STATE OF CALIFORNIA

CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION (CRC)

In the matter of:

CRC BUSINESS MEETING

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16, 2021

4:00 p.m.

Transcription By:
eScribers, LLC
APPEARANCES

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

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

TECHNICAL CONTRACTORS
Kristian Manoff, AV Technical Director/Comment Moderator
Katy Manoff, Public Comment Moderator

Also present

Public Comment
Renee Westa-Lusk
Deborah Howard
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CHAIR AHMAD: Welcome, everyone, to the June 16 Citizens Redistricting Commission meeting of California. I would like to call this meeting to order. Can we start with roll call?

MR. SINGH: Yes, Chair.

Commissioner Akutagawa?

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yes, here.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Andersen?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Here.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Fernandez?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Here.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Fornaciari?

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Here.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Kennedy?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Here.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Le Mons?

Commissioner Sadhwani?

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Here.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Sinay?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Here.

MR. SINGH: Thank you.

Commissioner Taylor?

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: I am present.
MR. SINGH: Thank you.
Commissioner Toledo?
COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Here.
MR. SINGH: Commissioner Turner?
COMMISSIONER TURNER: I am present.
MR. SINGH: Thank you.
Commissioner Vazquez?
Commissioner Yee?
COMMISSIONER YEE: Here in Delaware.
MR. SINGH: And Commissioner Ahmad?
CHAIR AHMAD: Here.
MR. SINGH: You have a quorum, Chair.
CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you. And just general announcements about today's meeting structure. So we will go from 4 o'clock to 5:30 when we are required to take our mandatory break.
At that time, we will take our fifteen-minute break. And then we will return in closed session from 5:45 to 6:15. After we are finished with our closed session, we will pop out of closed session and continue on where we left off for the remainder of the meeting. And once we get closer to that closed session time, I will elaborate on the reason in which we are going into closed session.
Great, Katy, can reopen the line for general public comments for items that are not on the agenda or items
for future meetings?

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

When prompted, enter the meeting ID number provided on the livestream feed. It is 95775040678 for this meeting. When prompted to enter a participant ID, simply press the pound key.

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

When it is your turn to speak, you will hear a message that says the host would like you to talk and to press star 6 to speak. If you would like to give your name, please state and spell it for the record. You are not required to provide your name to give public comment. Please, make sure to mute your computer or livestream audio to prevent any feedback or distortion during your call.

Once you're in the queue, be alert for when it is your turn to speak. And again, please turn down the livestream volume.

And the Commission is taking general public comment
at this time for items not on the agenda. And we have no one in the queue at this time.

CHAIR AHMAD: Let's give it a few minutes until the livestream catches up. Thanks, Katy.

(Pause)

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: The instructions are complete, Chair.

CHAIR AHMAD: Great. Thank you, Katy. And there'll be ample opportunity to continue to provide public input during this meeting.

So with that, I would like to move us along to agenda item number 3, Executive Director's Report.

Alvaro, the floor is yours.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Chair.

And good evening, everyone.

So I'll begin by talking about staff and personnel. We are trying to put together our data management team. We're working on interviewing our data manager and data analysts sometime this week or next week.

We're also going to be bringing on a consultant to make sure that we have covered all our bases. And that consultant is the person that we've been working with, hopefully from USDR, Phil Zigoris. We're trying to bring him on board to help us with the air table and the transition to the data manager.
We're also looking at other options to make sure that we have access to technical staff through the UC and the CSU systems. So we're looking at all possible options to make sure that we cover all our bases there.

I also wanted to share that the outreach staff will be interviewing for a Northern California lead person this week or next week. And we will be working through the Subcommittee, the Finance and Administration, to provide a possible candidate selection in the upcoming week. Hopefully, we'll have something to announce out on the 25th, which is our next Commission meeting.

Moving on to protocols for the Commission, in Communications, wanted to share that I am working on -- we are working on putting together travel information for the Commissioners that includes travel policy; information from CalHR; those policies that are in place, including appropriate reimbursement rates, filing requirements, methods of travel, and documents required for reimbursement to -- to name a few.

We'll be working through the Finance and Administration Subcommittee to bring forth a draft for the Commission that will include a more specific travel policy for the Commission as we move forward with getting back to business and traveling. So I wanted to make you aware of that.
And finally, in regards to the budget, as we mentioned before, we are working with the outreach staff to come up with a draft, Phase II: Outreach and Engagement Plan to transition from the grants or outreach contracts. And so staff is working on a plan that has detailed activities and costs to present to the Commission on June 25th. We'll be working with the Outreach and Engagement Subcommittee to bring forth the draft plan for the Commission to consider.

As I had mentioned last meeting, the outreach staff will take into consideration recommendations that have previously been provided by you, the Commissioners, at previous meetings, as well as recommendations by the Outreach and Engagement Subcommittee. And also we're drawing on the experience of our outreach team to provide information to be included in that plan.

So we're hoping that it will be a very robust plan moving forward to ensure that we're reaching all of California.

Chair, that concludes my report.

Are there any questions?

CHAIR AHMAD: Any questions for Alvaro on his report-o?

Seeing none, can we take public comment for this agenda item, Katy? And this is agenda item number 3,
Executive Directors Report.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair. And I'd like to remind those that the instructions are posted on the stream and have previously been read. If you choose to call in, please press star 9 to raise your hand indicating you wish to comment.

There is no one in the queue at this time. And the stream is caught up, Chair, so you know.

CHAIR AHMAD: Great. Thank you. Moving along to agenda item number 4, Outreach Directors Report.

Marcy, the floor is yours.

DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Hello. Good afternoon, Commissioners and public. I wanted to thank you all again for continuing to do the redistricting basics presentations.

As I noted at the last Commission meeting, we have closed the speaker request form on June 4th as directed by the Commission and have been scheduling final presentations through July.

To date, we've completed 158 presentations as of today and twenty-four more presentations are still scheduled through the end of July. And the field leads are helping Wanda in scheduling, I think, about ten more. I had that somewhere it's not in my notes now. Field -- oh, yes.
Ten more.

Ann Marx, our outreach manager, has been putting together a summary of phase one activities in coordination with our communications team. That will also include an overview of the redistricting basics presentation effort and our reach. And we'll be sharing that with the Outreach and Engagement Subcommittee this week for them to present at the next Commission meeting.

The outreach team has been working on our past and upcoming COI input meetings. I highlighted this week's Public Input Design Subcommittee the tremendous amount of planning that has gone into the logistical coordination to create a repeatable process, including creating a meeting script, registration forms, a tracking process for posting deadlines and deadlines for language access assistance, drafting templates for email that will go out to participants with login instructions, and coordinating and assigning field leads to support with the note taking product process in coordination with the line drawing team.

We have been meeting on going with our video streaming services team and lawn -- line drawers to really coordinate this process in advance of the June 10th meeting and post the June 10th meeting did have internal staff briefing -- debriefing and also debriefing
with line drawers and our VSS Team to hammer out other logistical details.

As also highlighted earlier this week, the first COI input meeting went very smoothly. We had fifty-seven members of the public call in. Sulma Hernandez, our outreach coordinator, has done an extraordinary job of keeping all things COI input meeting organized and on track.

I just really want to reiterate what a great team that we have, and it's been a delight to work with all of them. I will defer to the Public Input Design Subcommittee to talk more about the June 10th meeting during the subcommittee report-outs.

I do want to go over the process for the COI -- registration process for the COI input meeting just for the public as well. And to reiterate to all the Commissioners, fourteen days before the COI input meetings, we are posting registration forms to allow the public to sign up for a time block to join the COI input meetings.

The registration closes at 5 p.m. two days before the COI input meeting. And this allows us time to send participants their login details the day before the meeting and provide information to our Video Streaming Team and also the line drawers.
If someone from the public wants to register for an appointment time slot, they would click on the COI input meeting link on Input Registration Plus Information under the meeting date. They would pick a time slot to register, and click on the link for the time slot and then fill out the form to submit registration.

