, given just the discussion that just happened?

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yes.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Thank you.

We will go ahead and go to public comment.

Jesse, if you will read the instructions?

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. The telephone number is 877-853-5247. When prompted, enter the meeting ID number provided on the livestream feed. It is 985 1259 2479 for this week's meeting. When prompted to enter a participant ID, simply press pound.

Once you have dialed in, you'll be placed in a queue, from which a moderator will begin unmuting callers to submit their comment. You also hear an automatic message to press star 9. Please do this to raise your hand indicating you wish to comment. When it is your turn to speak, the moderator will unmute you, and you will hear an automatic message that says the host would like you to talk, and to press star 6 to speak.
Please make sure to mute 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. These instructions are also located on the website.

The Commission is taking public comment on the motion at this time.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: So while we wait, I'll just share with you that my two dogs decided that they were going to just create their own chorus. I couldn't stop them.

COMMENT MODERATOR: Chair, there are currently no callers in the queue.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay.

MS. JOHNSTON: Shall I call the role, Madam Chair?

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yes. Let's go ahead and let's do that.

MS. JOHNSTON: Commissioner Ahmad?
Commissioner Akutagawa?

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yes.

MS. JOHNSTON: Commissioner Andersen?
COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes.

MS. JOHNSTON: Commissioner Fernandez?
COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Yes.

MS. JOHNSTON: Commissioner Fornaciari?
COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yes.

MS. JOHNSTON: Commissioner Kennedy?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yes.

MS. JOHNSTON: Commissioner Le Mons?

Commissioner Sadhwani?

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes.

MS. JOHNSTON: Commissioner Sinay?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yes.

MS. JOHNSTON: Commissioner Taylor?

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yes.

MS. JOHNSTON: Commissioner Toledo?

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Yes.

MS. JOHNSTON: Commissioner Turner?

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yes.

MS. JOHNSTON: Commissioner Vazquez?

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yes.

MS. JOHNSTON: Commissioner Yee?

COMMISSIONER YEE: Yes.

MS. JOHNSTON: I will have that ready for you this afternoon.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you, Marian.

Okay. Next, let's go on to agenda item number 16. Is Commissioner Ahmad here? The update on the 2020 census report on the progress of the California census. Okay. Looks like she had to --
COMMENT MODERATOR: Standby, Chair. I think we're going to get her.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Thank you.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Dr. Claypool was raising his hand.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Oh, thank you.

Dr. Claypool?

DR. CLAYPOOL: I was just going to say that we have access to Commissioner Ahmad, and she's coming.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay.

MS. JOHNSTON: She reports there's been no change in the numbers since last time, and she has nothing else besides the legal issue we discussed.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. All right. Thank you. All right. Then let's go to agenda item number 17. We still have some time before the panelists for the local and field level nonprofit panel is due to join us.

So agenda item number 17, discussion of meeting dates and future agenda items.

And Commissioner Kennedy?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Okay. I have begun working on the agenda for the meeting for November 16 to 18. I've shared a draft with my vice chair, Commissioner Ahmad, I've shared a draft with Director Claypool. I've just added the cybersecurity subcommittee on the list for
subcommittee reports.

   My concern is that things are really beginning to pile up, and we may need to make that a four-day meeting. We have the director of the California Census Office scheduled to speak during that meeting. We have the panel of our partner organizations regarding their recommendations for outreach is scheduled for that meeting. I have a note to myself that there was a request to schedule VRA training for that meeting, and from Director Claypool's presentation on procurement and contracting timelines, there are a number of those actions that would need to be taken up during that meeting.

   So my concern is that we simply would not have time to get through all of those, quote/unquote, "big ticket" items unless we schedule a fourth day. That doesn't mean that we have to meet a fourth day, but I certainly would not want us to run out of time without having exhausted the agenda. So I look forward to colleagues' comments.


   COMMISSIONER TURNER: Madam Chair, this is not necessarily in response to Commissioner Kennedy, but I wanted -- I had to leave at the end of the day, for agenda items and for today, did we already cover the
COVID policy? I have that as something we want to follow up on. Did we do that already? Okay. Thank you. I'm seeing yeah.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Head nods.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I can give you a quick summary of what did happen on that a bit later.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Commissioner Sinay, and then Commissioner Fernandez and Sadhwani.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I need Commissioner Vazquez to kind of weigh in, and all of you, really, we've had several different panels with different community groups that have shared their advice, and we've received a full letter. As much as I would -- it's always nice to hear from the groups, I just wanted to check in because we have some other ideas of what we would like to have in that place. So if it's okay, I'm just going to share my floor, if that's the right way to say it, with Commissioner Vazquez to hear what she has to say.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yes. Thank you. So we have -- I think we have heard from the Commission loud and clear, and definitely, we have remained cognizant of the timing issues in terms of getting a plan, and we've
also been sort of, you know, hobbled in some sense by the
delayed timeline for our deputy executive director for
some of this. So I think for us, in looking ahead for
the 16th, Commissioner Kennedy, I think we would prefer
that we have an agenda item where we report out the
census, or the regional teams' engagement, initial
engagement, with the census staff and the community group
leads that you all have, hopefully, been doing or begun
in earnest.

And then, sort of a second piece, where Commissioner
Sinay and I will present an outreach, engagement, and
education strategy, with possible action for the 16th.
So we simply don't -- we're not in a place to present a
full plan. That's just not -- it's not going to happen,
given we do need the deputy executive director to build
out sort of the nuts and bolts of a plan, but what we can
do, and what we will plan to be prepared for, on the 16th
is to give you our overall proposed strategy for you all
to consider and adopt.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Commissioner Fernandez,
then Commissioner Sadhwani, then myself.

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Yeah. In terms of adding
another day to that meeting time, I would prefer not to
because the next week is Thanksgiving, so that's already
a shortened week for those of us that are still working.
So I was just wondering if there's any way to push any of that -- whatever's on the agenda for that meeting to the next meeting. But either way, I mean, if it's going to be four days, it'll be four days, and just be cognizant that I don't think we've ever gone short of -- if we have it for four days, we go a full four days. We just seem to fill in the time. So either way is fine, I'm just requesting or hoping that maybe we can move some items.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Sadhwani?

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Thank you, Commissioner Fernandez. I agree with you. Four days, it just is -- it's a lot of sitting, actually.

For the VRA trainings, while we were hoping to put them on the agenda for that meeting, I don't think that there's -- we don't have them booked or scheduled as of yet. We've kind of floated those dates, but my sense is if we pushed it to the next meeting, which I believe is December 1st and 2nd, if there's space on that agenda, I think that that would be okay.

Many of the people that we're talking with about doing that training are actually very involved -- Justin Levitt, for example, is very involved in election protection kind of work right now, and it's been -- you know, he's busy. So I think having additional time would probably be fine for the VRA trainings to push those
back.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. And then, for myself, I hate to pile on to the agenda, Commissioner Kennedy, but I was intending to email you. Commissioner Fernandez and I were hoping to add one more language access panel to that week to round out the various education and general access/language access presenters that we did talk about wanting to bring in.

And I do also agree with what Commissioner Fernandez and Commissioner Sadhwani had said, a fourth day would be challenging. I have come to believe that we do, as I believe Commissioner Ahmad had said, we do also -- she had earlier said that we tend to just fill the time that we're given, and I think if we're given three days, I think we'll all just make the three days' work with all of the items that we have on the agenda, and so -- and I would say, even for this week's, I think this is an example of we both fill the time, but also, we have actually managed to move along the time as well, too, so.

Commissioner Turner and then Commissioner Fornaciari.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you. Madam Chair, I was just wanting to ask, for you and Commissioner Fernandez, what group is the next invitation going out to for general access and language access?
CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Well, for the week -- for next week, we do have scheduled one of the areas that we wanted, or we will be bringing in, is a speaker who is going to be covering primarily the Black immigrant and refugee populations. However, the organization that we've confirmed also works with Middle Eastern, North African, and Arab and Muslim communities as well, too. And so we wanted -- we've asked them to speak primarily on the Black immigrant and refugee populations, and the language issues and access issues for that population. We didn't want to assume, and this is part of, I think, the changing demographics, is that the Black population in the U.S., but also in California, is not just primarily African-American, and we thought it was important to bring that perspective in.

We are also scheduling, or trying to schedule, someone from the Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander communities as well, too. There's also language issues, as well, in those communities, and I thought it was important that we do bring them in separate from the Asian-American organization that we just had. Oftentimes they're just lumped together, but they are very distinctly separate communities, and so we thought it was important to also understand their particular issues around accessibility and language.
The other ones that we're also looking at is the Native American communities as well, too. We're hoping that we'll have someone, if not next week, we were hoping to move them to, then, the meeting that Commissioner Kennedy will be chairing, depending on the scheduling.

We're also aware that there's -- we're also attempting to try to bring in somebody who can speak from Armenian, Russian, and also, potentially, if not well covered by the organization that works with the Arabic community in San Diego that we have coming, then we're hoping that will either have someone separately to come in on the week of the 16th. So we're trying to just kind of limit it to the next two remaining meetings that we have in November.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah. I appreciated hearing that. And I asked specifically -- I'm glad to hear particularly about the Native Americans, the African, all of the groups that you named. As the presenters was presenting on yesterday, it occurs to me, as well, that the African-American, and then you mentioned it there, but I'm hoping we're also looking for groups that will speak to the general access, because, again, this is something that is not broadly known, and I think that there does need to be someone that has done some analysis that's looking at the cultural differences, the
acceptance, the barriers, or what have you, and that we're not excluding them just because of the language English. I think it's the accessibility part, as well, that needs to be brought out, and then looking for panelists there.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you for sharing that. That's a great point.

If I can just also ask my co-subcommittee lead, Commissioner Fernandez, to also respond, and then I'll go to Commissioner Fornaciari, then Sinay, and then Commissioner Yee after that.

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Thank you. Thank you, Chair Akutagawa. You covered everything. The only piece as --

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Oh, right.

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: -- one of our comments yesterday was regarding disability, so that's another area that we're hoping to bring forward. And again, we're trying to be cognizant of the time, so we're trying to bring, you know, maybe two each time, but at some point, we're, you know, probably going to have to just cut it off because there's going to be other things that will fill our agendas. So we're just reaching out -- basically, whoever responds first, that's who's on the next meeting.
CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you.

Commissioner Fornaciari?

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. So I was just going to offer, you know, looking at the agenda for next week, you know, we had the presentation by the director of the California Census, which is getting moved to the following meeting, and so we might have a little more room there, if you want to add another speaker to the general access, to kind of lighten the load on the following meeting. And then, I -- yeah. I have one more thing, but I'll wait.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Commissioner Sinay, and then Yee, and then back to Fornaciari.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I want to make sure that we -- I think that the Committee Turner and -- I'm sorry -- Commissioner Turner and Commissioner Ahmad, their committee was looking at how to use civic technology, if that was part of what you're all doing. I don't want to lose that because we need to move forward on an RFP on that, if it's not going to be part of the other process. And that is a huge piece on accessibility. We can hear how many -- you know, we can hear about the barriers to accessibility, but we need to figure out how to actually implement the things now, so we don't have time to keep listening for three months. So we do need to get that
RFP out there on other ways people are going to be submitting. So I wanted to make sure that that was hopefully on that November 16th agenda, but I wanted to just confirmed that that was on -- that the subcommittee -- because I felt last time the subcommittee was put together and then I keep -- it's called data-something-or-other, but I wanted to make sure that that subcommittee is also looking up this piece because this piece is now versus -- the data piece is a little bit later. And I have no clue if I was articulate.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: So Commissioner Sinay, thank you for reminding us about that. So there's two things that I'm hearing.

One is -- Commissioner Fornaciari and Commissioner Kennedy, is the data analytics or data management subcommittee on the agenda for the November 4th meeting? And then also the language access subcommittee, is that on the agenda? And if not, the Commissioner Kennedy, I want to make sure that we do add the now three new subcommittees we have: the language access, the data management or analytics subcommittee, and now the new cybersecurity subcommittee reports to those agendas.

Mr. Fornaciari?

MR. FORNACIARI: Yeah, no, those subcommittees aren't explicitly listed on the agenda, but I mean, we
can get report-outs from the sub because it's
subcommittee reports. I mean, we can get reports out
from those subcommittees even they're not listed. We've
done that previously.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. And then just for clarity
to Commissioner Sinay's question, Commissioner Turner and
Ahmad, I know that part of your charge was to really look
at all of the broader data analytics, data mining, data
management aspects of all of the information that we're
going to be receiving in various forms. And do you have
the civic technology on your radar as part of your
charge? I know that you were able to look at the civic
technology I think software along with Commissioner Sinay
previously, so.

MS. TURNER: Yes, and we'll be meeting on that this
coming week early. And so we will be ready to report out
on it.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Commissioner Sinay, is --

COMMISSIONER TURNER: We did land on the
subcommittee data management.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Thank you. I have
Commissioner Yee, Commissioner Fornaciari, and then
Commissioner Kennedy next.

COMMISSIONER YEE: I love this attention to language
and general access and I really want to hear all these
speakers, but I am thinking of timing and what's urgent. Yesterday, Director Claypool, you know, presented us a time line for contracting and to things to explain his reasoning for seeking approvals for one, two, three, four -- five RFPs during the November 16, the following meeting, including voting rights, (indiscernible) polarized voting, line drawing, videography, and data mining.

So I think, you know, we should decide if we're going to commit to, you know, trying to do that. That's a lot of RFPs to approve, especially if we're pushing some of the training, for instance the VRA training, past that date. I think certainly Director Claypool needs to know whether we plan to seek those approvals during that meeting or not.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Director Claypool, could you answer that question and then we'll move on to Commissioner Fornaciari. And then I'll add Commissioner Vazquez to the list.

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: So those approvals need to be done at that time, but it's going to be a matter of whether the committees can go over the statements of work and agree on what those requests for proposals are going to look like. I've asked Raul to put together the shells for them, and we've talked with -- and we talked
yesterday about dropping the language, for instance, for
the VRA council dropping as much as language as we can in
it to help the committees decide how they want that --
how they want that RFP and that contract to look because
the RFP generates a contract.

So it's going to fall on each one of the committees
once you get that shell to make that decision because
nothing starts until we have an agreement and a vote by
this commission to move it forward.

So I'm working towards that and getting that shell
to you as quickly as possible. And then we're going to
make ourselves available to any committee that wants to
make it broader so that we can kind of revise it once we
start getting responses back because that's another part
of the process.

We can talk about it later, but that's what we're
looking for and we will need to have time at a bare
minimum for you to have reviewed it and then to vote to
have it go to DGS and OLS. Okay.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: And just for clarity just to have
a better sense of timing on all of these things that you
just outlined, when do you anticipate that we will be
looking at the -- the full commission will be able to
look at these contracts for final approval and vote?

Director Claypool?
DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: Pardon me?

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: What do you anticipate is when we -- when will we be able to vote on what will be the final contract?

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: Okay, so the -- what we're looking for is in that week that Commissioner Kennedy is talking about, getting you the RFPs that have been agreed upon by -- or that have been created by the subcommittees, getting them to the commission ahead of it for each one of you to take a look at it, having a discussion, hopefully a broad discussion. It doesn't have to be a detailed discussion, because we can do that -- we can make adjustments to them while they're at the Office of Legal Services. We can -- we can tweak them a little bit, and we can -- if we make them broad enough, we can work within them to kind of expand back and forth. That's part of the creativity process that we're hoping to put into it.

But on that meeting date, you would have received it a couple of days ahead of time to review, and then we'll have the discussion and then the vote. And from that vote, we'll send that RFP forward.

And they're going to -- just so everyone knows, they're going to look like -- they're going to be seventy-page documents. That's what these are going to
look like. The part that you need to be concerned with is about four pages within it. The statement of work, what you want them to do, and to be less concerned with the massive amount of boiler plate that goes onto the ends of them.

But we'll put that -- each one of the subcommittees I'm sure will put that in their instructions when they send it to you for the full commission review.

So did that answer your question, Chair?

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. So just to clarify then, so my understanding is that the week of the 16th, that meeting, we will be all reviewing the RFPs that will need to go out with the recommendations of the subcommittees I guess on those RFPs, we'll vote, they'll go out, we'll solicit the proposals and then the expectation is that we'll able to have the final list for those RFPs ready to vote sometime in December I assume.

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: Okay, well, actually, at that meeting, we will vote -- we're hoping each subcommittee can have their RFP to you to vote and then they go out to DGS for that long review period. So there will be nothing in December. Whatever we vote on at that November 16th to 20th date will be what goes forward for people -- for them to review and then what we will be sending out to the contractors for their proposals.
So this is how quickly I'm hoping this can move. And it's going to put a little bit of pressure on each one of the subcommittees that has something -- that has this to do. That's why I'm saying we'll deliver the shell and then we'll try to work with each subcommittee to make sure that we put the broad enough language in there so that when we get contractor, we can work with them to kind of build out some of the things that you're going to want and that your executive deputy director is going to want.

So we're just looking to get this product into DGS and move and that date's when we're going to try to get most of these out, what I'm hoping we will. Okay.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. So okay. All right. Okay. Thank you very much.

Commissioner Fornaciari, Commissioner Kennedy, Commissioner Vazquez, and then Commissioner Andersen.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I want to change the subject so I'll just wait until we're done with this topic.


COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: So I do now data analysis, language access, and cybersecurity subcommittees on the agenda for reports.
Somewhere in my notes I was reviewing them the other day, we had discussed a liaison subcommittee. Was that actually officially appointed to handle outreach to other redistricting commissions and so forth?

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Sadhwani, do you have an answer to what he's asking?

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes, I think what happened is we never established that subcommittee --

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Okay.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: -- but as a part of the, you know, census advocacy or whatever we call that, that subcommittee that Commissioner Toledo and I are on, we said that we would reach out to other commissions regarding the amicus brief, and certainly happy to reach out to them if there are other matters that that we would need to connect with them on.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Okay. I'm looking at the number of subcommittees and thinking that at some point we may want to establish a general practice of limiting subcommittee reports as such to five minutes and then if a subcommittee wants more than its five minutes, it's going to need to request a longer slot so that we can have a little more certainty when we're building these agendas.

I'm just -- that's something for thought that's not
for immediate decision necessarily. But that would be my recommendation as we move forward. Thank you.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you, Commissioner Kennedy.

Commissioner Vazquez, Andersen, and Yee are next.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Just wanted to echo Commissioner Yee's previous comments about being really exacting prior to the holidays about what it is we need to do and what it is we would like to do. So agree that many of these panels are very interesting, and I think do in fact help us make informed decisions. And we need to weigh that with the urgency and the likely expansiveness of some of the conversation around the nuts and bolts pieces. So yes.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you. Commissioner Andersen and then Commissioner Yee.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I've got two items. What is about the RFP. Basically the line drawing subcommittee is going to be the first guinea pig. We're actually doing that this coming meeting. And the idea though that the scope is going to be given to the whole group two days ahead of time, that means it would be Monday.

So I'll just tell you right now that's not happening because I'm not working every single day over the weekend. But you know, we'll get it. It'll probably be a little bit later than that, but you'll sort of see how
the idea is.
  And it's a little bit different. We're not waiting for the shell. We're kind of working with kind of the shell and it'll be the first essentially trial run. And we'll say okay. And then I think that's going to help the staff and everybody in terms of the next RFPs coming through. So you know, we'll kind of be aware of that for the next week's meeting.
  And then on Commissioner Kennedy, when he talked about -- we do have subcommittees. A few subcommittees will be coming off because, you know, they're hiring subcommittees. So we will lose a few.
  But one thing in terms of they are essentially reports. I think if you need a bit more time, like the troubleshooting we did for the COVID policy, that's when you try to get ahead of time and it's like an action item, even though it isn't necessarily, but if you require a vote, you do need to put an action item in there. That -- it needs to save it more.
  So I think that might help in terms of that way you know what subcommittee needs to talk longer. So but then again, you got to know ahead, two weeks ahead of time. So that's just an idea for helping with the agenda.
  CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you, Commissioner Andersen, for that heads up that we'll be not getting I guess the
RFP to review two days prior as we had agreed upon. And I think we are all very much cognizant that, yes, we don’t want you to work every single day over the weekend. However, can I make a request perhaps to make it a little bit easier -- oh yes, thank you. Perhaps can you maybe give, like, a very short, like, you know, bullet pointed summary of what we should be perhaps most focused on around the RFP that you want us to really make sure that we read. Given kind of the shortened time frame that we'll have, that may be easier. Instead of us trying to read through everything and trying to figure out what is it that you really want us to understand about this, that may be helpful to have, you know, like a couple bullet points saying please make sure you look at this, this, and this. And then that way then we'll be able to come in a little bit more prepared.

Okay. We do need to take a break and I know we have a panel coming up, and then I also now have Commissioner Yee, Sadhwani, and I still need to come back to Commissioner Fornaciari.

So Commissioner Yee and Sadhwani, are your items quick?

COMMISSIONER YEE: Very quick.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay.

COMMISSIONER YEE: Just to answer Commissioner
Akutagawa's specific question on the director's time line that contracts would be awarded early February and signed late February.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay.

COMMISSIONER YEE: Optimistically, yeah.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Thank you. That was helpful. Thank you.

Commissioner Sadhwani?

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes. Very quick. Yes to all of these questions around line drawing, bullet points on it, right.

A couple other suggestions. I agree with Commissioner Yee and Commissioner Vazquez who both mentioned this, I love all of the outreach components, but I'm concerned about the amount of time that we will actually have. So I just wanted to suggest perhaps asynchronous trainings potentially in which -- there were a number of organizations in various communities that you had mentioned. All of them are super important.

I wanted to lift up Commissioner Turner's, you know, mention of ensuring that we have general access and we're thinking about the black community more broadly as well beyond just language access. To that end, I do know that there is a black census and redistricting hub that might make sense to do additional training.
But my thought is perhaps they can record videos of their trainings that we can watch in off times and then perhaps we can just have, like, a short discussion about them during that time, just so that we can make maximize the time that we have together. You know, I'm teaching asynchronously and it works out very well.

In terms of Commissioner Kennedy's thought on being more concise with our timing, I would just ask perhaps if staff can take a look at how cities and other councils and commissions -- I think really city councils and other places, maybe boards of supervisors, are conducting Zoom meetings.

One of the things that I saw when I watch the San Jose city council the other night was that they're using a timer, so there's literally a timer that pops up. We could be using that also for ourselves. You know, I think we have lots of great ideas, but we might need a little bit more discipline in keeping ourselves to shorter time periods for discussion so that's something we might want to think about and look at various options there.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Thank you. I am also still conscious that we still need to take a break before the panel comes. And this is I think the challenge, Commissioner Sadhwani, is as much as we want to keep
everybody's short, we also want to make sure that nobody does not feel like they had their voices heard.

So Commissioner Fornaciari, I know you had deferred.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI:  Yeah, just really briefly. I just want to check in if there's anything else that I need to know about next week's agenda speaker-wise. So Commissioner Akutagawa, we can follow up offline. And then I think that's it, though, right. There's no other speakers planned on coming in.

And then I'll just offer for the following meeting, you know, the -- and Commissioner Fernandez can chime in too, but we had been -- the finance and administration committee had been planning on bringing some policies and procedures in for you guys to approve, but we can skip that meeting in light of the other time pressures. I mean, there's not a big urgency on these, so we can bring that back up at the following meeting.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA:  Okay. Thank you. Commissioner Vazquez, I know you had your hand raised too, so -- okay.

All right. Let's go ahead then. Let's take our fifteen-minute break and then we'll start with the panel immediately after the break.

Yes?

MS. VAZQUEZ:  Sorry, mostly I just wanted to say
thank you to one of our panelists who joined early and eagerly. And thank you, Luis, we have to take required breaks in between some of these agenda items. So if you wouldn't mind holding, we'll be taking our fifteen-minute break, and then we'll rejoin and launch straight into the panel.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you. Thank you for joining us. So we'll be back at ten after.

(Whereupon, a recess was held)

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you. Welcome back everyone. And I want to just give a brief welcome to our panelists and thank you for joining us this morning. Before I turn this over to Commissioner Sinay, I have a request from Director Claypool.

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL: Good morning, panelists. And I would like to apologize for the confusion this morning. That invitation that was sent out by our videographer was to join a meeting a 9 a.m. as a standard invitation that goes out and we had always intended for you to be here at 11 a.m.

I want you to know that we greatly appreciate the information you're going to give us and that this commission is excited about hearing from you. But please accept my apologies for the confusion this morning.

Thank you.
MR. SUPAHAN: Thank you, sir. You can imagine at 8:22 when I saw that 9 a.m. invite, I was like, holy hell, that's -- that is not what I was planning.

DR. CLAYPOOL: I can understand that. Thank you.

MS. MELGOZA: Yeah, I had a very upset puppy. He was ready to go for a walk.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Chair, I'm actually not the one who's facilitating. It's Commissioner Vazquez.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: But I just wanted for transparency, Commissioner Turner, thank you for introducing us to Terry. Commissioner Turner works closely with Terry. They're both with the PICO network. And I work closely with Ana. And Ana's also a friend. So we just wanted it to offer for transparency's sake.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you, Commissioner Sinay.

Commissioner Vazquez, I'm going to turn this over to you.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Great. Thank you to our panelists for joining us today. We're super excited to have you. Before I get into introductions, some framing for my colleagues. You all should have received some one-pagers about the -- our panelists' respective organizations as background and prereading, so we're
hoping that you come into this discussion at least with a
general familiarity of the organizations.

And really the purpose of this panel is to get a
spattering of perspectives from organizers about what
t heir work looks like, the activities that they and their
stakeholders engage in, and how that could look when sort
of activated for the purposes of redistricting. So we
have a small handful of questions for our panelists to
dialogue about, and then we'll turn it over to some Q and
A for you all, the commission, to engage with our
panelists.

So I'll introduce the three folks that we have here
today. And please panelists, correct me when that -- if
I mispronounce your name. We have Luis Sanchez from
Power California. We have Terry Supahan from True North
Organizing Network. And Ana Melgoza from San Ysidro
Health. So thank you for joining us today.

So the first question to our panel is why did your
organization choose to get your stakeholders involved in
community issues? What is the pull for your
organization, particularly for those who maybe don't have
a mission directly tied to organizing and advocacy, or at
least not on its face?

So maybe let's start with Ana and then we'll go to
Terry and then Luis.
MS. MELGOZA: Buenos Dias. Good morning, everyone.

And first and foremost, I wanted to thank everyone for their dedication to public service. This is not an easy task at hand and I really appreciate your commitment just to making sure that this is a very equitable and innovative process filled with transparency. So thank you. I honor that as a taxpayer and a citizen here of the great state of California.

So we're really excited. We're -- I don't know if you guys know this, but the general election is on Tuesday, and as you can tell by my shirt. This is actually a civic engagement project that we started earlier in the year through census participation and now getting out the vote, especially for low propensity voters.

And so to tell you what we were involved as a federally qualified health center, really to tell you the story of how we were founded, which is out of extremely humble beginnings fifty-one years ago along the border by a group of seven moms who were needing access to care for their children. So out of crisis can come good things. And so these seven women organized. Many of them went working with children in tow with limited English proficiency and with limited medical expertise. They were just moms who wanted to care for their children.
So they made their way to the San Diego medical society and there, through the University of California San Diego, they met Dr. Ruth Cabao (ph.) who was still on our board who helped write, with their vision and with their input, the grant application for us to become funded and licensed. And since then, we’ve grown out of a little white casita with parttime volunteer medical doctors to now fifty-one years later, we cover a great portion of the south county and east rural county here in San Diego. And that’s been wonderful because we’ve been able to grow, not just for medical but also dental and behavioral health.

But you know what, every year, our budgets are very sensitive to federal and state cuts and apart from that, we realize that for us, every visit that we encounter with our 107,000 lives in our care starts with the question, tell us what’s going on at home, because we know that social determinants of health greatly impact the health of our patients.

And a little bit about our patients, we know that almost all of them, 93 percent, live at 200 percent below the federal poverty level. So we’re talking about the essential workers that are really impacted by COVID right now throughout our county. If you look at our hotspots here in San Diego, our clinics are right in the middle of
them.

And by the way, I should have mentioned that our story is not unique. If you go to all of the communities throughout California, you'll see that our sister clinics are very much experiencing what we're experiencing here in San Diego.

What you'll also find is that many of them are dual working households, so because many are housing costs burdened, meaning that the main reason people are working are to pay for rent which is very, very high, they all have to sacrifice and work. So we're their providing healthcare for many of them who qualify for Medi-Cal. So these are hard-working individuals that lack access to healthcare and we're thankful to be able to provide that for their children.

So out of our patient base, about 40 percent are children, about 25 percent are seniors, and when we look at who the main healthcare navigator is for our households, it's the mom. So we could do a lot of connection with the female leaders of -- or women leaders of the household.

So what we decided to do early on was to encourage people about the bureaucratic process and about how their voice matters in public policy setting. And we were able to actually work very collaboratively with AltaMed in Los
Angeles who created this beautiful toolkit called My Vote, My Health. And they did all kinds of research to show that when people vote, their health improves. There just is this enlightenment that once you understand for every action, there's a reaction, people become engaged.

And what we saw during the primary elections was that we were able to increase voter participation by 13 percent in one of the most -- in three of our cities in the south county that are filled with a high amount of low propensity voters. These are voters that hadn’t voted in the last five election. And so where we think we made an impact was primarily because of our trusted messenger role in the community.

And then as far as demographics go, we work very closely with the California Primary Care Association, and their data shows us that I believe one in three Latinos in the state of California is a patient of a community health center. And when you come to us, you're already coming in a very vulnerable state. Either you don’t feel good or you want an immunization for your child. So already there, that trust develops.

And one thing that we also found with our patient base is patient loyalty. It's amazing to see even right now through a pandemic how highly utilized our services are in either telehealth or in person. And so what we
ended up doing was just working with that trusted messenger role and informing our patients about the importance of participating in the census. And also in making sure they understand the voting -- the election process, and making sure they were registered, and then if they were, making sure they were voting early and safely by mail.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Great. Thank you, Ana.

Terry, would you like to share with us how you've been engaging your folks?

MR. SUPAHAN: As you can see by the one-pager, my name is Terry Supahan. I'm executive director of the True North Organizing Network and enrolled member of the Karuk tribe on the Klamath and salmon and -- rivers of northern California in the counties of Siskiyou, Humboldt, Del Norte, Trinity, and Shasta.

And I -- I just got off a statewide call. We are the only community organizing network in PICO California and in the national network that has a -- that is -- that is -- we are the most rural of the organizing networks. We are the only organizing network in PICO north of Sacramento and north of San Francisco. As we all know, that is a vast geography with some vast colors in voting and differences in ways of looking at the world.