When they submit the form, they'll see a page that notes, thank you for requesting an appointment time slot. You'll receive an email the day before the CRC COI input meeting with details and how to log into the meeting. And when you submit, you'll also receive an automated email with a copy of your registration form. So this is something we were able to implement after the June 10th meeting.

One day before the meeting, individuals who registered will receive an email with instructions on how to access the meeting. It will include their login details and then instructions on when they join the meeting, reminding them to use the Raise Hand button when it's their turn to speak. The moderator will be identifying them by their assigned unique ID number, which is in the email, and then they'll be reconnected to the sis -- session with the ability to enable their own video and audio.

These notes, along with being in the email, are is
a -- are also a part of the script for the chair and also
for the Comment Moderator during the COI input meetings.
So they're announced at the beginning of the COI input
meeting and then throughout as each speaker is
introduced.

I also just want to highlight for members of the
public who prefer to not provide information to register,
or if all appointment time slots are full or if the
appointment time slots are closed, they do have the
option of calling in the day of the COI input to get in
the queue to speak. The call in number for public input
is 877-853-5247 and the passcode will be posted the day
of the meeting and will also be available by calling our
headquarters, which I didn't write in my notes right now,
so I will repeat that at the end. But it's -- the number
is also available on our website.

And I also just want to cover language access as
well. Members of the public can request an interpreter
for public input. Requests for interpretation must be
submitted at least five business days prior to the
meeting. The requests can be submitted via email to
interpreter.request@crc.ca.gov. It can be submitted on
the appointment request form or it can be submitted by
calling our office -- oh, this is office line 916-323-
0323.
Also, requests for disability-related modification or accommodation should be made at least five business days prior to the meeting and should also — or could be submitted in writing by mail at our headquarters 721 Capitol Mall, Suite 260, Sacramento, California 95814 or by email at votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov.

All of the COI input meetings do have ASL on the live stream and closed captioning. This information, we have also worked with the communications team to make sure that it's on the website. It is on each link for the COI input -- for each COI input meeting.

Fredy is finalizing a flier for all of the COI input meetings. That also includes all of this information. So really just wanting to make sure that we're providing information about access and registration at this meeting and also for our field leads and on the website, as they're helping to promote these meetings. We do still have space for the upcoming COI input meetings for the up -- upcoming COI input meetings for appointments on June 19th and 21st, as well as the other meetings that have been posted that are within the fourteen-day window.

The registration time slots are open.

And that was my report. I just -- I thought this was a good opportunity, in addition to providing an update to all of you, to really just re-emphasize this
information for anyone tuning in for the first time. And you -- all of this information that I have shared is also on our website, as well, in the Meeting section.

CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you, Marcy.

Any questions for Marcy regarding her report out?

Yes, Commissioners Sinay and then Sadhwani?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you so much, Marcy, for that thorough report. Two things.

One is, can we create a link for the public input sessions from our home page so people don't have to go to main page because people may not consider it a meeting? I mean, it took me a second to figure out where it was even as you were talking, because I had never looked it up.

Second, can you share with us and the public how we're doing outreach as we're moving into the region-specific COI and the input sessions, please?

DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Yes. And this is something that will be fleshed out in more detail in the outreach strategy that Alvaro had noted at the upcoming meeting. We are working with our field leads to right now be following up with organizations that have requested redistricting basics or have hosted redistricting basics presentations in the past.

They're reaching out to local governments and other
entities that Commissioners have been in touch with. We are working -- we'll be working with you Commissioners tonight on some of the transition planning, in terms of other contacts the Commissioners have been in touch with.

The detailed -- more detailed outreach plan will include specific sectors that we are working with the field needs to be reaching out to within the zones to ensure that field leads are reaching out to all Californians; that it's very succinct within each zone; that they're all following essentially the same playbook, in terms of who they're reaching out to; entities that do reach far and wide to individuals throughout the zones. And we'll talk about that in more detail and at the next -- when we present the more detailed plan.

CHAIR AHMAD: Yes, Commissioner Sinay, follow up?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: All right. It was my -- my question was taken more broadly than it -- and that's my fault.

How can we help -- or is it to -- for the ones that are coming up right now before the Phase II Plan has been fully figured out and approved? Should we, if we have contacts in those regions, go ahead and just say, hey, heads up, you can register now?

DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Yes, anyone is welcome to promote the pub -- upcoming COI input meetings. As I noted,
Fredy is just making one final tweak to the flier. We will have an additional email blast going out tomorrow for the June 19th and other upcoming input meetings.

CHAIR AHMAD: Commissioner Sadhwani and then Alvaro, and then Kennedy?

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah. A couple of things. Marci, can you remind me, what was the date that you anticipate the that Phase II Plan being available next -- the next meeting? Next week, got it.

DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Yeah, that's -- that was our plan.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Okay. Thank you. So a couple of other thoughts. One, have we discussed -- and I recognize I had missed one meeting, but the fact that this Saturday is June 19th, it's Juneteenth. Is that a concern at all for our upcoming meeting? So I just want to put that out there as a -- as a point for discussion.

And then this -- the other piece that I just wanted to raise, and perhaps this came up during the public input design, I'm not sure I wasn't able to tune in for that, but it seemed on June 10th that there were a number -- it appeared, in any case, I don't -- I don't know what the numbers were, that there were people that reserved time slots and then didn't show.

DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Um-hum.
COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Is that a fair assessment?

Yeah. Is there anything we can do about that? I mean, so for example, I think these days, you know, you have a dentist appointment or a haircut. And you make an appointment and then, you know, the day before you get a text message saying, you have an appointment at this time. You know, respond Y if you're going to keep it or N if you're not.

And can we do anything like that just to help us ensure that these slots are actually being filled?

And if there are slots that are opening up at the last minute, that we could try to, you know, do a final push to get people in last minute, potentially? You know, I -- filling those the slots I think is a -- is an important component. So I'm just curious if there are other ways that we might be able to think about doing that.

DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Yes. In terms of Juneteenth, I know that this was brought up when we -- the Commission was going over the original schedule. There were a few high -- holidays that were highlighted. However, that -- we are still having our meeting on the 19th. For your other question, this was part of the discussion on Monday and I believe will be discussed further during the subcommittee report out. The phone lines were opened to
allow for people to also call in.

Just given the timing of the day bef -- because if people are letting us know the day before and we're already closing registration, it's -- part of that logistical process, in terms of getting everything over to our video team and to the line drawers to -- to prep for the next day to get out a registration link.

So I think if there is interest from the Commission in keeping the registration open longer, you know, hearing more feedback about -- about that process, I think just also having that context of, you know, needing to get stuff over to the -- the video streaming team and to line drawers and also for our field leads in prep and setting up a -- a tracking process on the back end as well.

Did I answer all of your questions?

CHAIR AHMAD: Great Alvaro and then Commissioner Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes. Thank you.

CHAIR AHMAD: Okay, Alvaro and then Commissioner Kennedy.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Yes, thank you. So we -- we did have a lot of that conversation the other day. And so we're looking at options to try to fill or backfill some of those empty slots, if we have them.
There were some thoughts, and we're still looking at whether or not we can do them realistically because if you open it up beyond a certain point, then you get a flood of people.

It just impacts the rest of your schedule. And because you have a time slot, we want to be respectful, if you register for that time slot that you're available or that you can be heard during that time slot.

And -- and there are some challenges with that. And so that may be for the discussion that we'll have later today. I did want to kind of uplift that the June 19th is the one that we're talking about today. But right after that, the following Monday, we have the June 21st. And that also needs your help to get folks to become aware that we're having these public input meetings and to register.

So the sooner that we can get the word out -- and I think the question was asked by Commissioner Sinay, how can we help? You know, you have Twitter, you have Facebook, you have friends, family, let them know, and get the word out to know that we're having these two meetings, and that we'll have future meetings as well that are coming up. Thank you.