But to address your question about how this becomes
a mission or an issue for True North, as we work with
Native American tribes, native communities, LatinX, black
and white communities, Hmong communities, trying to help
people find their voice and leadership and building those
-- a culture of voting and caring and belonging and being
part of -- being part of this society, being part of this
state, being part of this culture, this dominant world,
-- a heavy lift getting people -- getting our people,
getting our people in our region to being counted in the
census to knowing that their voice matters and their vote
matters. And we talk about building the voting muscle
and building a culture of voting and just encouraging
people to do that and be about their future.

For too long, particularly in northern California,
we are -- we are all descendants of a dominant culture in
California that has benefited and created metropolis from
San Francisco Bay to San Diego, and because we turned
rivers around and made them flow backgrounds and in other
directions and dammed up waters and moved them in
different directions, we've all seen the effects of
climate change and we've experienced them in northern
California and southern Oregon.

I have never seen fires move as fast as I've seen
this past year, and I grew up around fires and in the
smoke. So redistricting is critical for all of us now
and in the future because it's going to decide how we address our future.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Great. Thank you so much.

Luis, can you tell us a bit about how your stakeholders have been involved and what kinds of issues?

MR. SANCHEZ: Sure. Once again, Luis Sanchez, executive director of Power California. We're a statewide alliance of over twenty-seven organizations in both urban, suburban, exurb communities as well as rural communities across the state. You know, our mission is to really build the power of young people and their families to ensure that California really reflects the rich diversity of the state both at elected level, at the local level, and also in the broader populace.

You know, we -- part of our work is to ensure that, you know, we meet the needs of the new electorate that is California and when we're talking about young people, mostly under the age of thirty-four, which essentially is kind of -- you know, younger Millennials, to, you know, the new Gen Z population, we're talking about a very diverse population that, you know, kind of reflects the rich diversity of the state.

You know, 47 percent of California under thirty -- is under thirty-four now. 82 percent of them are actually people of color and indigenous communities
across the state. You know, for all Californians now here in California, you know, they have at least one parent that either is refugee or immigrant parent in their household, they grew up in that way. And then, you know, last but not least, you know, in the midst of this, right, you know, still -- you know, there's still almost a million young -- black young people under the age of twenty-five here in California, right.

So our job as an alliance is how do we activate young people to be really a part of this democracy. And really our democracy is critical be, it redistricting, be it voting, be it local city council, school board meeting, that if young people are not engaged, our democracy is going to fail.

And then that's part of -- part of our work. But what we've seen is -- more and more is that over -- over the years -- and it's historic, but I would say over the years, parties, candidates, you know, initiatives paid less and less work to these -- to these populations, right. So it kind of creates a cyclical effect of young people not becoming engaged in the process.

You know, we build off this idea that we understand if a young person votes -- registers and votes in two consecutive elections, they essentially become a habitual voter for life. So they actually wrote, like, a, you
know, baby boomers. But if they actually don’t register
to vote and vote in that first election, be they eighteen
or nineteen or twenty, they actually disengage for over a
decade. So there’s a stark reality of the impact it has
on young people’s lives.

So the way we function is that at the end of the
day, we -- we believe that young people need to be
involved in really shaping our state and our country.
And you know, so over the last -- you know, we're --
we're a fairly fledgling network. It builds of some
amazing work that a lot of these organizations have been
doing across the state. You know, but we've engaged this
year, like, about 350,000 young people. And you know, be
it digital, via calling them up, texting them, sending
them mailers, doing digital ads, just to ensure that
they're engaged in this election and making sure that
they're involved in this process.

And you know -- and we've seen that, you know,
because this population is probably one of the most
mobile populations in this moment, especially in COVID,
they're probably suffering some of the -- the most
disproportionate impact than anyone else. Your schools
are closed, they're first to fire, their hours are being
cut, they're playing both the childcare role and it's
really hard for them to engage.
But even in the redistricting process, one of the challenges we saw from the beginning even as we -- because we were probably the alliance where we just were the alliance coalition, is that most young people couldn't even apply to the part of the redistricting commission. You had to have been, you know, a registered voter for at least five years. You would have to register -- voted in the last two to three elections. You know, and so it actually limited anyone really under the age of twenty-six to even apply for this process, right.

So but even then, we actually had, you know -- you know, hundreds of folks apply across the process state to make sure that, you know, they -- you know, that they were also looking at applicants that were below thirty, not just over fifty, right, which is normally what the process is.

And so you know -- and so that's partly what we tried to do, is ensuring that our young people become engaged and involved in the process. We feel in this moment like never before young people are becoming engaged in politics via, you know -- in the back, like, you're in the moment of March for our Lives or the current (audio interference) and racial uprising that's happening or the issues related to immigration. Young
people are really engaged in the moments of our time.

You know, Terry mentioned climate change. That's one of their number one issues of young people, because they understand they're going to inherit this planet.

So part of our work is our network, is how do we engage them in all the processes and turn that energy into real political power that they can engage in the redistricting process, in a school board meeting, and voting for a candidate of preference. And that's what's critical to us, because at the end of the day, is when young people become engaged in our process, our democracy becomes richer and fuller for the future.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Great. Thank you so much.

I'm going to combine our next two questions in the interest of time so that we ensure that we have some room for Q and A with the commission. So for our panelists, what have you learned from engaging your stakeholders? You know, what have been some of the challenges and what has worked well? And if you can particularly talk about how COVID has impacted both sort of the opportunities and some of the barriers that you've encountered in engaging your folks, that would be great.

So let's -- actually, let's go over -- could I ask Luis to go first?

MR. SANCHEZ: Sure. I mean, I think -- I mean, for
us -- I mentioned this earlier. You know, we have to meet young people where they are at. And part of that is, they are the most mobile generation. You know, and especially in this moment as COVID has upended their lives, right. Some of them were going out of state, out of city, or moving out of their -- their family's household, and then they were moved back, right.

And so I think in this moment, everything has been difficult for a lot of this generation of young people who are now completely dependent on the internet and wifi connection, it's become more a challenge. And probably Terry could speak to this even more, is, like, as we think of rural regions and places outside of our urban cores, like, for example, you know, when we would do Zoom meetings with young people in L.A. County, it wasn't much of an issue most of the time, right, because, you know, the broadband connection is better, right, and we were able to kind of do that. But in places like rural (audio interference) and Merced, where we actually have two offices, you know, we couldn’t use Zoom. People didn’t have the broadband to use that technology.

So part of our work is really using their smart phone as a way of connecting to them. Like, what we always say, like, you know, yesterday's door hanger is today's text of information on where to vote and how to
vote. And that's what we do, right, is that not only are we trying to call them on their cell phones, we're trying to text them, send them digital ads, because that -- that is their lives, right. Not only are the lives for most people now that live in our country, but particularly for young people. That's where they get their information. And there's a lot of misinformation out there and we want to ensure that that works.

But in this moment, we had to really do a pivot to digital and you know, it's not Zoom meetings, but we had to engage young people. And the interesting part about it is we've actually engaged more young people in training them in the last six to seven months than we actually had before COVID. We saw this crisis as a real opportunity. We've been doing a lot of digital events. We've engaged, you know, close to 10,000 young people. Our social media following has increased, you know, 300-fold. And part of that was really using that technology towards our advantage, right.

You know, we always saw it as, like, a -- a supplemental piece to our phone banking and our door-to-door work or our network work with community colleges, universities, and high schools. But now it became the primary focus because people weren't part of those institutions anymore in the traditional way.
And so part of that work opened in the midst of COVID, but also as a pivot to our work was training a lot of our organization -- I mentioned the twenty-seven on the ground -- about how they could build capacity because their primary unit of engaging young people was their community center, right, you know, was the school. And now those institutions were closed. And they had to figure out new ways of engaging folks so we had to create kind of digital communities to do this work.

And you know, those digital communities did not just happen in Zoom. You know, they happened, you know, on Instagram, they happened on TikTok. And so we had to create new ways of doing work and you know -- and we've been surprised -- we've even been surprised in terms of how effective sometimes it's been.

You know, we just did an even the other day with Congresswoman Bass and some local councilmembers from the Central Valley, and just about young people understanding what's on the ballot, why this election is so important, and it's not just about the presidential. You know, people should vote for that for example, but they need to vote down ballot, because DAs, sheriffs, proposition really determine the lives that they'll be living for not only the next four years, but in many ways for the next generation.
And so part of that work was, you know, we did a
digital event. Normally if we would have done an event,
it would have been in one region and we would have talked
to hundreds, right. But you know, in that event, you
know, we've now seen thousands of people have actually
seen that work, and that's part of the work that we're
trying to do, is that we're trying to really reach young
people that normally we wouldn't engage, right.

And now we're engaging, you know, people that are
actually are not core areas that -- of where we have
network partners, right. There's young people that are
part of areas like Pomona, the Pomona valley. There's
people who are engaging that are in places like Madera,
right, that are part of the northern parts of California
where Terry does work, right.

And that's -- that invigorates us, right, because we
know that there's not enough organizations doing the
great work, like True North or organizations that are
part of our network, right. But what we want to do is we
want to make sure young people find pathways to engage
with us and get access to information when otherwise they
wouldn't get it.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Great. Thank you so much.

Terry, what have you learned from your stakeholders
and particularly in the time of COVID?
MR. SUPAHAN: Anecdotally and to follow what Luis was saying, that we have three primary groups in our region that were trying to build a culture of voting and engagement with the young voter, eighteen to twenty-six, Native American voters, and LatinX voters.

And partly what we've seen is that particularly with friends and family and trying to encourage and influence people that already know and respect us, there has -- I think because of the vitriol and the acrimony that divides our country at the moment, there's a lot of engaged interest. And people -- all of us on this call are not the normal people. Most of us probably are interested and excited and glad to be able to talk politics a lot of the day. The majority of Americans are not from the research I've read, and that includes in the region that I work in.

But to my amazement, there has been a lot of early voting by Native Americans. The last link that we're trying to close this weekend is that there -- much to my amazement that there were people who filled out their ballot at the very first day that they could fill it out, but haven't dropped it in the box yet, haven't mailed it, haven't -- haven't made that last connection.

And -- and there are friends and family who in their -- their middle ages either haven't voted ever or haven't
voted for years. And so you -- you combine middle-aged
voters who have been disaffected, you have young people
who are not voting, they are interested and passionate
and want to talk about it. So now we're trying to --
trying to do all we can to close that link.

And I do -- I do want to say in the time of COVID --
and it may be difficult if you live -- if you already
live in a city and have access to digital resources. I
just dropped in the chat box a link to a story that was
tweeted out by the rural center -- rural strategy center
and -- on the east coast.

And when our digital services -- and when you can --
when AT&T can drop its digital subscriber line to a half
a million customers, if those were electric customers,
we'd all hear about it, but when it's about the digital
divide, we don't hear about that.

It's just like, well, you choose to live out in the
country and -- and Pastor Trena knows, my people have
lived in the same place literally -- I don't like to
brag, but it's been over 10,000 years since Karuk people
and Karuk tribe have lived on that same piece of land
which is now called California. My children and
grandchildren and future great-grandchildren are going to
be coming from that place trying to figure out how to do
a better job of supporting all our people.
Yes, in time of COVID, let's be smart, let's keep our social distance, let's wear a mask, let's figure that stuff out. But having access to digital tools and transportation systems are key to being able to survive now and in the future.

And even in our planning call, I -- I -- my -- my internet worked great until our planning call at 4 p.m. last Friday and it took me ten minutes to get online. And that's -- that -- and I feel lucky. I feel good about that. We've had improvement in our system, but it's -- it's -- we have a -- we have a patchwork and a network throughout this state and throughout this country that we are woefully not addressing the needs of rural people. Doesn't matter what color or religion you are. We're -- we're in the 1930s when it comes to our digital resources.

So when you ask Angela about -- about in time of COVID when all of us -- and they can -- they can track our digital usage throughout the country. When all of us are trying to be on Zoom calls and go to school and do a million things at once, rural people are that much further behind in trying to figure that out. I just want to bring that to your attention.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Great. Thank you. Very important points and perspective. I appreciate it.
Ana, what have you learned from your stakeholders, and how has COVID impacted some of your learning around — you know, challenges and opportunities? I think you're on mute.

MS. MELGOZA: Thank you. If it's okay with the commission, I'd like to just go ahead and show you guys really quickly a PowerPoint to kind of keep me on track with what we're doing. And let me know if you all can see this.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Certainly.

MS. MELGOZA: Wonderful. So you know, to what Terry and Luis were saying —

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Oh, I don't think we can see the presentation. I'm not sure if —

MS. MELGOZA: Oh, okay. I -- I shared it, but I mean -- let me see what's going on.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: We may need approval from our Zoom manager, Christian.

MALE SPEAKER: You should be allowed to share.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Okay.

MS. MELGOZA: Okay. I -- I shared screen.

MALE SPEAKER: If there --

MS. MELGOZA: Let's see here. Here you go. Can you see that?

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Nope. Oh --
MS. MELGOZA: Now?

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Holding. I think so. I think this is going to work. Yes.

MS. MELGOZA: Okay. Sorry about that. So I mentioned this earlier about why voting is so important with impact in healthcare, but I wanted to also quickly just talk about when we discuss how do we engage, a couple of things that we've learned through this process. You have to tell them once, tell them again, keep telling them one more time, and keep going, because as my colleagues mentioned, our people's times are very -- time is very precious.

They have a lot that we're competing with. They have to figure out that they have to line up at the food bank. They have to figure out if they're going to make it to a certain shift. They have to figure out most importantly who's going to be home with the kids for distance learning and take care of them all day long. So helps a lot to have to encounter because of COVID. They were already struggling even before COVID. COVID -- all COVID did was just make it even more difficult to provide any kind of life for the families we serve.

So with that in mind, what we did before COVID hit was basically everyone that we have worked with has the use of a smart phone. This is everyone's lifeline. This
is how they're able to communicate to family back in
their home countries, to one another, to their children.

So what we did was try to make everything very easy
for people to read. Not just technology-wise as it
appeared on a mobile device, but also in terms of
language and -- and language proficiency, making sure
that we were using the right language when it came to
talking. As I mentioned, they're very bombarded with so
many other pressures, this is the last thing on their
mind. So we want to make sure that we -- we met them
where they were with that.

So before COVID happened, people were in our clinic.
We average about half a million visits a year. So while
they were waiting for their visits to get seen in the
waiting rooms, we had PSAs running actually multilingual,
not just English and Spanish, but we also had them in
different languages, like Tagalog, Arabic.

For our staff, we have close to 2,000 staff members,
and that's actually a key demographic that we should all
invest in because even staff can become not just
overwhelmed but also apathetic. You know, before COVID,
we had ICE raids going on in our community. We had
border patrol setting up in very key spots. We had some
intimidation going on and with that comes distrust. And
so what we had to do is work to let people know that this
is a fair process, that this is something that they
should invest and trust in, especially if they have, you
know, the right that they've earned to do so. So we had
to overcome that barrier as well.

And so our talking points or scripts were all
centered around that, about reaffirming the trust they
have with us and us being the spokesperson really for
democracy at this point. We also had posters in our exam
rooms. We had countertop signs as people checked in. We
had these really cool buttons made that our providers
wore on their white coats that initiated a conversation
about voting.

And then in our after-patient visit notes, we, you
know, would remind people key dates. Because that's the
other thing, people will -- I forget key dates, which is
why I rely so much on my calendar because there's so much
going on. So that was, like, the level two of
engagement. The level three is where we are now,
especially because of the COVID, and that's the phone
banking, the text campaign.

But throughout this entire process, level one, level
two, level three, the most effective way that we were
able to connect with our community members was door-to-
door canvassing. And I actually trained our canvassers
on -- on infection control policy. So you can still
engage with people through a pandemic. You just have to stay six feet apart, wear your mask, you know, constantly sanitize. And so we were able to continue that level. And what we found were people are at home because I mentioned kids are at home.

So this is what a typical scene was like. You see a multigenerational household. You see, you know, a handout that we prepared so that people -- it's a lot to cover in a three-minute period. And people are curious and friendly. People are home right now so people are curious to know who's knocking at the door. So that was the day that were able to -- to really talk to people about that.

Not only that, but our doctors talk about building staff morale, but our doctors were actually out there with us too, knocking door-to-door and letting people know about voting safely and early by mail. We also created a T-shirt that we encouraged our staff to wear throughout our organization. And you can see our doctors are with our buttons as well.

Actually Joe Waltz (ph.), NBA hall-of-famer was at the NBA playoffs, asked if he could wear our shirt when President Obama made the pitch for voter engagement. So we made it cool to participate in the democracy, in this democratic process.
And so we were also able to frame it with this My Vote, My Health button and campaign, making it easy, making people understand why if they really want to have access to healthcare, then they have to be engaged in the process as well and understand where candidates stand on healthcare investment.

But I just -- I don’t want the COVID to stop any kind of engagement, in-person engagement, because especially in communities where there's distrust, where there's been just a history of intimidation, it's important that trusted messengers are out there rebuilding that trust and letting them know that you wouldn't ask them to do something if you didn’t know it was going to be good for the entire community.

And with that, I'll stop -- hopefully I can stop sharing my screen. There. And come back to you all.

So it's been a lot of investment in staff time, a lot of investment in getting -- also we -- we were able to hire outside canvassers that we screened with and had worked as well in making sure that, you know, they're carrying our brand, so we want to make sure that we live up to that.

As a matter of fact, they were so effective that we had two detectives from the police department come to our clinic and ask if we were really doing this because they...
got a lot of calls from people and they didn't know if these people were casing their homes. I was like, no, this is actually what we're doing. And they were like, oh, this is great, can we let our people know about -- I'm like, please let everyone know about this.

And just today we got written up in the paper about our -- our efforts that we're doing. They labeled it as a different house call from the doctor and it's actually doctors going out, informing their numbers in the community, that they -- it's important that they get their voice heard.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Thank you so much, Ana.

So quick time check. We're at 11:50. I'm curious if -- and hopeful if our presenters can give us an additional ten minutes to go till 12:10 so we can take advantage of the full hour. Can I get a thumbs up? Thumbs up, thumbs up. All right. Okay. Thank you.

So with that, I will -- there's one more question and then we'll have hopefully about ten minutes for some Q and A. So we'll start with Terry. What do you think other grassroots groups like yours may need to engage their stakeholders in redistricting. So if you could be really specific in terms of the -- the resources, the collateral, et cetera, that would really help our commission.
Oh, and I think Terry -- oh, there he is. Terry, did you hear the question or would you like me to repeat it?

MR. SUPAHAN: I would like to blame AT&T or Zoom or someone, but I -- I hit the wrong button after I agreed and no, I didn't hear the question. Please start.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: We'll let AT&T take the hit for this one. So what do you -- what do you think grassroots groups like yours, like True North, need to engage their stakeholders in redistricting? So if you could be really specific, both in terms of the financial resources, the collateral, the support, the capacity building. What would your group and groups like yours need from to do this work for redistricting?

MR. SUPAHAN: I -- that's a great question. And I think it builds on the -- the integrated voter engagement work of the past eighteen months, is that -- which also included outreach for the United States census. And we had -- we had a very active inter-tribal work group helping to -- to not only talk about getting people engaged and involved and -- we had some raucous census parties where we had free food and swag and rock 'n roll music. If you just come and get ready to pledge to fill out your census form and get ready to -- for the 2020 election.
And so I would think that same energy would need to be brought to the process. The importance of it now and beyond the next ten years. But I -- again, it's -- it's trying to create a -- an engaged California civic community and -- and to remind people, particularly those people who have not particularly felt a part of the system or that their vote -- vote counted or their voice counted or that their census counted. And so, at least for us, I could see in -- in Northern California the need to continue to build on -- on top of that energy and to extend it and -- and to come up with even more creative ideas. We're -- we reaching out to young people. And Luis mentioned it earlier, it -- we have -- we have four interns and -- and two part-time college graduates or college students, not only helping with -- with voter engagement and registration, but also we're trying to tap their energy and interest and point of view with regards to social media and -- and technology and how do we -- how do we reach into hard-to-reach communities with the technology and -- and with the limitations that we have? So -- so if -- if all of us think that redistricting now and -- and beyond the next 10 years is important, that's an investment in our -- and our civic lives, that -- that seems to make sense.

COMMISSIONER VASQUEZ: Great. Thank you. Luis,
would -- would you mind letting us know what you think grassroots groups like yours need to engage in redistricting?

MR. SANCHEZ: Yeah. You know, and -- and, you know, one thing I want -- I wanted to allude to -- to a point that I said earlier, right? So, you know, California has become, you know, if not, the most diverse state in the country, right. And in over the last 20 to 25 years. And, you know, but one thing that we learned is, you know, just same way I was a first-generation college student, a lot of these young people who will make up the vast diversity of -- of the first voting pockets in their families, right. They're first-generation voters. And -- and so -- so part of it is, like, there hasn't been an embedded culture. Because even if you think about it, especially black, brown, and indigenous communities, you know, our -- our ability to vote in this country is only 50 years in the making, right. You know, like, yes, we've been part of this country for generations, but we couldn't legally vote, because of poll taxes, because of you know, civil rights and, you know, or lack of civil rights. And so part of it is, is that we're dealing with both, you know, we have family members that they couldn't vote in this country. And we and -- and we have this whole generation of young people who are first-gen
voters. So that's one piece. So for us, one piece is peer-to-peer work. And that's why training young people to be their own peers. And you match that with using culture work. Because we always say politics only really matters in November every four years. After that, people really don't pay attention. Because, you know, presidents become rock stars in a way, right. But after that, everything else doesn't matter, right. But we -- but culture is something young people live in. And what we realize is young people do stuff collectively. And if we activate young people, then they actually will activate their family. So, for example, we do a lot of work -- I mentioned we -- we opened up offices in the Central Valley, you know, you know, three or four years ago, but we also do work in other regions and exurbs, right in communities and now are majority communities of color, that, you know, have kind of transitioned, right. And one of them was like the 605 corridor, which is down here in L.A. County. And one of the things we did is we increased the highest numbers around census. I think redistricting is going to be very similar to, like, census because voting, even though, you know, we organize and document communities, other folks engage their families to vote, redistricting is kind of like census. Anyone could fill out a census. Anyone can participate
in the redistricting process, right. And you could
attend meetings because, you know, redistricting is based
on who lives there, not who has voting power and who's
eligible to vote. And so, so I think part of the process
what we did in census is we had young people -- because I
think in my own experience, I was the first one to vote.
Me and my brother and sister were the first one to vote
in our family, and then we got our parents eventually to
become naturalized citizens and vote. And still to this
day, even when I was a little kid, I would help them
navigate everything from DMV to everything. And part of
it is that we did this whole process. We -- we organized
young people to engage their families. And we had some
of the biggest increases in filling out census along that
605 corridor all the way up to the -- the 710 corridor.
And part of that was, is how do we use -- how do we
engage young people in this process? We're in this
moment where there's a transition, right. We can't
really depend on older folks, for example, to be poll
workers in the same way, right. So like never before, we
have a younger base of folks who are actually working as
poll workers like never before across the state. We
actually worked a lot on that with registrars from Merced
down to Los Angeles County and O.C. to -- to identify and
activate young people to be poll workers, work on poll
days, work in these new polling centers and voting
centers, right. So I think there's an opportunity like
never before to kind of take that same energy that's been
in the streets, that has now been engaged around census
and -- and, you know, and this election, and really
turning it into -- because what young people don't
understand, and this is part of, like, why the census
work was kind of critical, is when they understood, like,
wow, that's going to determine the next 10 years? We've
got to take that same energy. Redistricting is going to
determine the next 10 years, who represents you. And --
and the biggest challenge for me -- anyone -- I'm kind of
part of the civic experience. I was born and raised in
Boyle Heights. My brother and sister primarily were live
there. I transitioned into exurbs that were not set up
to accept me. Right? You know? You know, when Latino
communities left places like Boyle Heights, and went into
places, like, Pico Rivera or Weir or (unintelligible),
those cities we're changing every day, and that's what
our families are going through now. There's a next --
there's an exodus that's happening that's been happening
to the Inland Empire, places like Stockton, you know,
places like, you know, eastern parts of the state,
because people can't afford to live there, and they're
moving eastward. And part of it is people --
redistricting is so critical for how they get represented in these future communities that they're going to be living in for the next 10 to 20 years, because they no longer could afford to live in a place like Los Angeles or San Diego or the Bay Area, right. And I think this redistricting probably is so critical because a lot of -- a lot of these folks are, in many ways, are migrants to these communities, right. And so we -- well, we've been working with these organizations. That's why we opened up office in those place, in those regions, because we want to make sure that they become part of the political process, to make sure that they have representation that really meets the needs of the rich diversity of those regions in the state. And -- and that's part of the work that we have to think about, is, like, how do we work with more grassroots organizations that are working there? A lot of them are new, are much more fledgling. Our ability to move dollars for them to do civic engagement work on census, to elections work, you know, sometimes with a third of their budget, sometimes, right. And so, we have to think about an equity-based formula, right. If it's working with, you know, black-led organizations or organizations that work with indigenous communities, new immigrant communities, you know, via black refugees or Hmong. And we have to think about how
we could work, and make sure that we work equitably these
dollars and look at where are the hotspots, where we feel
we're going to less engage people and -- and create the
avenues to work with those smaller grassroots
organizations or networks that reemerge around census and
keep that energy going long term and really build off
really the -- the energy of young people, who I really
believe that they are both limited in this moment of
census, but also more willing to become engaged, you
know. They'll do the door knocking. They'll make the
calls, you know. There'll be -- they'll be more way,
because, you know, a lot of our elders, you know, are
isolated in this moment and can't do, because, you know,
they're COVID-conscious. It's hard in this moment. And
-- and we know that COVID is not -- is not going to go
away in the next time, right. So this engagement process
around redistricting is probably going to match the COVID
curve, right? You know, we don't know, and so we have to
prepare moving forward around what the role of young
people should play, not only in redistricting, but really
had the -- the knack around civic engagement and for the
next, you know, two to three years.

COMMISSIONER VASQUEZ: Great. Thank you. Ana what
do grassroots groups like yours need?

MS. MELGOZA: I think a couple of things. I think
one of the main things is time. You can't really -- you have to honor the process. You cannot rush into just saying, oh, redistricting, let's do it. They'll look at you, like, what -- what are you talking about? And, you know, honor time and honor the team. You know, everyone is -- I don't know how many ads you guys have seen or heard, but it's -- it's a lot. Like, I can -- I can relay them in my sleep. There's so much going on. So giving people a chance to kind of have some perspective. But with that comes just time. Making sure that you build an understanding. And I know, you know, I -- I think it's great. I see a lot of activism. I love it. I'm a GenXer and -- but my daughter is a GenZer, and she's all about TikTok, and she's awesome. Like, she gets it. AOC is like her rock star, and she's active, but that's -- and I honor that. But nothing can really replace the promotora model, the model of peer-to-peer, just information sharing that we've been able to do in healthcare for the longest time. It's very effective. And that's not necessarily any one of us going on -- into someone's house. It's -- it's actually -- because a lot of kids was like, what? You know, you don't know me. You know, what do you have? Why should I trust you? It's really getting people from the community -- hiring from my community, being that economic engine as well,
preparing them, and explain to them, get their buy-in,
and then they, in turn, will go and meet people where
they are in terms of level of trust, understanding, level
of -- of just of initiation and -- and of -- of doing
something with that information.

And that goes also for you guys hold public forums,
making sure that they're in places that are easy to
access, providing food for people at these events, once
COVID is done. But before then, if you can't do any
large public gatherings, going into people's homes, but
doing it in a, you know, in a socially-distanced manner,
making sure that you're in the, you know, outside, able
to work with them like that, because nothing can take the
place of a human connection, especially in densely-
populated areas. But it's going to be a learning curve
for many people. It took us a while to explain why it
was important for census participation to take place, and
it was great once you got to see people understand what
was at stake. And we were actually considered in our
area's hard-to-count. But we do have hard-to-count
populations, but we had a lower response rate 10 years
ago. And this year, before it was even completed, we
were already surpassing what we did last time. So we
know that this -- we're not just making this up. We
learn, and we evolve, and we incorporate new technologies
and new tools and -- but nothing can take the place
really of, of a promotora, a model where peer-to-peer is
important. And it's a great investment in the community
for the people, who, you know, may be at home right now,
because they have children at home. And then also just
making sure that you work with trusted nonprofits that
have, you know, built their base for the longest time.
In -- in other communities, people will rely on a church
to get their information. Although that does happen in
Latino community, most Latinos actually get their
information from the nonprofit that they rely on for food
distribution, that they rely on for healthcare, that they
rely on for -- for educational assistance and outreach.
And we have found -- at school districts as well. So we
have found really great partnerships in those partners
and able to -- to outreach to people more effectively.
So there is no sense in kind of recreating the wheel. I
think it's more integration and nonprofit partner
leveraging.

COMMISSIONER VASQUEZ: Great. Thank you so much to
our -- our panelists. So we have about six minutes if
folks have immediate questions.

And I -- and I'm happy to facilitate this part,
Chair, if that's all right, Commissioner Yee.

COMMISSIONER YEE: Yes. Thank you to our presenters
for your work and for your time today. So accessing health care, get out the vote, get counted for the census, have their challenges, but they seem like relatively easy sales compared to redistricting. So any particular advice on -- on how to get people interested in something, you know, that happens once every 10 years, and is -- is pretty abstract?

MR. SUPAHAN: I think that's a great question, Russell. And I have to be inspired, again, by the younger generation. My -- my daughter is the land management director with a degree in GPS, and she took on the census challenge, because she calls herself a data queen. And yes, redistricting is over here, but the census is also pretty close by it in terms of geekiness. And -- and how does this really matter and what do I really want to do with it and can do with it? And they -- that group of young Native Americans made it fun for the entire community, in terms of their regional party making, in terms of their -- their brainstorming about ways to -- to bring people into the process that had never been in the process before. And -- and it was still an uphill battle. I'm not -- I'm not saying that -- we -- we increased about threefold from what the majority of Californians engaged in the census, and -- and the numbers for Native Americans were startlingly
low. And -- and then just to get to 30 percent was an
achievement for us, a heavy lift that -- that -- but I
attribute it to all those young people coming up with new
ideas about how to reach. And not only to the -- the
young people in the community, but elders in the
community and -- and non-Indians as well, just being very
inclusive. So I -- I just encourage you to try to figure
out fun and how to -- how to translate fun into making --
making your -- your vote count, making your future count.