CHAIR AHMAD: Commissioner Kennedy?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair.
I just wanted to check with Director Ceja, is the flyer being done in multiple languages? You know, I have to say that I'm disappointed that to date, we've not had public input coming in in any -- in any other language. And I want to make sure that we're doing our part to make sure that people are aware that they can provide input in other languages. Thank you.

CHAIR AHMAD: Yeah. Go ahead, Fredy.

DIRECTOR CEJA: So yeah, I've -- I've sent the finalized flyer over to Marcy, so I -- I believe it would be in our interests to have it translated so that we can send it out to multiple communities. But I -- I've just handed it over to Marcy, so I'm not sure what -- what's next.

CHAIR AHMAD: Any other questions for Marcy's report out? Yes, Commissioner Toledo and then Andersen?

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Not particularly around -- around this, I just -- around -- I did hear from a community member that as they were trying -- Spanish-speaking community member, that they tried to go on to our tool, it was during a presentation. And -- and that they weren't able to submit their -- and that -- their -- their comments because they didn't have a map. So that the toolbox required them to issue a map prior to submission.
And because they didn't issue a map, they did everything else, but didn't have a map to submit with their comments -- it didn't go through. So I'm not -- I just -- I didn't know who to give that information to. I'm not sure if that's even an issue. But I just wanted to make sure that we're all aware.

CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you. And again, reminding my colleagues, we will have a debrief later on on the agenda. So if there's other items specifically related to COI input, I recommend you all to bring it up at that time. But for right now, if there's any questions directly for Marcy's report out.

Commissioner Andersen, and then Akutagawa?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you.

Marcy, that was a great report. And I really appreciate all the information that you gave us, specifically for what a person who signs up actually gets.

Could we possibly get a copy of that? Because I'm being asked those questions.

Well, what do we do? I'm being asked more about that. And I don't have the information.

I'd rather have it be the official policy of exactly what's being given. And your documentation of that and where you just went through it very methodically was
wonderful, particularly the way it had all the numbers and all the email addresses. So I would really appreciate if we could -- Commissioners could get copies of that. Thank you.

CHAIR AHMAD: Yes, Marcy, you have a response?

DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Just to add to that. Thank you for highlighting that. Fredy and I talked about this and creating a -- a document that would also guide the public through that process. So I essentially read off my notes and what we're looking at for that. So I will work with him to create that document to share. It will be posted on our website and -- and for you all as well.

Thank you.

CHAIR AHMAD: Commissioner Akutagawa?

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. Marcy, I don't know if this is a -- this is a real possibility, but I think as a society, we're used to making reservations and appointments for things, and then not showing up. And so to Commissioner Sadhwani's point, I mean, you know, unfortunately, I think, you know, that's the reality that we all face. And that's why airlines overbook their flights on the, you know, on the effort to ensure that they have full flights.

I don't know if you had enough demand where if you needed to you overbook, I guess, maybe by like five or
ten percent extra people so that you can ensure that the
appointment slots will be full. Since there's not like
individual slots, it's just a time block and so it could
be possible that you just, you know, allow a few extra
people into a certain time block on the assumption that
there's going to be at least small -- a small number that
are not going to show up at their appointed time.

And so that may be one way to help fill in. And
obviously, the other thing is, you know, we'll all make
efforts to try to ensure or to encourage people to sign
up for the, you know, the public input meetings.

Chair, I do have a brief response to Commissioner
Toledo. But I could wait until we get to the COI
portion.

CHAIR AHMAD: Yes, please do. Thank you,
Commissioner Akutagawa.

Any other questions or comments for Marcy on her
report out?

Yes, Commissioner Sadhwani?

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Thank you. I just wanted to
bring it back to the Juneteenth issue. I'm not
suggesting that we don't hold the meeting, but I am
wondering if there's something that we could do to alter
the script in the opening of that session. It was
recently passed by the Senate unanimously, I believe, to
make Juneteenth a Federal holiday. I think any time that
the Senate, particularly the Senate, is able to pass
something unanimously is a pretty huge accomplishment.

Certainly redistricting, as we note in the
redistricting basics presentation, has been used
throughout history in the United States to disenfranchise
communities of color and black communities in particular.
And I'm wondering if, you know, there would be support
from the Commission, at least if we're continuing our
meeting on this -- June 19th to have an opening comment
that recognizes June 19th and the importance of hearing
from black communities for the redistricting process.

CHAIR AHMAD: Yes, Commissioner Andersen?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I so move that we modify the
script to reflect this and have a discussion of the
present -- a short little blurb on the importance of
Juneteenth.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Point of
clarification, Commissioner Andersen, is this for the
Chair to provide sort of an opening introduction
regarding -- on Juneteenth for that? Is that -- is that
what the motion is?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I did not specify, as I
thought the staff should determine the best way if the
Chair did that with the staff presented ahead of time.
So I would just like to actually -- I didn't want to dictate exactly who says it.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Okay.
COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: But I'd like to have it --
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you.
COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: -- brought up. Thank you.
CHAIR AHMAD: And another point of clarification, Commissioner Andersen, and this is just for this Saturday's COI input meeting, right?
COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: That is correct.
CHAIR AHMAD: Okay. Okay. So we have a motion on the floor.
Do we have a second?
CHAIR AHMAD: Yes. Oh, Commissioner Sinay.
Any discussion? No? Okay. Can we take public comment, Katy, on the motion on the floor, which I will ask Commissioner Andersen to repeat?
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: So could -- could -- if I could just intro -- if I could just introduce one comment. I'm not sure that a motion is truly necessary for this. I think this is something that just administratively, the Chair -- the staff and Chair could work out on a script.
COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: If --
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Looks like --
COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN:  I just -- I want to make sure it does indeed happen.  And that's why I brought -- I made the motion.  So whatever mechanism we need to have, if we want to just do a quick, you know, thumbs up to make sure we get full Commissioner support or not.  But I just want to move that forward.  So I do -- I do recognize if we -- if the motion is not needed, I can withdraw the motion.  Just please let me know.

CHAIR AHMAD:  Anthony, I'm going to lean on you here.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ:  If I -- if we could maybe go to Commissioner Sinay, if that's okay --

CHAIR AHMAD:  Sure.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ:  -- I believe she has a comment.

CHAIR AHMAD:  Commissioner Sinay?

COMMISSIONER SINAY:  I would agree that it doesn't need a motion, but we have been told on several occasions from staff that we didn't give clear direction.  And when I asked what is clear direction, I was told a motion.  So since staff has asked for clear direction equals motion, I would say we should move forward on a motion.

CHAIR AHMAD:  If I may, myself and Commissioner Fernandez will be leading Saturday's meeting.  And if we can, between the two of us, commit something -- drafting
something and introducing this piece on Saturday, would that be enough from a legal perspective and then also for Commissioner satisfaction? And I would want confirmation from both, Anthony, from the legal perspective, as well as my colleagues.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Chair, that would be fine.

CHAIR AHMAD: Okay. And then colleagues, Commissioner Kennedy?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: I just think I'd like us to be on the record.

CHAIR AHMAD: Okay.

Commissioner Andersen, since you made the motion, I need some clear direction from you, whether your motion remains or you have withdrawn it.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I believe, if Commissioner Kennedy would like it to be on the record, I believe we'll do a motion.

I means that correct?

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: So if I could --

CHAIR AHMAD: Pods --

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: I could -- just a point of clarification.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: No, please do.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: The problem we have
if -- first of all, I don't again, I don't believe that a
motion is necessary. Secondly, if we did go to a motion,
we have the issue of it being properly agendized for this
meeting.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Oh.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: So my recommendation
would be that that's something that the Chair can
administratively address. And I believe there's clear
direction in -- in the event. Of course, all of the
Commission could certainly state that they are in favor
of that action. That does not require a motion.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: With that said, I will
withdraw the motion, and I -- and I would request the
Chair to ask for an acknowledgment of support of this
idea from all the Commissioners and that it be added into
the notes.