MR. SANCHEZ: I mean, one thing -- one thing I want
to add. So, you know, Power California is, you know,
it's a fairly new group, you know, we kind of emerged in
2018. But, you know, it actually grew out of a statewide
campaign we did previous to this, which was around the
statewide evaluation process for schools, right. So very
wonky, very boring, right. So how do you engage young
people on that? Right. So the thing is, we don't want
to engage you on, like, understanding the mechanics of
redistricting. What we want them to understand is this
is what will happen if they don't, right. And -- and so,
they understand. So what the evaluation process for the
school does is, like, this is going to determine how
schools will get evaluated, how resources will kind of
get, you know, sent out, who will be representation. And
so, part of it is, you know, the state Board of Ed
started this process. They said they had never seen this many young people from throughout the state engage in a process, right. But they understood that this was going to determine everything from like, you know, like really dismantling the school to prison pipeline and how young people are being criminalized in school, to like having high expectations that were college going rates, right. And every school should have that, right. And that just changed their thinking, like, yeah, I want to go to school, and I want to go to college. So I think part of this idea of redistricting is about really them understanding what the outcome is, right, not just the mechanics. I think there's going to be a set of young people and -- and policy folks that will always understand and will be good in that arena, and we always have those, right. But really the folks who get mobilized and engaged and energized is that this really is about fundamentally shifting, you know, how they participate in the state. And that's really what it is, I think. For me, civic engagement is not just about the mechanics or -- or that one vote that happens at a school board or a redistrict. It's really about like fundamentally shifting that, are you going to be a part of this state? And do young people feel fundamentally that their -- their issues and their needs are being
centered in this process, right. And that's true for immigrant communities, refugee communities, black, and indigenous communities. Like, we need to make sure that we popularize it, right. And this is where the, you know, when I spoke to, like, the promotora model, which is a peer-to-peer model, which is essentially the model that I use with young people, right. Because, you know, I use to run an intergenerational organization in East L.A. that worked with young people and -- and families, right. And -- and part of that is, is that the peer-to-peer model is so critical. And if you engage and popularize it with a set of, you know, quote unquote, organic leaders in these respective communities, it will spread like wildfire, right. And they'll understand that this is not just about this one commission that really doesn't have any impact on their lives, but it's really clearly fundamentally has an opportunity to shift how we see and how we see representation, how we see the key issues that impact their lives on a daily basis. And that's -- and that's really where the work of peer-to-peer model, where communities need to be engaged, because the outcomes is really where you when you engage and energize people, not just in the mechanics of the process.

COMMISSIONER VASQUEZ: Great. Thank you so much.
It's just about 12:10. Do we have any final questions from the Commissioners? All righty.

Well, panelists, thank you so much for your time. And a lot -- a lot of important, I think, points were made and -- and learning happened. So we -- we really appreciate this perspective from -- from you and -- and your communities. So thank you. Thank you very much.

MS. MELGOZA: Thank you. Thank you, again, for volunteering for this. Thank you.

COMMISSIONER VASQUEZ: Okay.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Before the panelist leave, can I ask if you have perhaps, maybe a few extra minutes. I think what I'd like to do is to take public comment, if we can, in case there is any comments or perhaps questions that would be directed to the panel if you have the time. If not, it's okay.

Okay. Jesse, could you read off the instructions for public comment in case anybody would like to call in?

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. The telephone number is 877-853-5247. When prompted, enter the meeting ID number provided on the livestream feed. It is 98512592479 for this week's
meeting. When prompted to enter a participant ID, simply press pound. Once you have dialed in, you will be placed in a queue from which a moderator will begin unmuting callers to submit their comment. You will also hear an automated message to press star nine. Please do this to raise your hand, indicating you wish to comment. When it is your turn to speak, the moderator will unmute you, and you will hear an automatic message that says, "The host would like you to talk." And press star six to speak.

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 when it is your turn to speak. And again, please turn down the livestream volume. These instructions are also located on the website. The Commission is taking general public comment at this time.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: We'll, wait a few seconds to let our livestream catch up.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: In the meantime, I'll say, Terry, we need your daughter to help us bring that energy.

MR. SUPAHAN: I agree. Well, good thing there's twin -- there's two of them. There's twins, so.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Okay.

Commissioner Fernandez?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I figured while we're waiting for public comments. I just really for Ana -- Ana, Luis and Terry, I really wish you had more passion for what you did. And the -- and that's being sarcastic, because as soon as you're done, I'm like, I want to get a shirt, and I want to get out there and do everything that you're doing. And I just want to tell you that you're very inspiring, and I applaud you and thank you for your commitment and dedication to our communities. And thank you so much for coming in today.

MR. SUPAHAN: Thank you.

MS. MELGOZA: Thank you so much. And yes, you can, yes.

COMMISSIONER VASQUEZ: Reach out to Ana for some shirts is what I heard.

MR. SANCHEZ: We have a bunch for you all. Let us know.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: If you would like a swag, let me know, and I will figure out how to get it to you all.

MS. MELGOZA: Yes.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Because I have some of your addresses already from getting you the booklets.

MS. MELGOZA: You'll be in the same esteem as
Bill Walton.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: And I forget to mention the regional party, Terry. Do I get on that list or what happens with that?

MR. SUPAHAN: Well -- well, then you'll -- you'll appreciate that when the staff was going over our election party for our region to -- on Tuesday night, the first -- the opening 15 minutes is Terry dancing. And I was like, me dancing, I'm not doing that for 15 minutes. They said, well, you create the energy, you got to bring it. And -- and I said, well, a lot of us can dance. We can figure that part out.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: And I'm sure you missed Terry said the raucous party. Rock and roll, dance, dancing, music, food.

MR. SUPAHAN: Raucus marching party.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Definitely sounded like it was rocking, not just necessarily raucous.

Jesse, do we have any one in queue?

COMMENT MODERATOR: There are currently no callers in the queue, Chair.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Okay. All right. Okay. Well then, in that case, I think we've given sufficient time. I would like to convey my thanks to Terry, Ana, and Luis for joining us and for a wonderful panel and
really some great food for thought. Definitely heard the
message about the peer-to-peer methodology as -- as
definitely one that is critical to ensuring greater
engagement. So thank you very much for bringing your
passion and really, you know, just being able to excite
us all in terms of -- of ways in which we can also work
together as well too. So thank you very much.

MR. SUPAHAN: I just want to thank all of you guys.
I mean, you -- you guys are doing the heavy lifting. I
applaud you. I'm thankful for you and Pastor Trina and
Angela and Patricia, thank you so much for -- for
reaching out to us. Thank you.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah. Thank you for this good
opportunity. We appreciate it.

FEMALE 2: Thank you.

MS. SANCHEZ: Have a safe weekend.


MS. SANCHEZ: Good night everyone. Be well.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you.

FEMALE 1: Okay. Commissioner Vazquez and
Commissioners Sinay, thank you for bringing together that
really interesting panel and -- and just really great to
hear from, just like you said, it -- really the
grassroots level, which is very different from the
previous panel, which was much more grasstops. And so,
you know, just hearing what they speak about versus what
the others spoke about, you could see a very big
difference. And so that was really helpful to have. I
will say that we are at now officially 12:16. I think
what would be best is if we took our lunch now, so that
then we'll come back in an hour, and we will turn this
over to Commissioner Sinay to take us through the
visioning -- or, and -- I'm sorry, Commissioner Sinay and
Commissioner Vazquez to take us through the visioning
exercise. And at which point then following that, we'll
take public comment. After lunch, we'll do the visioning
deexercise and then we'll take one more last round of
public comment before we end for the -- for this time.

Marian?

(No audible response.)

I can't hear you.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Oh, wait.

MS. JOHNSTON: I've sent the draft letter to the
affected co-chairs. I could -- if you give me your
feedback, then I could send it to the whole Commission to
discuss after lunch.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Oh, okay, great. Okay.

Then -- if then Commissioner Vasquez and Sinay, if you
okay with that, what we'll do is after lunch, we'll take
public comments, then we'll discuss the letter.
Thank you, Marian, for doing that so quickly.

And then what we'll do is then we'll turn it over to Commissioner Vasquez and Sinay for the visioning exercise, and then we'll wrap up for the day, perhaps a little bit early, perhaps. All right. Thank you very much. We'll see you all back at 1:17 p.m.

(OFF THE RECORD)

(COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Thank you. All right.

Good afternoon. Welcome back, everybody. I hope everybody had a nice lunch. I would like to take public comment before we finish up with our last agenda item today, which is the vision exercise that will be led by Commissioner Sinay and Commissioner Vasquez.

So, Jesse, can I ask you to please read the instructions for public comment?

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. The telephone number is 877-853-5247. When prompted, enter the meeting ID number provided on the livestream feed. It is 98512592479 for this week's meeting. When prompted to enter a participant ID, simply press pound. Once you have dialed in, you will be placed
in a queue from which a moderator will begin unmuting
callers to submit their comment. You will also hear an
automated message to press star nine. Please do this to
raise your hand, indicating you wish to comment. When it
is your turn to speak, the moderator will unmute you, and
you will hear an automatic message that says, "The host
would like you to talk." And press star six to speak.
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 when
it is your turn to speak. And again, please turn down
the livestream volume. These instructions are also
located on the website. The Commission is taking public
comment at this time.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Thank you, Jesse.
We'll wait a few seconds for the livestream to catch
up. Let's see if we have any callers.

Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Just a reminder that Marian did
submit a letter for all of us to look at, and we were
going to do something with that.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Oh, that's right. Okay.
So what -- we -- we can -- we can take care of that first
then before we go to the visioning exercise. So while we
wait for any potential callers to queue up, I -- I
noticed that, yes, Marian did send us a new draft of the letter to the Attorney General. And I just want to make sure did everybody receive it. And thank you to those who provided edits.

Let me just check with Jesse. Anyone in queue?

COMMENT MODERATOR: There are currently no callers in the queue, Chair.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Okay. All right. Seeing -- seeing that we have no one in queue right now, let's go ahead and let's move on to the -- come back to the draft AG letter that came up as a result of -- of agenda item number 15, which was the council update. And that was that the -- this is the -- the continuation of that particular agenda item.

Marian, can you tell us anything that you want us to know? I believe we need to approve the letter. Okay. Do we need a formal motion for that letter?

MS. JOHNSTON: No.

CHAIR: Okay.

MS. JOHNSTON: But I just got another edit by Commissioner Toledo or a Commissioner, yes, Toledo.

CHAIR: Okay.

MS. JOHNSTON: But it reorganizes the second paragraph. So why don't you look at the one as it's written and then decide if you -- it need to -- he -- he
COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Commissioner Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Oh, I'm -- I'm sorry. Did you say a new one was sent?

MS. JOHNSTON: One was sent about 10 minutes ago.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: And you've only sent one?

Wait.

MS. JOHNSTON: I, hopefully, sent one to everybody.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Oh, okay. So that's the one we're looking at right now.

MS. JOHNSTON: Yeah.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. It looks fine. The only thing in your closing, you're -- you say your staff already has a contact information for our counsel. I wouldn't soften it, maybe. I don't know. It just --- to me it sounds, hey, they already have our information. Contact us. I would -- I would probably just say, you know, if you wish to discuss it, please contact Marian Johnson (sic) at blah, blah, blah.

MS. JOHNSTON: Well, I wasn't approaching --

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I don't know. Maybe I'm being a little too sensitive about it. I just --

MS. JOHNSTON: I thought about putting in one of your phone numbers, but I didn't know if you wanted that
or not.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: No, no, you're fine. I just don't like how says your staff -- has your staff already has the contact information for our council. I just think -- I think I would be on the defensive about it.

MS. JOHNSTON: Okay. Just say for council, Marian Johnson, may be reached at? Would that be acceptable? Commissioner Kennedy?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: We've -- we've discussed in other contexts how we characterize the Commission, and I thought we had come up with something other than bipartisan, because we don't want to exclude our no-party preference colleagues.

MS. JOHNSTON: My memory was we didn't have a better word than my partisan. But if someone remembers a better word.

FEMALE: Is -- Commissioner Ahmad.

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: I -- I think we did have that conversation, but I think we all agree that bipartisan is fine. Instead of, like, tri- or quad partisan or whatever variation there could be.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Commissioner Andersen?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Well, on that same note, we
did the bipartisan on the -- on the national ones, because that -- those national letters, because basically they wouldn't understand. But this is the California, so we could just do multi-- multi-partisan.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Commissioner Turner?

COMMISSIONER TURNER: I was just going to say the office will be calling me back in a few minutes. When they do, I'll probably drop off, (unintelligible) office. COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: And Commissioner Vasquez did have her hand up also.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Thank you. Commissioner Vasquez. So your -- your background is -- as beautiful as it is, sometimes it's hard to see your hands.

COMMISSIONER VASQUEZ: Doesn't matter the background. I'm always apparently armless and just a head. I've -- Commissioner Ahmad made my point.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Okay.

MS. JOHNSTON: Consensus? Good to do?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Just quickly. Ms. -- Ms. Vasquez, you need this, because you can spot it.

COMMISSIONER VASQUEZ: I -- was actually going to ask if the -- if it was legal and possible for Kristian to enable the reactions. I -- I think there's like -- I know there's a hand raise function in the chat, which
could be helpful for the facilitator if they always have it open. But just -- there's got to be a way for like one of the emojis to do like the hand raise, because those seem more prominent.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I -- I thought we used to have it. I -- I wish certain things had in previous times we've had it available to us, the reactions button.

COMMENT MODERATOR: We can look into that, Chair.

It may not be available in the webinar right now, but we can look into enabling that for the future.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Okay.

MS. JOHNSTON: So --

COMMISSIONER VASQUEZ: Yes, that will be helpful.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Marian, do you -- do you actually need us to vote on anything? I mean, it -- it -- I think --

MS. JOHNSTON: If -- if there's no other changes to it, it's good to go.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Taylor?

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yeah, I'm -- I'm good with it.

And -- and I'm always hesitant to change something, just because I see -- see it slightly different, and it has the same meaning. But, Marian, in paragraph 2, I guess it's one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, line seven in paragraph 2, you have "will be greatly disadvantaged
in its ability to carry out its redistricting duties."

You think possibly we could put "as prescribed by law"?

Because we -- we want to conform to the legal standard
that we've been given. We're -- we're not going willy-nilly. We want to do our duty as prescribed by law.

MS. JOHNSTON: I will add that in. Okay.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: And Commissioner Andersen.

Mr. Anderson? You're on mute.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: There you are.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Your data. I would like to

-- I'm sure what Commissioner Toledo has probably done is
actually very good, and I'm sure you're going to consider
that. It would have been better if we just all edited it
in the Google share, so we could really see what was
going on. I think that would -- next time, if we have to
do something like this. However, I would just say one
grammerical (sic) thing. In the very first sentence at --

- "in the amicus brief that we understand your office is
preparing to submit", because otherwise in the brief we
understand. It seems like the brief that you're talking
about that -- so it should be the brief that we
understand your office. So please add that.

MS. JOHNSTON: So noted. Any other corrections?

Commissioner --
COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Do we need to one more final draft after these -- these edits?

MS. JOHNSTON: I can.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Is everyone okay with it at -- for Marian -- okay. I'm saying just -- all right. Maybe just by a raise of thumbs? Okay. I think anybody not --

MS. JOHNSTON: We will send it off.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Anybody not in agreement with her moving forward as is, please indicate now. Okay, Marian, I think you're good to go.

MS. JOHNSTON: Thank you.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Thank you. Thanks for drafting it so quickly.

Commissioner Fornaciari?

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: There was a question about signature. Did I -- I mean, my suggestion was to -- that we could delegate to Commissioner Ahmad to sign on our behalf since she's there. But I don't know what everyone else thinks, or if she's willing to do that.

MS. JOHNSTON: Would you like to?

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: I'm fine doing that.

MS. JOHNSTON: Is that all right with everybody?

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yes.

MS. JOHNSTON: Since she's first on the list anyway.
COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Since she's physically there and can do so, that would be fine, yes.

Thank you, Commissioner Ahmad to finish that on our behalf.

Okay. All right. Then I think we are concluded with that particular agenda item. I am going to call on Commissioner Sinay and Vasquez to now start us on our new journey of -- of visioning. And just for their sake, I think they asked us to sign up on Miro -- Miro, and, hopefully, everybody was able to complete that.

And Commissioner Vazquez or Sinay, which one -- Commissioner Sinay, are you going to be -- you're going to be facilitating, so, okay, you're going to take over. Okay. Thank you.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: All right. So it is actually Miro, like the -- the sculptor, artist. It's -- it's taken after him. And if you've seen kind of his artwork, it's always just, yeah. It'll look like what ours is going to look like. This -- but before we even get into the tool, I wanted to take a step back. And, you know, we had promised -- Commissioner Vazquez and I had promised that we would really look at what are our goals, thinking about outreach so that we know if we're doing well or not, you know, as much as -- a lot of times we don't want to set goals, because we feel like we're doing
great. But it is good to be able to know where we're heading. And so the handout we had put -- we had put the three goal -- we came up with three goals that we thought would be kind of reflective of the work that -- that we're doing. And I -- I don't want to put up the tool yet, because I can see you guys all playing on it -- on my other screen, but because I don't want to distract us from actually thinking through this piece. Originally, when Commissioner Vazquez and I were looking at, okay, first goal, obviously, will be how much, how many people can we reach? And we're like, well, the number doesn't really help us, because we might just say, let's reach 10,000 people and we reach all 10,000 in L.A. And that's not what we wanted. That's why we're purposely pushing ourselves out into regions and then -- and then pushing ourselves even further out there. And so then we're like, okay, what percentage of the region's population? And Commissioner Vazquez and I are very ambitious, and we had been like, should it be five or should it be ten, you know, and then we started asking around. Yeah, they were, like, well, let's ask people who are actual professionals. And, you know, because even if you do a campaign, if you're running for office or something, you really -- you're looking at between five and 10. So that was kind of where we were coming from, and -- and
everyone kept saying, well, I don't know. What do you.

Yeah, everyone always says, what are you talking about
when it -- when it comes to numbers, if you're doing it
via email. But finally, I think Karin over at the
statewide database gave us the best response.

Commissioner Vasquez, do you agree?

(No audible response.)

So I will -- I will forward her email so that
everyone can see it. But basically what she said is in
2011 the CRC had 2700 speakers and 22,000 written
submissions or 25,000 engagements. If that's how you're
measuring it, that would be approximately 07 percent of
the population. So that was our first, like, oh, we are
way over. That was our first reality check. So it was
.07 percent of the population. With more time and
additional funds, a potential goal could be to increase
that at least by .1 percent or 40,000 total. So that --
so you could aim for at least one in every 1000 persons.

So one -- one per 1000. The reason we want a percentage
again or one per 1000 or -- is -- is every region is
different and has different populations, and we're not
going to use that number necessarily for everything. But
we do need to be able to measure, you know, we may reach
10,000 people in the very northern region number one, and
that's awesome. But if you reached 10,000 in the San
Diego Imperial region, number 10, that's -- that might be low. And so we're just -- well, actually, we can 10,000 in any of them is going to be great, so wrong number. So I wanted -- I just wanted to put that out there and then allow you all, as you were thinking about what the number could be, because we did put X percentage, if anybody had come up with anything else or another way to kind of measure our outreach and engagement. And we're putting it together kind of outreach and engagement right now. But maybe we should do it just like Karin did. How many people either participate, you know, public comments or submitted maps. So that's with the COI tool, with video, with everything we're going to use once we're going. And this is from -- from when we leave public. I know we haven't done this yet.

Okay. Commissioner Vasquez, you look like you really want to talk.

(No audible response.)

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Oh, okay. I'm like, this is one thing. When I facilitate, I watch everybody's hands go up and stuff. So it's -- so -- so let's just come up with the number, and then we can keep finessing it.

And quit laughing at me, Commissioner Fornaciari.

Yes, Commissioner Andersen?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I have a question. Okay,
there's one thing about touch and how many, you know, we've gotten X, Y, you know, how -- 27 speakers, 25,000 pieces of paper. But that doesn't necessarily reflect how many people, and, hence, what percentage of population you've reached. Because some of them might draw, here's my COI, but that's one person, one contact. But they might represent 20, 20,000 people. So what are we talking here? Are we talking about ultimately just how many contacts we want to make or how many people that are being represented and what percentage? So you -- I -- I'm not -- I mean they're two different -- completely different percentages.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Okay. Let me go to Commissioner Vasquez.

COMMISSIONER VASQUEZ: Yeah, I -- I think we're -- what we're asking for is a component of your -- your second piece, which is we are -- we want to get specific in terms of quantifying in some way the amount of activation and engagement, right? Like -- if -- you have to do something in order to participate in this process, even if it's -- we could decide that one of the ways to -- to meet the metric is like if you tweet at us. Right, if you tweet your map to us, that's a -- that's a hit.

And so we want the proposal potentially could be one in every thousand people to do something like that. Tweet
at us, submit a map, send a video, what have you. So
we're not looking right now for -- it -- it's too big of
a concept to say this one person represents all 20,000
people.

FEMALE: Yeah.

COMMISSIONER VASQUEZ: That's -- what we're doing
right now is trying to figure out what number do we feel
is representative of meaningful engagement given -- given
what sort of Karin has set us up for in terms of what the
likelihood is. So her recommendation, and so, therefore,
our recommendation is one in a thousand. But we wanted
to give, again, you folks an opportunity to discuss
whether that seems reasonable. And then once we have the
number, I feel like we could sort of backwards -- back
into, well, what -- what's going to count? What do we
think is meaningful engagement? And then backwards
mapping from that is, I think, more on our communications
people and our deputy executive director of like, okay,
what are the pieces we need to put in place to get people
to activation? So in organizing, right, you have -- we --
we send out 10,000 fliers. Of those 10,000 fliers, we
know that maybe 100 are going to come to our meeting.
Of 100 people who come to our meeting, three are going to
testify. So if we want six people to testify, we should
theoretically play a plan to send out 20,000 fliers. So
those are the pieces, again, I -- we really feel like our
staff should think through the mechanics. What we want
is to set some very basic goals. And, again, they can
change as -- these are going to be working goals, because
as we start to get feedback, in terms of actual
engagement, we're going to go, oh, we were really, really
ambitious, or, oh man, we could -- we can actually dial
this up and get more -- and get more people, more folks
involved. So that really this is just an anchor to begin
the planning process.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Neal, you had your hand up.
I'm sorry, Commissioner Fornaciari.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: That's okay. Okay. Well,
you kind of answered my question, right. It -- it's sort
of you have the activation rate. And so, you're --
you're kind of looking at the end and -- and mapping it
backwards to what does the outreach have to look like to
get us to our goal? And I would -- I would just -- just
having given it, you know, just this few minutes of
thought, I would think that I think we'd be doing pretty
well if we get 40,000 pieces of input. I think, I mean,
I just -- and then I start thinking about how we manage
that much input and, I don't know --

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Don't worry about that right
now.
COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Well, that -- I know, but I can't. That's where my mind goes. I can't help it. But it -- I mean, that -- it seems like a ballpark, you know, I think, reasonable.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Well if --

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Because I, you know, I mean, there just -- the -- the -- I mean, it's a kind of a Herculean effort, I think, to get people interested and engaged in this. I just think it's just like, oh, we just went through -- we just went through the census, then we voted, and now we have to do this, too. And it's just so abstract. Nebulous --

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I want to add one thing. The reason this is so important is because if we, you know, if at any point there's a question about the process, we need to be able to show how -- in how much we engaged throughout the whole reason we had -- so that's why we don't want to say -- that's why it's important the individual number of -- of engagements versus six organizations sent us maps that represent a million, you know, that represent the whole -- the whole area. There was a few hands. I'm just -- go ahead and unmute yourselves, guys, because we're -- we're just enjoying ourselves.

Go ahead, Alicia. And I see you.
COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I'm -- oops.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I see you. I see you.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: My ears just fell, but, okay, I'm coming back. I'm coming back. I just -- I appreciate, and actually, I like having, like, specific number. And I do -- I'm looking at your visioning exercise. I just want to make sure that I mean, it's fine if we do a 40,000. That's our goal. But I also want there to be and I think on your visioning exercise, I want it to be a goal for a region and not necessarily -- I mean, I almost want to do a goal per county, because we could get, you know, theoretically 40,000 from L.A. and then the whole rest of the state, you know, is not well represented, in my opinion. So I -- I almost like it -- I know we -- we split them up by regions, but I actually kind of want to do by county, which I know would be more challenging. But I just want to make sure that once we get to that limit, we don't stop. I mean, we -- we truly want to try to get representation from all parts of California.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I like that.

Yes. Russell. I'm looking at you like you can look at me.

COMMISSIONER YEE: I look at it two ways. One way is from the Commission's point of view. We've committed
ourselves to improving outreach this time around, and so anything that represents progress in last time. Last time, the 27,000 were considered, but we -- we've been told, you know, there was not one way to systematically analyze the data. And so even to get to that would be progress. Nevertheless, any number north of 27,000, you know, would make sense to me.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: As just to clarify, it's 25,000. I might have said 27,000.

COMMISSIONER YEE: 25,000. Yeah, of, you know, 40,000 would seem ambitious, but anything that would represent, you know, a further step in getting input. So that's from the Commission point of view. From the kind of lay person point of view, I'm thinking of as a person just in the public. You know what -- before I became a commissioner, as I was just reading up on what the 2010 did and, you know, what impressed me was that -- just that they went out to all the regions, that they had all this public input meetings. That's what impressed me. You know, I think in terms of input, any number five figures, you know, just as a layperson, that would impress me. I didn't give any input in 2010, but it means something to me that I could have. And there was a meeting actually in my city, you know, it means something to me. So that's what matters to me more than a number,
you know, just that there is access, that there would be access. And then just from our point of view, yes, we need a number to plan towards. But I think anything that would represent progress from last time or -- or further work, since we're committed to further work, would make sense.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Commissioner Kennedy, you had your hand up?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you. Yes, thank you. Just basically to say, you know, even below the county level, I mean, I live in a rural area. If you -- if you said you wanted 5000 people from San Bernardino County, and they all came from San Bernardino and Fontana and the Valley area, I wouldn't be happy. I -- I think, you know, two things. One, I think we need to focus more on the -- the educational impact that we can have. People are going to react however they react. We don't have a whole lot of control over that part. I think we have more control over how much educational impact, how many people we actually reach with our messages. And, you know, I don't know whether any of the academic community would -- would be willing to do a -- an impact survey for us. But there are certainly ways that an impact survey could be designed to measure (a) how many people are our messages reaching via radio, via community newspapers,
via community groups, et cetera, and (b) how much has the average Californian's understanding of redistricting improved as a result of our educational work? You know, and then as I state --

COMMISSIONER SINAY: You're absolutely -- and that's a lot of what we're hoping to do, once we have staff, to kind of look at how do we measure a lot of these pieces. And one of the ideas that -- that I keep going back to when it comes to, like, the -- the COI tool -- I was trying not to use an acronym, but I couldn't remember the whole -- Community of Interest tool, is every time someone submits one, there's a little dot that goes onto a map on our -- on our website, you know, on the California map. And -- and that's kind of how the census did it, I found out later. So it is competitive, because you're like, hey, and you can go in and see, like you're saying, the county or -- or your city or your neighborhood and see the dots. You don't know who put -- who submitted the stuff. But the app way, we can also see where we need to do more outreach and stuff. And that's kind of how the census managed it. Now I got all these ideas.

Go ahead, Commissioner Yee.

COMMISSIONER YEE: Another factor, you know, I think there actually may be somewhat less interest in
redistricting this time around, than 10 years ago. The number of applicants for the Commission was, you know, 25 percent lower, I think, than last time, and qualified applicants was half the size of last time. So, you know, it's not new anymore, and so, maybe less interest. On the upside, the COI tool, man, that's going to be, you know, so much easier to use and generate so much more ready access to submissions and also technology in general. So we have those on the upside to help us with outreach, yeah.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: And we have a lot of new youth who are very, very engaged in the census --

COMMISSIONER YEE: Yeah.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: -- and other things like we heard today. I'm going to pick --

COMMISSIONER YEE: But we also have -- go on.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I'm going to pick on the -- on the positive. That way we (unintelligible).

COMMISSIONER YEE: But we also have political exhaustion at the moment, so, you know.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Commissioner Taylor, did you raise your hand?

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: I did. So -- so when I look at that -- when I look at this, I think more about our ability or the quality of our outreach. So as
Commissioner Kennedy might have alluded to, we can't necessarily control people's behavior, but if we're able or we set up a -- a mechanism where we can reach this amount of people. And we can hope for, based on certain percentages, we can hope for a certain amount of response. And I think Commissioner Ahmad was talking about, you know, survey responses, different rates at different -- different period periods of time. So if we have a certain quality in our outreach, we can anticipate a certain response. So we plan for a -- plan our quality is X to try to get to Y. That's -- that's how I -- I see it.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: That was well --

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: That -- and I would -- and I would -- and I would want that to be way above, you know, I would have a -- a very ambitious goal above what the previous Commission had, and we can synthesize the information however, you know. That might be a learning process for us.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yeah. I hear -- Commissioner Akutagawa. I apologize. I wrote you down as your last name, then I wrote you down as your first name with Commissioner Taylor in the middle, so.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Thank you very much. I want to -- I do want to support the idea of perhaps
getting down to a little bit slightly more granular
level, you know, perhaps even beyond the county of
whatever data might be available. It would be great to
see what -- if that data is available at the county level
or at the city level, perhaps using those as ways to
target. I think based on what has also been said by the
other Commissioners, I guess what's coming to my mind is
kind of this idea of -- of, you know, just social media
influencers and kind of taking the kind of the young
people idea, too, is that, you know, which one of them
are influencers, and are there ways that we could also
activate them? Because we already know that they're
already activated in -- in ways that, you know, really
got more people excited in their various communities.
And perhaps, you know, just in terms of just even
thinking about what else is possible, maybe just also
understanding, you know, just kind of, like, how many
followers, how many, you know, what's their kind of like
range of influence do they have if we activate, you know,
these various young people, you know, in various
communities across the state. You know, can we then
maybe arrive at a number that is somewhat a -- either a
percentage or just kind of an exponential number of
whatever their -- their influencing kind of range is?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Well, if we can agree to kind
of start with the .1 percent or one out of a thousand at any level, right. Because that's the whole idea is that you come up with -- with something like that, it can be at any level. So we're saying no matter what part of California, whatever granular level, you know, it's going to be one out of a thousand. And we'll break that down. But then you just take what's the population of a city and multiply it by point -- point 0 -- point 1 -- 01, and come up with how much your goal is for that city or that -- or the same for account. And so that was kind of the idea of why we were saying, hey, we really want to just kind of come up with something like this. Commissioner Turner and I, before you, Commissioner Turner, I did see Commissioner Toledo.

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: I just to -- one thing to -- one thing to consider maybe some kind of equity measurement, just like they were doing with COVID across state of California, where you have -- you have the target, but then you have the equity target for -- in that case, it's people of color, because they're disproportionately impacted. But we could make the equity target, whether it's rural or we could have a couple others, but it's just something to consider, in terms of having some equity targets.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I think Commissioner Vazquez
and I both completely agree with that, and we wanted to keep it simple, so that we could go into the next exercise, but I'm writing that down, because that came up as I was hearing.