CHAIR AHMAD: How do I do that?

Do I just ask each one individually, or do you all
trust Commissioner Fernandez and I to take this on and
implement it into the script?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Could I say -- could I say,
do I see a hands up in support of this motion -- of this
concept and idea?

Do I have a hands up?

CHAIR AHMAD: So we don't have everyone's hands up.
COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I do not see everyone's hands up.

Any discussion about that?

CHAIR AHMAD: Yes, Commissioner Turner?

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yes, I'd just like to say I appreciate the motion attempt. I appreciate the discussion. I think it would -- that it would have been, and this is for myself as well as everyone else -- I think it would have been more powerful.

It did not just become Juneteenth. It's been around forever. And for short, it -- we recognize that it did just pass from a Senate perspective, but when it came up before, we moved past it real quickly, gave it not much attention at all, and we still decided to move forward with it.

Commissioner Trena Turner, I'm speaking to me as well as all of you, and the fact that we moved forward with it and to have a statement made concerning it for me feels hollow. And I don't know why, but I just thought I wanted to say that.

So either way we go, of course I submit it. It's what we could do at the very least.

But since we're pressed for conversation about it, I thought I'd just share. That's kind of how I'm sitting in the moment, feeling that it's almost too little, too
late. And in retrospect, I wished I would have lifted it a little bit more and perhaps to not have the gathering on that particular day and have it pushed off to a different day is my personal thoughts, since we stayed here in the moment.

CHAIR AHMAD: Yes, Commissioner Kennedy?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: What I'm hearing is that a motion is not necessary. I still come back to, I would rather us be on the record.

CHAIR AHMAD: My understanding is that it's not agendized. And I'm --

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: I'm not hearing that we can't do it. I'm hearing that it's not necessary to do it.

CHAIR AHMAD: Okay. I'll defer to Anthony when it's appropriate to get clarification on that. But I did see Commissioner Taylor's hand up.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: So my recommendation would be it's not agendized. It's not agendized, we wouldn't be able to take action on it as an item that wasn't agendized in advance. So I would recommend that certainly, there are other ways for the Commissioners to voice their support for what the Chair could otherwise administratively do only a few days before the actual meeting.

CHAIR AHMAD: Commissioner Taylor?
COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Good afternoon, everyone. So I do kind of, you know -- and my thought process is probably similar to Commissioner Turner's.

I will say this, as we think about this further, we have as the Commission on given days acknowledged the day that it was. And I think that's appropriate whatever day it is, that that's a significant day to acknowledge that day prior to a meeting.

And then I also would like to say that, you know, people view holidays in different -- in different manners. You know, the significance of Juneteenth in combination with being civically engaged might be acknowledgment to some. So it's not always -- it's not always setting aside work. Sometimes being engaged, being working, being out in public, participating in the process that we're trying to improve speaks to the significance of Juneteenth.

So there's always different ways to look at every -- to look at what's in front of us. Acknowledge the day, in my opinion, I think speaks to the importance of the day and work for it to provide a better democracy.

CHAIR AHMAD: Great. So what I'll do for the sake of time is bring this conversation back up when we get to our COI input debrief portion of our agenda, hopefully giving folks a little bit more time to think through how
best to approach this for this next COI input meeting.

Does that work for folks?

Yeah, Commissioner Sinay?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Sorry. I just -- it may be

best to bring it up during the subcommittee updates, just

because in that part of the agenda we do say that actions

may be taken. And so it would be agendized versus on the

Public Input Design Committee, it doesn't say anything

about actions.

CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you. All right. Any other

questions for Marcy -- Marcy's report out.

No?

Okay, Katy, can we open the line for public comment?

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair. I would like
to remind those to call in that the instructions are

noted on the stream as they were previously read in this

meeting. When you do call in hitting star 9, raising

your hand and muting your audio will make it the best

transition.

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

(Pause)

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And the stream is caught

up at this time.

CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you, Katy. Moving along to

agenda item number 5, Chief Counsel's report.
MR. PANE: Thank you, Chair. I have one -- one sort of brief comment and just notice that I understand that there's a regular interest to have Legislative updates. So -- and a way to get the Commission notice and regular notice of that Marian is going to be sending out weekly Legislative updates.

And I think she's going to start on Monday with those so that you all will have those at the ready. And we can certainly follow up with any particular questions you have. That's all I have for the Chief Counsel's Update, at least for today.

CHAIR AHMAD: Any questions for our Chief Counsel?

Yes, Commissioner Andersen?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you. I appreciate a nice weekly update. However, we -- Marian has been very kind and given me a -- I guess sort of information as it occurs.

Does that mean it will be held and only done once a week? Or will it be, you know, in real time? It might be, like, a some -- like, would that be we get both or with a -- just a quick summary in the weekly? Or could you expand little bit more on that? Thank you.

MR. PANE: Sure, Commissioner Andersen. We could certainly do it as they occur. At a minimum, we were going to do them weekly.
COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you.

CHAIR AHMAD: Any other questions for our Chief Counsel and his report out?

Seeing none, Katy, can we take public comment on agenda item number 5?

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair. As a reminder to those watching the livestream to call in is 877-853-5247. The full instructions are on the stream. Please call in at this time. We do have one caller with their hand raised. And I'd like to remind those that this public comment is on the current agenda item.

Go ahead. The floor is yours.

MS. WESTA-LUSK: Hello, this is Renee Westa-Lusk. I was trying to dial in for the last agenda item. Well, it wasn't really an agenda item. It was a comment on the Juneteenth.

I -- I share the Commissioners that want to put it on -- put an action item together for recognizing Juneteenth. I don't understand if your parliamentary procedure wouldn't allow you to amend the agenda to allow to add items.

I go to other board meetings and they -- some other boards that I attend allow for amending the agenda at the meeting and adding items they want to address. I don't know if that's a possibility or not. But I share the
spirit of wanting to recognize Juneteenth. Thank you.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
again, those calling in, if you would like to call in at
this time, it is on item number 5, Chief Counsel's
Report. And we do not have any other callers at this
time.

CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you, Katy. Moving along to
agenda item number 6 Communications Director's Report.

DIRECTOR CEJA: Great. Thank you, Chair.

I wanted to go down the list for my report, starting
with interviews to date. This week we had Commissioner
Ahmad speak to the San Dimu -- San Dimas Community Post.
And we have upcoming interviews with KCBX Central Coast
Public Radio with Commissioner Fornaciari, the voice of
Orange County with Commissioner Akutagawa, Capital Weekly
with Chair Ahmad, and then KUCI Radio with Commissioners
Akutagawa and Turner.

So I'm going and doing a second round with those
folks that have covered redistricting already and
touching bases with them again to enter into Phase II so
that they publicize that the fact that we're doing COI
input meetings.

Social Media Analytics, Cecilia sent all the
Commissioners an update, and this is something we're
going to start doing. It's compiling the number of hits
that we receive on social media. And I'm not going to go through the whole report, but I will highlight a few things.

For Facebook from January to now, we've gone from 162 likes to 904. For Twitter, we have reached 1,482 followers. For LinkedIn, we have 184 total followers. For Instagram, we have 140, and for YouTube we have 49 subscribers, and we're really pushing for 100 because after 100, we're able to do more features with YouTube. And the highest-viewed video on YouTube is actually the redistricting basics presentation at 334 views.

As far as website analytics are concerned, our database is at 11,004. When we began, we incorporated a mailing list that we had from Mailchimp that was at 2,500. So I think we've made a substantial gain in our database numbers. And as far as how many times folks have viewed our page in the last month, we've gotten 16,000 impressions, 594 views, and we're getting a good mix of desktop users, 358 and 228 mobile users.

So the numbers are not too far apart from each other. So folks are accessing our website in both manners. Most folks are coming from the U.S. And the way that folks are looking for our website is under We Draw the Lines. So that has the highest content there. And I'll -- I'll shoot over a more detailed report that
actually gives us the number of hits that we've received per Commissioner name and things of that sort.