The equity target, what we have to remember; there's just so many communities of interest and so hopefully, if we do a good job on the outreach, we get that.

Commissioner Vazquez, are you -- you want to follow-up, and then I see you, Commissioner Turner. I'm just going over to my partner first.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Well, mostly because I wanted to respond to some of what I'm hearing. I mean, part of what we're doing right now, in advance of getting to the actual tool, is really -- how many, can I see a show of hands, how many at least viewed a logic model, or sort of an outcome, you know, program logic model you -- your inputs, your processes, and then your final goal.

All right, so it's a really basic sort of process mapping of where you begin, and the inputs, the resources, the things, the activities, what you're going to do, and then what you hope to achieve at the end.

And really what this process for the visioning is, is we're starting at the end. And so I hope I'm not getting out in front of you, Commissioner Sinay, but really, we have -- we are proposing three minimum final
outcomes for community outreach and engagement. so we can add more, and we can certainly finesse them as they -- as -- you know, as we actually start to get into the work.

But really, one -- the first one is what we're talking about now, sort of like minimum engagement, like, if we hit this, we can say we have been successful. If we surpass it, we are super successful. So this is this proposed one in 1,000 people at whatever level, pick a level.

Then it's this, what Commissioner Toledo said about equity, right? So what are our considerations? So just because we get one in 1,000 people in any given segment of the population, we want to make sure that that segment is reflective of that community. So what are all these considerations? And so our outcome is going to be a little squishy compared to our one in 1,000 metric, but we're going to try to create a metric for equity. That's going to be a little squishy because identifies and communities are a little squishy.

And then, the third outcome -- Commissioner Sinay, you're going to have to help me, because I'm not actually looking at it. We had a third category.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: It's the opportunity to engage is accessible.
COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yeah, so.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: It was also about equity, but we've used the word accessible, since we keep using it.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Right, so we want an accessibility metric to -- again, as a check on our process to make sure that the process of engagement has afforded the opportunity to all of our communities of interest.

So those, for us, are the starting point of, like, the bare minimum, like, we cannot call ourselves successful at community engagement and outreach if our outreach wasn't accessible, if it wasn't representative, and if we didn't hit a minimum number of people in a given region, city, zip code, census block, right?

Like, so that is -- these are the three pillars, and we can build out; we can backwards map into sort of the granularity that's again, we see that as the job of staff to do that. But we feel like for us as a Commission to figure out a minimum of three pillars of success is what we'd like to do today.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: And with that, I'm going to go to Commissioner Turner.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you. As I was thinking, I said if they talk too much longer, I'm going to forget what my point was, so I was trying to --
COMMISSIONER SINAY: You need stickies, and write them down on stickies.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: I do, I do, I do. But I think what I wanted to say tied back to the one in 1,000, and even to Commissioner Toledo's point about equity. There are tools that are already available and have been -- you know, a lot of us know this, but I was thinking specifically of a report that Irvine commissioned, I want to say 2016, 2018; I tried to look it up. And basically it talked about the level of civic engagement by area.

And what it said, at the time I was so excited about it because it said what I already knew for the central valley; if there were ten opportunities for civic engagement, they engaged at a level of about a one, right? So to me, having this information or even pulling that report out again and looking at it would direct how we should be thinking about engagement because if we treat it -- I'm going to just use the words vanilla across the board, you know, the one in 1,000 all the way. We know already that there are certain areas that will not touch, that they will not engage at that level with all the engagement that already happens in the area.

So I think to start with something like that in mind, about where the challenge areas are, rural areas, whatever it is, would kind of inform how much extra, how
much more attention that we need to put in those areas so that we can say that we went above and beyond to ensure that there was engagement, where previously -- and that's for regular civic engagement. Beyond this whole part of redistricting, which I think still is a difficult concept for a lot of people to kind of grasp and figure out, you know; why do I need to care about that right now, with everything else that's going on.

So I think I wanted -- I like the pillars, but I also think if at the onset we can look at work that was already done that's pointed out across the board where the challenges are, that also may inform us.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: That sounds great.

If everyone's okay, I'm going to share my screen now so I can kind of move us over to the tool. When I share my screen, the public's going to be able to see it as well. I'm going to ask the public and my colleagues to be patient with me if I mess up, because this is my first time actually doing this with a lot of people, especially doing it online.

Thank you, Angela, for letting me know that you guys can see me. I'm setting it up so I can also -- I can see all of you at the same time I can see the other tool.

So just explain, I can -- I've been watching you guys all run around on the tool; that's been kind of fun.
For the public, you'll see there are different little things moving around. The green one is Commissioner Kennedy. You've got Commissioner Taylor in the light blue, Commissioner Fornaciari in the purple, Commissioner Toledo keeps hiding from me, but he's pink. And then I think that's Commissioner -- I think that's -- oh, that was Commissioner Ahmad. I was like, there's one that's moving really quickly. So -- and I can see Commissioner Vazquez.

So there's seven of us on there. Those of you who aren't on there, I know that we're not all here; but you can also holler to us at any point or -- to let us know that you want a sticky note.

If you go over to the far left, you'll see this little square right here, and that's where your sticky notes will be. If you could use a color that's close to the color that they've put on you, then the public will be able to follow, like, oh, that's a yellow one; that must be Commissioner Vazquez. So if you can try to use the same -- you guys are all seeing the same colors, right, that I am?

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: I don't think you can see what your color is.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Oh.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: You're just a cursor.
COMMISSIONER SINAY: I see. Well, if you go up here to the very top, you kind of do the -- that's interesting. So yeah, because I've got all your colors. Okay.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Perhaps we could --

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Go forward.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: -- we could ask folks to just put their initials?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yeah, put your initials at the very bottom.

Go ahead, Commissioner Akutagawa.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: I don't know if -- I mean, and maybe it's just me, but I seem to be maybe in a different CRC board area, because the one that I see only has four members, and that's Commissioner Fernandez, Taylor, and Yee, and it shows that Commissioner Yee is the team admin. I'm not --

COMMISSIONER SINAY: That's so funny. Yeah, because you guys aren't on this one, so.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yeah, I just logged in based on the link that I got, so I'm not sure what happened. And if there's a -- there's two CRC ones going on?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: There shouldn't be two, that's --

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Because I don't see you on here at
all, so I don't know if this is part of the, maybe the --

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Wait, who do you have? Do you have Taylor?

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: I have -- yeah, I have Commissioner Taylor, Yee, and Fernandez on the one that I'm looking at that are the members of the account -- or the CRC team that I'm logged into.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Okay, Commissioner Taylor is here.

Commissioner Taylor, do you see her?

Okay, zoom -- so let me start. I'm going to start something and see if you can meet me where I'm at.

So we wanted to start kind of on what is our mission, and we don't have a concrete mission written. And what I did do was go back to what we're told by the legislation that we need to do.

So the Commission shall conduct an open and transparent process, enabling full public consideration of, and comment on the drawing of district lines, you know, and then it goes on from there. And so that's kind of where we're anchoring all our work, is back on this statement.

Okay, don't get dizzy. All right, so we just went over goal number one, and we've changed it already, which is awesome, yay. We're halfway -- we're close to being
done. This is -- some of you have already started playing around.

Here on goal number two, and Commissioner Akutagawa, are you seeing it or not?

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yeah, I'm seeing it now, I just went back to a link and --

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Commissioner Fernandez, you're seeing it too? Okay.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes, you had to log out and then go back in with the new email that you sent us, and then we get --

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yeah.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: -- we get directly there.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Okay.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: We had to log out and log back in.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Got you. All right, so here is where we get to start playing.

We said, as Commissioner Vazquez was saying, our second goal we set up was engagement in each region represents the region. And we're like, okay, what does it mean to represent the region? What types of criteria are we going to use for representation? And we can go all -- you know, there could -- you know, we could create a list of 20 different identity politics and age, and all
sorts of different things.

But we wanted you all to start thinking this, that we did have a criteria that we're saying when we're looking for representation, when we're looking at equity; what is it -- what are we meaning? And what -- we're not going to come to a consensus today, but the goal here is for you all to start putting sticky pads there with words that mean something to you, but that kind of answers this question. When we're considering representation, what should we be considering? So go ahead and start putting -- good job, Neal.

Good job, Trena. Trena, what do you mean by equity; could you put a little bit more? Equity by race, by -- equity means the whole kit and caboodle, I get it, but Commissioner Kennedy, if you want me to put anything, let me know. Oh, you -- but you're on there, that's right.

Citizen and noncitizen, good. Language equity.
Region literacy, urban, suburban, rural, good.

Oh, Angela, is that you? Okay, thank you, Angela.

Neal, don't forget to put your initials on it.

Geography, thank you, Derric.

Linda, race, ethnicity, language, age, geography.

Derric, when you're thinking of geography; is there anything in particular around geography?

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: I think, and you know,
especially going off of the input that people up north
don't feel represented. So we have to make certain that
they're represented in this process.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yep. Sounds great.

Angela's playing with the emojis now.

All right, Pedro, are you thinking still, or am I
not seeing it? Did Pedro leave? Oh, I don't think
Pedro -- oh, there you are, Pedro, sorry, Commissioner
Toledo. It's so hard for me when I'm facilitating to
use.

There is a voting way to do it, too. Okay, so you
all feeling good on this one? Oh, Jane, we haven't got
seen from you; is yours down there? I see you moving.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: By the time I go, you know,
do this stuff and type stuff in, I could've told it to
you, so this is --

COMMISSIONER SINAY: True.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. You guys are doing a
great job.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: No, go ahead. You want to tell
it to us and we'll put it on for you?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I'm trying to read what is
there, so I'm going between, like, three different
screens, so I want, you know, the zoom here, or back to
that one, blow it up.
UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Commissioner Sinay, this is --

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Oh, Jane, I see you have a sticky down here with your name on it.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Oh, yes, I did figure that out. Oh, there I am.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: There you are.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Did I pick the right color because I can't see what color I am.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: That's -- oh, sorry, guys. I didn't mean to -- see, this whole, like, these little things like zooming in and out like that, whoops, now it's too far. Sorry, public. My understanding is that when I do that, I'm not driving you guys crazy.

All right, I'm going to move us on to goal number three, if that's okay. So goal number three, we kind of broke it down into two things. So what does it mean for it to be accessible? We wanted to define accessibility, and that could be some of the topics we talked about today: language, age, technology, nontechnology, as well as methods of engagement. This is where we get to brainstorm on what kinds of tools, or what kinds of ways would we love to engage in. And think about your kids, your parents, your colleagues, you know, just different people out there, you know, folks in your faith-based
institutions, just you know, that you would want to --
what would get them to engage.

And so go ahead and just start brainstorming here.
And if you still want to go -- ooh, Derric, you got fancy
on your lettering. You can go back to the other one.

Yes, Alicia, I mean, Commissioner Fernandez?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Can -- am I in -- I can't
even find where my --

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I know it's --

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I don't know where I'm -- I
see it on yours; I can't find it on my screen.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: That is so funny. Yeah, you're
right there. I see -- okay.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yeah, I have no idea what.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Okay, zoom in or out on your
screen.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I'm sorry; what was that?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Zoom, use the zoom.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Right.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: So you can -- in mine, it's a
roller.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Right and it's a touch
screen, so I'm just going in and out.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yeah, the touch screen's not as
good as the other, I heard.
COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Oh, okay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Are you seeing it now?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Nope.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Okay, you're way down there, Alicia, and same with you, Jane. You're both way down at the bottom, so try to go up.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Oh, no, yeah, I typed something.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: There you go; I see you now.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I mean, I can see Commissioner Andersen.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Oh.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I can see -- and on your screen, on the screen up here, I can see where I'm at, but I can't see it on my screen.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yeah, you need to go up higher. It's -- what you're telling -- what -- you're going to the -- yeah, there you go. Oh, now you just passed us. Go a little slower when you go up.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Oh.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Okay, come down.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: A little bit more.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Come down, keep coming.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Oh, boy.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Come down.
COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: There -- ooh.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Slow down.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Oh, it's -- I need to use -- okay, now I get it. Got it, I think.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Okay, I'm not sure who's laughing. COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I'm hopeless.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I got it.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: All right, well, I'm glad to see a lot of you are getting trusted sources, internet access, addressing digital divide, texting, leveraging trusted messengers through organizations plugged into the community, digital divide, tech mobile devices -- yeah, we heard that a lot, right, that the mobile devices, that no matter -- and I hear that all the time about if you want to reach individuals, your website, everything, has to be accessible via mobile device.

Language ability, literacy, trusted sources. If anybody hasn't been able to something up here, let us know, and we can do it for you. Sorry, I'm -- there we go.

And then when we're defining accessibility, you know, that includes language access is what we've been talking about a lot, but we've also talked about disability access. I think the whole rural and urban has come up, and any other types of accessibility that we
might not have had thought about.

Any questions or thoughts? Anything anybody wants to say out loud?

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: One of the things I think was helpful is that you can hide those bubbles, move it around.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yeah, if you want to -- if you don't want to see everybody, I've left them so that the public can see it, but you're right. If you go up above, you can say hide collaborators' cursors, so you don't have to see everybody.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: And with that, I can see everyone but mine, and so do you just not see your own; is that what it is?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: That's what Commissioner Vazquez was just saying; you just see your cursor.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Okay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: All right, let me know when you all -- does anybody want to go back to the one before, or you can move it on your own as well. Is everyone feeling good?

I just want you to -- this is going to be really helpful for Commissioner Vazquez and I when we sit down and kind of think this through, so thank you.

COMMISSIONER YEE: A new percentage would mean
(indiscernible).

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I'm hearing someone whisper; is there someone who wants to speak louder? No? Okay.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: You know what is really fun is to look at people's faces as they're doing this.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Oh, that's right. I'm watching this and then I look over to you all, and I'm like, okay, I keep thinking we're almost done and then I can see all of you.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: They're -- nope, they're not yet.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: You're all thinking, you're like okay. Yeah, that's it.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Commissioner Sinay?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yeah.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I had to log out for -- or disengage for a little bit, but for goal two, could you explain that one a little bit more to me? And I apologize, you having to repeat it.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: No, no, no, no, no. So engagement in each region represents the region. So this goes kind of to the equity question, is what indicators are we going to use for representation. I'm just going to add one.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Can I just say, I know this has felt a little clunky, but look at how much
information and input we have been able to gather in just -- and using this tool, like, ten minutes.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Without having to --

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yeah, do the popcorn round robin.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Or write down everyone's name and then call them all.

And the other thing I want to think is if things pop up later, feel free to submit -- send an email and we'll make sure to put it on. Believe it or not, we will be able to actually turn these into pdfs so we have them. And then we'll actually write them down in a way that's doable, but we will have them on pdf, and post them so you all can go back to them and see them.

Commissioner Ahmad, I haven't heard from you; what are you thinking?

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: I am watching and contributing. I think in the -- the goal three, engagement is accessible, so different ways of engagement, I do think we have an opportunity to engage via social media, not just, you know, the most trendiest ones, but also novel methods. We can be on Twitch or Discord or some of those other non-mainstream, if I dare to say that's what it's called, avenues to engage people who might not have otherwise engaged in the process.
COMMISSIONER SINAY: Was that you who wrote, I dare say TikTok, and I gave all the credit for the fancy writing to Commissioner Taylor?

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: No, that is Commissioner Taylor.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Okay.

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: I stole his words.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Commissioner Taylor is enjoying this; he's finding all the -- yeah, and then I had a question, you know, when we're thinking of different cultures, we need to think outside of our own cultures, and how -- do we need to think about how we're being accessible to different genders and different religions. Are there, you know, are there going to be any barriers that we need to be kind of aware of, that might come into play.