As far as eblasts are concerned, we are at an open click rate of twenty percent, which is pretty average -- that you want to stay in the twenty percentile click rates, so when folks receive our eblasts, twenty percent are actually clicking and opening the message. When we sent out a message indicating that we were hiring, that was the highest click rate at thirty-one percent. So people are interested in seeing what jobs we had available.

And as far as the contracts for communications advertising? Ceci and I are working on building a plan for that. And then we had a conversation with Raul this week. So a lot of that is going to be guided by the sort of contract that we enter into.

So we'll have another conversation with him this week -- tomorrow actually -- to go over how we're going to utilize the money that we have set aside for social media ads and for radio buys. We might have to look for a contractor to just take a lump sum of money and then provide us with the service. But I'll report out more on that as we continue with the conversation.

Lastly, it was brought to our attention that during the COI meetings, we got that nice video rolling through
when we had intermissions that tells people how to log on
to Draw My California Community and fill out their maps
and their COI formation. And then in conversations with
a Statewide Database that left us with areas that --
where we had opportunities for other videos.

And so three main videos that -- that we identified
that we need right now are What Is a COI? and Giving
Examples so we can show that through those intermissions.
Why is it important to participate and how the Commission
will use COI information. If there are additional videos
that we need right now, I'd be more than happy to -- to
jot down some ideas or email them to me.

And in addition to those immediate need for videos,
I'm also taking a list of additional videos that we just
need in general to inform the public about how we're
moving along in our process. And Commissioner Sinay has
already sent me a few additional ideas on that.

And that's all I have for now.

CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you, Fredy.

And any questions for Fredy for his report out?

Marcy and then Commissioner Kennedy.

DIRECTOR KAPLAN: I just want to add to what Fredy
said when we met with this Statewide Database, they are
coming out with a new video that's more for the user
for -- on the COI Tool, which is a five-minute video and
then a series of shorter videos also. And so we met with
them in looking at how the Outreach Team, in coordination
with Comms, can develop a -- a training on the COI Tool.
And so looking at how this can be an interactive
PowerPoint, utilizing and leveraging their videos also.
So that will be something we'll report back on as well.
But that was just some -- some context to that. And
thank you, Fredy, for highlighting that.

DIRECTOR CEJA:  Thanks.

CHAIR AHMAD:  Yes, Commissioner Kennedy?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY:  Thank you, Chair. I just
wanted to ask Director Ceja when he prepares the web
stats, if he could also at least seek out web stats on
the 2010 Commission site, the .ca.gov site. I'm
interested in seeing if people are still landing there by
mistake and trying to navigate around.

I've heard, you know, people end up there because
sometimes that's the first thing that comes up when you
do a web search, and then they go and like, look for the
current meetings or something, and they're not finding
it. So I just want to get a sense from the statistics if
we're still having problems with people ending up on the
wrong website. Thanks.

DIRECTOR CEJA:  Okay. Good point. Thank you.

CHAIR AHMAD:  Any other questions for Fredy for his
report out?

Seeing none, Katy, can we call for public comment on agenda item number 6, Communications Director's Report?

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair.

The Commission will now take public comment on agenda item number 6. To give public comment, please call 877-853-5247 and enter the meeting ID number 95775048678.

Once you dial in, please press 9 to enter the comment queue. Please press star 9 to enter the comment queue. The full call-in instructions are read at the beginning of the meeting and are provided in full on the live stream landing page.

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

CHAIR AHMAD: Yes, Commissioner Turner?

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah, just real quick, while we are waiting.

Fredy, I just wanted to say the one-page analytic that was provided was amazing and so very informative.

So I just want to say thank you for that. You all keep increasing -- upping your game on that.

DIRECTOR CEJA: Yeah. Thank you. And we'll play with the actual look of it so that it looks -- it's more readable. But yeah, we'll be providing this at every meeting from now on. Thank you.
PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And the instructions are complete, Chair, and there is no one in the queue.

(Pause)

CHAIR AHMAD: All right. Moving right along.

Agenda item number 7, Subcommittee Updates. We'll start with 7-A, Government Affairs and Census.

Commissioners Sadhwani and Toledo?

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I don't believe we have anything to report at this time.

Per -- Commissioner Toledo, anything?

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: No, I think -- I don't -- I don't think we have an update at this time.

CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you. 7-B, Finance and Administration Subcommittee.

Commissioners Fernandez and Fornaciari?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: We don't have anything substantial at this point.

CHAIR AHMAD: 7-C, Gantt Chart Subcommittee.

Commissioners Kennedy and Taylor?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Nothing substantive to report.

CHAIR AHMAD: 7-D, VRA Compliance Subcommittee.

Commissioners Sadhwani and Yee?

VICE CHAIR YEE: We're looking forward to working with our new -- newly approved-- newly contracted VRA
Council and we'll be providing some training coming up starting on June 25th, we hope -- I'm sorry, June 30th and July 7th. That's what we're planning.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Commissioner Yee, would it be helpful to discuss at this point the -- a little bit about the discussion from the Legal Affairs Committee meeting, just regarding working with the scope of the VRA subcommittee and working with council to develop a strategy plan for VRA compliance that we would bring back to the full Commission?

VICE CHAIR YEE: Sure. So of course, our own Chief Counsel directs outside council, including the VRA Council. So the question is from the Commission side, which body would work with our Chief Counsel in that interaction with VRA Council? And so the Legal Affairs Committee discussed this today and would like to recommend that the VRA Subcommittee continue its work on varying matters now to include working with the Area Council.

And so working with our Chief Counsel in directing VRA Council in its work, I believe that was the thought. So it's -- we believe it's not a -- any change.

The VRA Subcommittee was charged with doing committee subcommittee work for the Commission on all VRA matters. So of course initially, that included hiring
the VRA Council but also doing some initial VRA training which we arranged for. And then now going forward, working -- we're suggesting the VRA Council would just continue with its work now working with our Chief Counsel to direct VRA Council.

And so that would include VRA training as well as, of course, VRA compliance work. So unless there's any discussion or deliberation or disagreement with that, we'd like to simply continue with that work.

CHAIR AHMAD: Any questions for our VRA Compliance Subcommittee?

Seeing none, Commissioner Yee and Sadhwani, is there anything else for your report out?

VICE CHAIR YEE: I believe that's all. Thank you.

CHAIR AHMAD: Great. Thank you. Moving right along, 7-E, Outreach and Engagement Subcommittee.

Commissioners Sinay and Fornaciari?

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, I don't have anything.

Do you, Commissioner Sinay?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Just -- just two quick things. As Outreach and Communication staff said, we are working on the Phase II: Community of -- you know, the activation phase where people submit their communities of interest. And we're also working on -- staff is working on an
analysis of what -- of what took place during phase one. And Commissioner Fornaciari and I are working on a transition report just kind of to help us as Commissioners understand, you know, this was a Commission-driven outreach in phase one and we're moving now into a -- now that we have a full staff, into a staff-driven outreach and activation, and just kind of to help us see the difference and also what -- how much we, as Commissioners, did during that first phase.

So we may be asking staff to help us pull some of that information, but I think we have a lot of it. But I want to acknowledge once again all the Commissioners and thank you so much for all the outreach we -- we've been doing because we wouldn't be here without everyone spending so many hours on the phone, on email, and in conversations. Okay, let's not forget Zoom. So thank you all so much for being creative and really getting people engaged.

CHAIR AHMAD: Any questions for our Outreach and Engagement Subcommittee?

Yes, Commissioner Turner?

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Just a quick question. I realize I don't have the answer maybe for that committee. I hope since this is where we are on the agenda, is -- are we doing any proactive outreach or is there a letter?
Are we going back around sending out something to the specific zones when we have, for example, Zone D? Are we doing anything from a staff perspective or from a Commission perspective that goes to the specific zones for public input?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you, Commissioner Turner. That was similar to the question that I had asked earlier. And I will -- Marcy, I think, would be good and just reiterate. Thanks.

We -- we'll have more detail once the plan comes out. But in the meantime, until the plan comes out and it's approved, Marcy will share what we will be doing.

DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Yes. So the field leads are following up for the upcoming COI input meetings that are zone-specific to contacts in those zones. And so we are setting -- starting broadly and following up with local governments. The Commissioners have been in touch with entities that reach broad communities like schools, community colleges, libraries, also following up with organizations that have held a redistricting basics presentation and reiterating we're in this next phase and then working with statewide organizations also that had hosted presentations.

So I -- as I emphasized earlier, as a part of the Phase II really breaking down sectors, looking at the
sectors that field leads will be targeting within the zones to make sure that we are reaching broadly all Californians, and that each field lead is following the same playbook in terms of entities that they're engaging in a very, I guess, formatted process in terms of these are ways to participate. This is, you know, the Commission and here are ways to participate in the process.

So really just structuring that for the field leads for the Commissioners as well. Really looking at the outreach strategy that was developed already where the Commission identified accessibility, communities to target, whether it was geographic or other entities. So using that as a guide to further provide detail and direction for -- for the field leads.

CHAIR AHMAD: Any other questions for Outreach and Engagement Subcommittee?

Yes, Commissioner Fernandez?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yeah. I just wanted to follow up with Director Kaplan that I also, for Zone D, I did forward an email with all of the contacts that I had. So I sent it to her as well as to Andrew, right? Andrew's our -- he's filling in for the lead for North, since we don't have one. So that may be helpful for the other Commissioners as well so that they can add that to
their contacts.

    DIRECTOR KAPLAN: And just to highlight, Andrew is
filling in for Zone D. We -- I did note at my outreach
report in the previous Commission meeting that the
field -- the field leads and Sulma are splitting up the
four northern zones.

If it's helpful, I can go through those counties and
which field lead is covering those, if that's helpful for
everyone to hear again right now. Okay, let me just pull
up the map so I can also list the counties.

    So first, Zone A, Del Norte, Humboldt County,
Mendocino County, Lake County, Napa County, Sonoma County
and Trinity County, that is Jose Eduardo. For Zone B,
which is Butte County, Colusa County, Glenn, Lassen,
Modoc, Plumas, Shasta, Siskiyou, Tehama, that is Sulma
Hernandez, our Outreach Coordinator.

    For Zone C, Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San
Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Solano is
Kimberly. Although I -- and Zone D, Eldorado -- no --
no, sorry Kimberly Briggs, our L.A. Lead. And for Zone
D, El Dorado, Nevada, Placer, Sacramento, Sierra Sutter,
Yolo, and Yuba counties, Andrew Amorao is taking the lead
in the interim, until we have brought on a fourth
Northern California Lead.

    CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you, Marcy.
Questions for Outreach and Engagement Subcommittee?

Yes, Commissioner Andersen?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you. I did have one request. And this is kind of going back to the -- that we're saying the zone meetings are not strict to zone. They can also be -- anyone else can call in. And with the idea is the lot -- that stone line's being drawn. I would like to ask if the -- when there's a meeting for, say, zone -- particularly in the more sparsely populated ones with a large area-wide zones, if the couple of counties that are adjacent to those are also notified and like, just --

CHAIR AHMAD: Commissioner Andersen, sorry, I don't mean to interrupt.

Is this suggestions you have for our debrief for COI input meetings?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Well, this is for Outreach for these next two meetings that are coming up. And this is for the Outreach for promotion of those.

CHAIR AHMAD: Okay.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: So if this is not the correct time to say that, I'll see it -- I'll wait. But I would (indiscernible) something else.

CHAIR AHMAD: Yeah, I would -- I would just ask the subcommittee to please make it clear if this is something
that's under your purview or not or if this is something 
that should be moved to the COI input piece?

Yes, Commissioner Fornaciari?

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. I think this is 
something we're going to bring up an COI input -- the 
feedback -- agenda item 8.

I think I captured that, Commissioner Andersen, on 
our list of topics, we were going to talk about this in 
this meeting at -- in agenda item 8 --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Oh, okay.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: -- in the handout. Yeah.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: It -- yeah, it didn't come 
up in our -- in the public input meeting. That's why I 
brought it up here.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Oh, I thought we had 
talked about that --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. Okay.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: -- in public input meeting 
and in --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Adjacent counties?

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Well, we talked about the 
counties and surrounding areas, I think is the way the 
conversation went.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. I did not interpret 
it that way. Thank you.
COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. Thanks.

CHAIR AHMAD: We'll bring that back up, Commissioner Andersen, once we get to agenda item number 8. Are there any other questions for Outreach and Engagement Subcommittee?


Commissioners Akutagawa and Fernandez?

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I don't believe we have anything to report.


COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: We don't have anything substantial. The last thing that we're waiting to be finalized is the paper COI Tool.

CHAIR AHMAD: Great. Thank you. Website Subcommittee.

Commissioners Kennedy and Taylor?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: We have handed over a -- an extensive set of recommendations, and we'll start taking another look at the website once those are -- or once any of those are put in place and start working on our next set of recommendations. Thank you.

CHAIR AHMAD: Are there any questions for Website
 Subcommittee on the report out?

No? All right. Moving along to Data Management Subcommittee. That'd be myself and Commissioner Turner.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Um-hum. Thank you. Outside of what Director Alvaro shared earlier, we have no further updates for this meeting.

CHAIR AHMAD: Great. Thank you. Outreach Contracts.

That's Commissioner Akutagawa and Le Mons.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: We don't have anything to update.

CHAIR AHMAD: Community of Interest Tool, Commissioners Akutagawa and Kennedy?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: The latest update from the Statewide Database is, I think, encouraging. As of last Friday in the latest update, there were 383 registered users. That's an increase of fifty-nine from the previous week. So the increase from last week to -- from -- from the previous week to the end of last week was more than 3 times as large as the increase on the previous 2 weeks and 323 community of interest submissions.

In total, that was an increase of forty-seven. Again, more than three times the increase over the previous report. Only one new community of interest
CHAIR AHMAD: Any questions for COI Tool Subcommittee? Well, I'm sorry.

First of all, let me just ask Commissioner Kennedy and Akutagawa, were you finished with your report out?

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Actually, just very briefly, I wanted to respond to Commissioner Toledo about his input or his feedback. We were told by the Statewide Database for the kind of feedback that you might have around the -- the COI tool, please send it directly to the Statewide Database.

CHAIR AHMAD: Great, thank you.

Marcy?

DIRECTOR KAPLAN: I guess I just want to also add to that -- his -- Commissioner Toledo's comment. I believe that the geography is required in order to submit the COI Tool. So that -- that's perhaps why they couldn't the -- the actual map geography is required to then have the complementing narrative as the submission, but.

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Perhaps that's something that Commissioner Kennedy and I can bring up with the Statewide Database. And partly because what struck me about what Commissioner Toledo did say is that some people may not have a map to do. But then if they're not going to submit a map, then we'd have to direct them over
to our website.

And it just complicates things. And I think it's better to capture the input, even if it's just written input without the map.

But Commissioner Kennedy, perhaps we can schedule a meeting with Statewide Database folks about that; what do you think?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: I would agree. I mean, one of the things -- one of the points that I've been making is that we don't want any requirement for providing a map to be a barrier to people providing input.

You know, as long as someone can describe in writing what the boundaries of their neighborhood or their community of interest are, we should be able to find somebody to do the mapping part for them. I just -- I don't want people to feel turned off or obstructed by a requirement to provide an actual map, as long as they provide us with the boundaries.

CHAIR AHMAD: Yes, Commissioner Andersen?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you. This is a -- I'm really glad you brought this point up, Commissioner Toledo. And I see the point for saying you can go to the Community of Interest Tool, but that's not the only way to get this information in.