I see Alicia. Let me know when you all feel like your brain is tired because what I'd like to do is, Commissioner Akutagawa, as the Chair, if you think this is a good place -- I mean, I think it's going to be hard for the public to give us public comment, but I do -- we do have the handout, and we have the three goals on the handout, and if they want to add some public comment to this, we can do quick stickies and stick them up, stick them on the different areas as well.
CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: That would be great. So then --
so if I'm hearing you correctly, then the idea would be
that if anybody does want to participate using the
handout, they can call in, make a comment specific to one
of the three areas that then can be typed up and added to
the middle, okay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Exactly.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay, that would be great, and
I -- when do you want to do this, and we could just put
everybody on notice now, so that if they are thinking and
they have ideas, and they would like to contribute, they
could start doing so.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Anytime -- I think,
Commissioners, do you all feel okay to start getting
public comments as well? I'm seeing a lot of nodding and
thumbs up.

So it's all yours, Chair.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: And Commissioner Vazquez, will
you help me type up the post-its as they come up?

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Well, this is a fun way to engage
everybody, too.

Okay, so I am going to do this. Jessie (ph.), would
you please read the instructions for the public comment?

So for those who are listening and watching this
session right now, you'll see what we were doing on the
Miro tool, but if you have not been able to go to the
handout section, what you can do is go to the CRC
website, and there is a handout that is available on the
website for today's meeting, and that is the exercise or
the handout that is --

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Visioning.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: It's number 10, and it's called
Visioning Exercise; that is what it's titled on the CRC
website. So you'll see a link that says 10, Visioning
Exercise. Go ahead and download that, if you have not
already done that. If you have, then please feel free
to, if you want, add your comments, to provide comments
to us, and as Commissioner Sinay had said, we will type
up your response as best as we can so that we could add
it to the Miro tool that we have here.

Jessie, I'm going to ask you to go ahead and read
the instructions for public comment, so that they could
start to queue up.

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 live stream feed. The telephone number is
(877) 853-5247. When prompted, enter the meeting ID
number provided on the live stream feed. It is
98512592479 for this week's meeting. When prompted to
enter a participant ID, simply press pound.

Once you have dialed in, you will be placed in a
queue, from which a moderator will begin unmuting callers
to submit their comment. You will also hear an automatic
message to press star, 9. Please do this to raise your
hand, indicating you wish to comment.

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

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.

These instructions are located on the website. The
Commission is taking public comment at this time.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: And if staff has some post-its
they would like us to add, let us know as well.

COMMENT MODERATOR: Chair, there is currently no
callers in the queue.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. So while we wait, in case
someone does want to weigh in and they may be trying to
pull their thoughts together in terms of the visioning exercise.

Commissioner Sinay, a question for you or Commissioner Vazquez; if members of the public would like to contribute to this exercise, what would you suggest for the public to do, to just submit through public comment after they've had some time to think it through? Okay, that that is also an option, too, that they can then submit via public comment their responses to the three questions that are on the visioning exercise.

Yes, Commissioner Sinay?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: And this will be part of what we will be presenting on the November 16th meeting, when we were talking about, you know, coming back to you all with strategies. You're basically helping us create that right now. And we'll also be taking in the comments that we received -- the report that we received from the community, as well as all the different panels. And so we're going to try to start synthesizing everything that we've gotten.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay, great. Thank you for that. And I will say, I'm leaving it open for the public to still queue up, but in the meantime, I will say, I do want to acknowledge, as Commissioner, I think Vazquez, has said that we've, in a very short amount of time, been
able to generate quite a bit of input and ideas around the three questions, without having to go through the more formal process, which would've taken us much, much longer. And so this was a welcome change of pace, in terms of how we went about gathering ideas and input.

And Jesse, I'm going to just ask you; have we had anybody who as joined in into the queue?

COMMENT MODERATOR: There are currently no callers in the queue, Chair.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Can I stop sharing?

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: I think let's just go ahead and keep it up for just a little bit longer. I mean, and I think I'll just say that for those, again for our public listeners and viewers, I would just encourage you that even though you -- there might be already something up here, if you want to go ahead and contribute your thoughts to the three particular areas around the -- I guess our goals, in terms of how many people we want to try to reach, as well as engagement, accessibility, and I believe, if I -- I'm going to go back to the bigger one, because it's easier to see, so let me just specifically state.

So for anyone who's watching, goal one, the -- what percentage per region; what is the percentage that you
would like us to be considering that we should be
reaching for?

Goal two, engagement in each region represents the
region. So what are the considerations for
representation?

Goal number three, engagement is accessible. So
what are the methods of engagement and also engagement in
terms of engagement is -- or goal three, engagement is
accessible. What is -- also how do we define what
accessibility is?

If you have anything that you want to contribute,
whether it's up there or not, please feel free to send
via public comment, in writing if you want. If you would
like to try to join in, we are still open for right now,
but it may be one of those things that you might want to
take a moment to think through, and that's okay. We'd
like to have you contribute via public comment, and that
would be great, and I know that the Commissioners, Sinay
and Vazquez, would love to hear from you.

Commissioner Sinay, are people -- it looks like
people are still typing in, so. You're on mute.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yeah, I got that message. It
puts that big one saying.

I think -- I don't know if people -- I just typed in
a few things, but I'm not --
CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Oh, is that -- oh. I thought it was someone else; I didn't know whether -- so if you feel like we're at a place where we could stop, let's go ahead and stop.

It looks like -- Jesse, I'm getting the sense that we have no one in queue still?

COMMENT MODERATOR: That's correct, Chair.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: I think we could go ahead and stop. So Commissioner Sinay, I'm going to turn this back over to you, in terms of wrapping us up, then.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Sure. Thanks, everybody, for indulging Commissioner Vazquez and I in trying to do -- work a little differently. Since we started meeting, I was trying to figure out, how do we engage differently? And Commissioner Turner and I were told by, in one of our calls, that hey, this is -- you know, the Miro can work, and so I went out and started watching YouTube videos to try to figure it all out; I still have no clue what I'm doing.

Did Commissioner Claypool or -- Commissioner -- Director Claypool, or Marian, did you want to add anything, or -- I do want to feel like everybody's included.

COMMISSIONER JOHNSTON: Sorry, I've just been working on the letter.
COMMISSIONER SINAY:  No, that's okay.

DIRECTOR CLAYPOOL:  And I've been working on trying to get a judicial council person to come in and speak, so I apologize.

COMMISSIONER SINAY:  Okay. Oh, no, no, it's okay. Usually what I would do, but it's kind of hard on this, and I promised that we were going to get out early, is read every single post-it that was put up there, but if you're all okay, since we are going to be continuing to meet for many, many, many, many hours in the near future, is for us to capture some of this and return it to you in kind of that plan like we were, you know, the strategies like we brought up. Is that okay for everybody if I don't read every single post-it?

Commissioner Vazquez would like to say something.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ:  Yeah, I just -- I wanted to -- my colleagues, do you all feel like we have put a good foundation down for this, what will be a continuing conversation in terms of things to consider for outreach and engagement? Do you feel like there's a big missing piece that we should talk -- I guess that's what I'm asking; do you see a big gaping hole, in terms of what we're thinking about? All right. Thank you. Well, that --

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA:  Commissioner Andersen has
COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yeah.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah, I'm sorry. I do have one -- I'm -- and I think you might be thinking the same way, and I might just not have heard it. In terms of we're still thinking of, like, if we get something back, and I'm specifically thinking of what happened in one of the meetings when we were the eight commissioners. We got, because I had to keep track of how many public comments there were; we got 24 or 5 one day, and virtually 20 of them were all about the same thing. For that day, I counted four contacts, and I'm wondering, are we, you know, in terms of how we are looking at, you know, that -- since -- we just got multiple contacts on the same crew, and so I want to make sure when we're looking at our percentages, we can't just be looking of total number of how many inputs, wow, look at all the maps we got.

Like, but I think when you were -- you might've already covered this when you said, like, say with the COI tool, you can certainly see it's the same dot, so that -- we only have the one or four dots in that area. We just got -- people reported in about the same dot, slightly, maybe slightly different, but the same dot, you know, 20 times or something.
So -- and I'm saying so in terms of --

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yeah.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: -- percentages, that doesn't count. It's like --

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: I think you're right. What I'm hearing is sort of trying to make sure when we're coming up with, like, metrics --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Right.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: -- distinguishing between number, like, numbers and alignment.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes, yes.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: So you know, we should also be able to see, like, make distinctions between potential outliers and where there's like general movement around the same thing when we're getting community input.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I would argue that the goal that we've set here is around engagement, which -- so when you have 20 comments, if they're from 20 different people, even if half of them are saying the same thing, that would be 20 engagements.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay, that's where I have an issue because it's the same group, so you're not engaging anyone other than that one group; that's my concern. In terms of, there's still the people who aren't being engaged; you haven't contacted them yet. So I mean it's
in terms of it's an over, like, oh, great, our message is being received. But it's just being received by one group. It's really, really, really being received, but it's just the one group. And what percentage are they in terms of the whole population in that area? That's where I'm concerned.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: So --

COMMISSIONER SINAY: And do you want to let Commissioner Fernandez?

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Sure.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Commissioner Fernandez?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Even if it -- even if they're from the same group, if it's 20 different people, I would consider them 20 different responses because even though I belong to a group, it doesn't mean I have to respond. I mean, we still reached out and they took the extra effort to respond, so I would count them individually, right, I mean, because that's what we want to do; we're trying to go out to different communities, and we want them all to respond, ideally.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: We do. But what I'm saying is, we've reached one community. And they -- and everyone in that community is responding, which is great. But if that's only, like say, for example, if it's just one -- it could be one neighborhood in a whole county.
COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Can I --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: That one neighborhood is really involved, and we get 20, 26, 20, you know, multiple times, but at the opposite end of the county, we haven't been getting any contact, so.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Can I respond to that?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Commissioner Vazquez?

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yeah, I think what you're getting at, what I'm -- again, what I'm hearing, Commissioner Andersen, is really you're talking about goal two and goal -- well, a little bit of goal three. But goal two is, right, is -- are these numbers; what do these numbers mean, right?

So I do -- yes, we're capturing it. So yes, to your point, we're -- like I said, goals two and three are going to be much squishier than I think a more quantitative metric about just like, points of engagement and our penetration. And then, we're going -- it's going to be more qualitative, potentially, with probably some quantitative, but overall the assessment of goal two, of whether we were successful at meeting goal two, is going to be squishier than whether we hit a number target or not in goal one.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Kennedy and then Andersen.
COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair.

No, to me, it sounds like we're looking for how to distinguish measuring intensity versus measuring dispersion.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay, so Commissioner Andersen -- okay, all right.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes, that's exactly -- that's well-put. Thank you, Commissioner Kennedy.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay, Commissioner Sinay?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yeah, you'll see, though, if you get stuck on goal one, when we move over to goal two, we are talking about hey, are we representing, is it the county, the region, the city, the -- so we are setting up layers that let us go deeper and deeper into the equity and representation.

I wouldn't get caught up too much on this right now because no one's going to judge us on this but us; it's just helping us move forward and actually have a place to start. And we a lot of times will be caught up on how are we doing on numbers. I don't want us caught up on how we're doing with numbers versus how can we do better and look at, you know, create systems that help us look at things so that we know how good we're doing on outreach and all that, and engagement.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: And if I can also add, for
those -- I get the desire to have something more clear-cut. And so for me, again, goal one is cutting across goals two and three.

So if we decide that, like, a general rule, like a target as we're planning and as we start moving is like one in 1,000 activation, so if we have a community, if we dive down, whether by region, if we dive down by age, if we dive down by, you know, neighborhood, if we dive down by ethnic group within a particular geography; are we hitting one in 1,000 people in there, or you know, or is -- to Commissioner Andersen's point, are they all coming from this particular part of whatever segment we're looking at.

So again, I would, to Commissioner Sinay's point, try not to get too caught up in the number. The number is an anchor from which to sort of circle around, and then goals two and three are ways for us to pull that number and sort of reality check as we move into this process.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Looks like we have no more comments.

Jesse, I -- we've left the public comment open; has anybody joined us in the meantime?

COMMENT MODERATOR: There have been no callers to join the queue, Chair.
CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay, all right. First off, I want to just say thank you to Commissioner Vazquez and Commissioner Sinay for this rather fun, engaging time. It was a nice change of pace from our usual kind of meeting format. And it was nice to see that we can utilize these different technologies and also make quite a bit of progress, and so I do want to say thank you for that. And it's great that also we can also engage the public in that process as well, too, via the public comment mechanism.

All right. So I believe that we are at the end of our time. I would like to make one more call, if there is a public comment, and then Commissioner Turner?

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah, I wanted to find out from Marian about the protocol of going back into closed session.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Today? Okay. We can still go back; we have not adjourned the meeting yet. So if there is a need to go back to closed session, then yes, we can still call for a closed session as a continuation of our previous closed session, is my understanding. And is this related to the personnel -- Commissioner Turner, you're on mute.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: It's related to the action we wanted to take for the amicus brief.
CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: I see, okay. All right. Let's see, Marian has walked away, so.

COMMENT MODERATOR: Stand by, Chair.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay, thank you.

COMMENT MODERATOR: She's on her way.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay.

COMMISSIONER JOHNSTON: Sorry, we're having problems with the scanner. What's up?

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Marian, Commissioner Turner has asked if we could go back into closed session related to the amicus brief?

COMMISSIONER JOHNSTON: Yes, we can.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay, all right. Then let's go ahead and do that. Christian (ph.), if you will issue or prepare the, I guess, prepare us for that, then after the closed session, then we will briefly come back to open session to formally close out and adjourn the meeting.

I will also let you know that Commissioner Fornaciari is going to take over for me. I do need to step away for a presentation, another panel presentation that I'm doing today, so.

COMMISSIONER JOHNSTON: It looks like Commissioner Vazquez has a point?

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Ah, Commissioner Vazquez?

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: I just wanted to know if we
could adjourn from closed session or if we had to come back?

COMMISSIONER JOHNSTON: You can adjourn from closed session.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Oh, so we do not formally need to adjourn this meeting back in open session?

COMMISSIONER JOHNSTON: No.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Wait a minute, I'm --

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Kennedy?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: I'm reading Section 11126.3(f) says after any closed session, the state body shall reconvene into open session prior to adjournment. So I'm not understanding how we can adjourn directly from closed session.

COMMISSIONER JOHNSTON: 126.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yes, that was my understanding, too, is that to formally adjourn, we would need to come back to open session.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: That's fine; I was just asking.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: 1112 -- 11126.3(f).

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Kennedy, I think you have stumped Marian.

COMMISSIONER JOHNSTON: That's if you have to report any action taken. Is this going to be an action taken?
I'm not sure what the purpose of the closed session is; this is just for an update from Commissioner Turner?

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yes.

COMMISSIONER JOHNSTON: If we're not going to take any action, then it's not a problem; you just have to report out any action.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Turner, if it's just an update, then it looks like then we could just adjourn in closed session.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Okay.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: So it'll be just an update then, okay, all right. Then I guess, then, we could just adjourn in closed session. So then -- okay.

So for the public, then, we will be adjourning in closed session, and our next meeting will be next week, November 4th through the 6th, and the Chair will be Commissioner Fornaciari.

All right. Thank you, everyone. See you.

(Whereupon, the meeting adjourned at .)
CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIBER

I do hereby 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.

_______________________            May 25, 2022
SAMANTHA STEWART, CDLT-253   DATE