And I think the issue is the Community of Interest
Tool is for -- to draw -- to put some geography in it. Therefore, it doesn't need additional processing. If it all comes to our -- if that kind of thing is exactly what would normally come to our office and we process it, there is a possibility it'll get confused if, like -- the COI tool would have to, like, kick it out. So it has to have special handling.

So that's something I really wish you would address with the Statewide Database. But I see an issue with that, in terms of the entire purpose of it. It's like, I mean, if the Statewide Database has to, you know, direct it specifically to our website for submission, that might be a way to handle it for -- because it automatically needs processing, which is a little different than the COI information.

CHAIR AHMAD: Yes, Commissioner Toledo?

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: I think a -- I think the feedback that I got was that they tried to do a map, but it was on their mobile device and it was almost impossible to do it on the mobile device. So they had done everything -- that means they were Spanish-speaking people trying to do their -- and weren't able to submit -- weren't able to do a map on the system, so I -- and submit it. It wouldn't let them submit their, you know, after they went through and wrote all their
comments, weren't able to submit because they weren't able to draw a map. So that's the feedback that I got.

I certainly haven't tested it myself. I haven't gone on and seen and tested the issue. But I will relay this to the Statewide Database so that they're aware that there may be some issues with the mobile device function.

CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you, Commissioner Toledo. We have two minutes until our required break.

So Commissioner Turner, I saw your hand up.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Just real quick so I can understand also. And I know you're going to get answers to the Statewide Database, Commissioner Toledo.

Is this then assuming someone that did not log in so that they weren't able to bring it up later, did that have any -- or did they -- were they logged in as a guest?

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: I actually don't know that.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Okay.

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: I actually don't know that.

So I don't know if they logged in or if they didn't have an account. I don't know.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Because in addition to -- I do know that Statewide Database has said that it has to have the geography. But in addition to that, if someone starts a COI input -- if they start submitting and stop
in the middle, then it would seem it just raises
questions for me because if I can start -- if I've put in
my email -- if I can start and come back later, if I've
started with a narrative, as opposed to a map, some kind
of way, they should be able to hold that for me -- hold
my place. So then I'm wondering, why can't they just --
I know what's been said, but yeah, you just raise more
issues. Thank you.

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Thank you.

CHAIR AHMAD: Okay. We are right up against break.
So when we come out of closed session, we'll start up
again with the COI Tool Subcommittee, in case we need to
close the loop on any conversation.

But after our fifteen-minute break, we will be going
into closed session regarding security and pending
litigation. And we will be meeting in closed session at
5:45. See you all then. Thank you.

(Whereupon, a recess was held from 5:21 p.m.
until 5:45 p.m.)

CHAIR AHMAD: Welcome back from closed session. The
Commission took no action during closed session. So we
will pick up our conversation where we left off with the
report out from the Communities of Interest Tool
Subcommittee.

Commissioners Akutagawa and Kennedy?
COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I believe, where we left off, Commissioner Turner had just commented about the individual that had a challenge being able to save their Communities of Interest testimony because they weren't able to complete their map on the mobile tool. And so I don't know if there's any other comments or other questions that we should be aware of.

I believe we're, as a subcommittee, Commissioner Kennedy and I have taken an action that we would meet with the Statewide Database to ask about some of these questions. But I also know that Commissioner Toledo also offered to provide the input that he received from the individual who told them.

And I think that would be better because there may be other nuances that you may be able to share. I didn't realize initially that it was on a mobile phone and those are good details to also make sure that they understand.

CHAIR AHMAD: Are there any other questions for our COI Tool Subcommittee at this point?

No? All right. I did get a request to go back to Language Access Subcommittee.

Commissioners Akutagawa and Fernandez?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes. Thank you, Chair.

I think I did get a request from Director Kaplan in terms of whether we needed to approve the fliers to be
translated because in the past, for language access, we've come forward and approved certain documents.

I would just like to maybe -- maybe instead of having to come back every time we want something translated, we just allow staff to determine the appropriateness of having a document translated instead of for each document we have to come back for approval, just so that we're covered. And I'm hoping our Chief Counsel is okay with that.

Do I have to do a motion for that or?

MR. PANE: Commissioner, I was actually going to ask if you would -- you need to just to clarify, you're asking, do we need a motion for the ability for staff to on their own decide whether to translate communications?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Right, because in the past, what we've done is either in the Materials Subcommittee or in Language Access, we've actually had motions to translate specific documents into languages. And I don't want that to hinder us from moving forward in our translation in order to try to translate as many document, you know, that we come across.

So I feel at this point, every single document shouldn't come, you know, shouldn't have to get approved by the Commission, because as a Commission, we've already -- we've already stated our intention is --
MR. PANE: Yes. Agreed.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: -- to have our documents translated.

MR. PANE: And exactly --

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay.

MR. PANE: -- that's exactly what I was just going to say, because the Commission has already decided on the fact that they do want the -- the information translated. That's not something that they need to keep coming back to the Commission for, for specific reasons.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. So they would not need to --

MR. PANE: So you do not need a motion.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay.

MR. PANE: And that is something that staff is able to do.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. So unless there are any comments associated to that, that's how we will move forward.

I do see Commissioner Turner had a comment.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Just a consideration.

Have we -- how are we keeping up with the costs?

Yes. We have said that we were going to do that. And as we continue to put out -- roll out more material, videos.

Okay.
I'm just wondering where does the responsibility of cost in translations to have it blanketly left for the staff? I'm trying to weigh that out and hear how you are thinking about that?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Well, it just so happens I'm on the Finance and Administration Subcommittee, the Language Access and also the Materials. So I will make sure that Commissioner Fornaciari and I stay on top of the costs. And I know that Director Hernandez has been keeping us informed of some of those costs.

Did you -- did you have -- okay. If it -- would that -- is that fine with you? Okay.

Commissioner Andersen?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. Thank you.

I just want to say what's keeping -- could we keep track of just the translation costs separately? Because I noticed there were questions in terms of specific costs that might be different from one Commission to another Commission. That would be very important to know, you know, that all things are translated, were they not translated, and what our translation costs were, just keeping for, you know, sort of the Lessons Learned Group.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: So I'll just ask that we'll please keep that. Thank you.
COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes, definitely. Haven't been in Federal -- or in State government for many, many years. They do go to that detail in terms of the specific costs.

So it does get down to was it interpretation or was it translation? So that does get to that detail. So thank you.

Commissioner Sinay, I think you had your hand up.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I did. But I think Commissioner Sadhwani had it up before me, so I can go after her.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Oh.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Oh. My question was somewhat different. I'm glad that we came back to the Language Access because I meant to ask this question earlier.

Previous -- in previous meetings, we've talked about the possibility of using some of the additional outreach funds that we have towards increasing our Spanish language interpretation, both for COI input meetings, as well as potentially for interpretation of our business meetings and having broad Spanish language interpretation being more readily available. And that that might be a way to further engage the Spanish speaking Californians that are out there. Just wondering if that's something
that has been looked at or thought about in any greater detail.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I do know that's something that we did bring forward, and I believe Raul's looking into it, is if we actually hire a Spanish interpreter. I will follow up with him to see what the status of that is.

And then Director Hernandez?

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Yeah, just to follow up on that. So we -- we are looking into that. But I think it's a slightly different question of having a staff person for translations. If I'm understanding correctly, you're talking about doing more of the translation or interpretation at meetings and --

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Interpretations, yes.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: -- and having Spanish meetings. So I'm just trying to clarify so that we all are talking about the same thing.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes. And I don't think that we've ever formally, as a Commission, given a directive in this regard. To me, it would be having Spanish interpretation at our meetings.

Right? Being able to live stream in Spanish. Somehow, some way. I don't know exactly how that would work out. I do know that other organizations are able to
do it.

My sense is that that would not be one person. I mean, even as we see, for example, for our ASL interpreters, you need to take a break.

Right? So I think we -- it would probably be, you know, finding a consulting group that would be able to assist us with Spanish language interpretation of our meetings. But if we have the additional funds available, this is an issue that's been brought up numerous times, and certainly I think important to many throughout the state.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. So we will look into that. And like when I say "we", staff will look into that, in terms of providing Spanish interpretation simultaneously during our meetings. Okay. Thank you so much with that.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: We'll follow up with that, thank you.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Just for clarification, is that for our business meetings or are we talking about COI meetings only? I'm just trying to clarify so that when staff goes through and looks at the put -- possible setups, we're clear on what we're looking at.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: My personal preference would
be for all meetings. But again, you know, I don't know if this is something that -- all Commissioners share this perspective with me or not. But I think it would be helpful to have a better understanding of what the cost for that might look like or maybe a breakdown of costs for if we did --

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Um-hum, right. Um-hum.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: -- you know, just the COI input versus business meeting, you know, both business meetings and COI input.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Right. So that would be -- the direction would be to look at the costs. Is it -- if we do the COI input meetings, if we also include our business meetings, are we also going to include our line drawing? So --

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Right. Absolutely.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: -- we'll probably have to split it up by day.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: So for each day, how much --

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Right. And I --

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: -- it would be, assuming a six-hour day.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: And I think also the
technological component that would go along with that, how we would make that accessible to people.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I have no idea how to do that, but maybe Kristian does.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Kristian knows. I think I saw somebody else's hand up.

CHAIR AHMAD: Commissioner Sinay --

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR AHMAD: -- and Turner.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you.

I absolutely trust you, Commissioner Fernandez, but it does raise a red flag when someone says, I'm on this committee, this committee, and this committee, do you trust me? And I think we do need to be careful with that. But it did also remind me that we haven't seen a budget in a long time. And I thought we were promised them monthly. So if we could, at the next meeting, kind of get an updated budget and where we are on everything, that would be great.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Right. And I will apologize for that. And the reason we haven't brought it forward is that it hasn't changed officially because the Governor has not signed the budget yet. And once he signs the budget, then we'll actually have updated
information. And at that point, I have asked Director Hernandez to also come forward with not only the budget but an update on the expenditures to date so we have that information as well.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I meant the whole thing because we haven't seen expenditures in a really long time.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Um-hum.

CHAIR AHMAD: And Commissioner Fernandez, I just want to make clear that this item is -- is this item, Commissioner Sinay, you bring up for the Finance and Administration Subcommittee or the Language Access?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Great point.

And I'll bring -- should I bring it up again later or can we all pretend I said it later?

CHAIR AHMAD: Just wanted to make sure that that was clear.

Commissioner Fernandez, you're wearing your finance admin hat.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes, that's my finance hat.

CHAIR AHMAD: Okay.

Commissioner Turner?

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah, thank you. I wanted to go back to the language portion, and maybe this is -- yeah, I think still language because I still want us to look at, and even thinking in terms of Commissioner
Sadhwani and the pieces that she brought up, which I think is excellent. I definitely would be in agreement with all of that.

I also am wondering, is there a space and whose responsibility is it? Is it just Lessons Learned or is it Language Access to look at what we've done for interpretation, translation, and looking at the analytics that was provided earlier.

Are people actually clicking on utilizing the translation -- translated materials? If we're able to tell that because there is cost incurred with all of that -- costs that we don't mind spending that we want to spend for all Californians.

But at some point, I think it would be interesting to know if the material was ever used, because then we would -- then going forward, still need to be probably a little bit more cautious about how much -- and of course, the conversation can be tied in, was the outreach successful?

I know it's a larger and broad conversation. I just want to make sure at some point we're looking at the whole of it to say with fourteen languages, did we utilize all of that? It's great to see we had it, but we also spent money for it.

And was it worth it and did we make sure people knew
it was available? Did people take advantage of it?

So it's a whole kind of story that I'd like for us to be able to tell at some point, even if it is in Lessons Learned at the end to be able to say -- because we have some of that money that was spent could have been a no-brainer. Maybe we absolutely do all the translation for all of the meetings for the same cost. And so anyway, that was -- that's my comment.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Thank you. Commissioner Akutagawa, do you -- my other partner on Language Access -- did you have anything on this?

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: No, I don't. I'm just taking notes, and I'm figuring we're going to be meeting about it at our next Language Access meeting.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Correct. Thank you.

CHAIR AHMAD: Yes, Commissioner Sinay?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: On Language Access, I promise, we do need to look a little bit better at our website because our website is definitely a barrier for language access unless someone knows how to translate the whole website, you know, hit, translate and all that. Right now, if you were to sign, you know, just signing up for one of the sessions, it's all in English, even the sheet, the Google sheet for Spanish, you know, so.

And maybe that's the idea that they need to do
Google Translate to get it to -- get to Spanish. But we need to put a note in there how to do it, because right now that -- to me, that's a real bottleneck.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. Got it. Thank you.

CHAIR AHMAD: Any other questions or comments for our Language Access Subcommittee?

No? All right. Moving right along back to where we were. And thank you, everyone, for allowing Language Access to revive their report out. 7-L, The Cybersecurity Subcommittee.

Commissioners Fornaciari and Taylor?

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: We don't have anything significant to report.

CHAIR AHMAD: Great. Thank you. 7-M, Incarcerated Populations State and Local Facilities Subcommittee.

Commissioners Fernandez and Sinay?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: We don't have anything significant to report at this time.

CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you. 7-N, the Incarcerated Populations Federal Facilities Subcommittee.

Commissioners Kennedy and Turner?

COMMISSIONER TURNER: We have nothing significant to report at this time.

CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you. 7-O --

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Chair, can I --
CHAIR AHMAD: Oh, yes. Yes, go ahead.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Sorry. Thank you. I was recently in touch with the National Conference of State Legislatures -- Conference or Council, I'm not really sure -- NCSL -- who does a lot on redistricting and preparing states for the redistricting process.

And they had told me that they view Commissions such as ours, as their constituents. And as such they are attempting to provide services in terms of information.

They're actually having a call on the prisoner reallocation issue. So I just wanted to offer that to those subcommittees. If that's something that you wanted to participate in, I'm happy to get you that information.

They also have a redistricting book of some sort. They said they would be happy to send it to all of us, if you want one. So certainly I could work maybe with -- maybe with Ravi or someone like that to help coordinate that, if that's of interest.

CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you, Commissioner Sadhwani. And just a clarification question.

All of that material you referenced is publicly available, correct?

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes, I believe it is.

CHAIR AHMAD: Great. Thank you.

Commissioner Turner, you had your hand up?
COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah. I just wanted to clarify. I didn't quite get the name that you said initially, but was this at a Federal level or just all?

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I'm not entirely sure. I was simply told that they're doing a call on additional information on prisoner reallocation. We might have already had all of that information. We had a great panel on it earlier.

So I don't know the details of the -- the depths of that call. But I wanted to just simply make that available to the subcommittees, if it was something of interest that you wanted to participate in and learn more from -- or you know, talk to others about how they're doing it in other states or something like that.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you. If you'd forward the information to staff so that we can get it, that would be great.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: You bet.

CHAIR AHMAD: Great. Thank you.

Moving along to 7-O Lessons Learned Subcommittee.

That's myself and Commissioner Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Please keep them coming.

CHAIR AHMAD: Any questions for Lessons Learned on our report out? Seeing none, 7-P, IT Recruitment Subcommittee.
Commissioners Andersen and Fornaciari?

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. Nothing significant to report at this time.

CHAIR AHMAD: Great. Thank you. So that was agenda item number 7. We have covered all of the updates and report outs from our subcommittees listed under agenda item number 7.

Katy, we would like to open the line for public comment on any of the subcommittees that have reported out under 7-A all the way through 7-P.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, chair. The Commissioner will now take public comment on item number 7-A through P. And to give comment, please call 877-853-5247 and enter the meeting ID number 95775048678.

Once you have dialed in, please press star 9 to raise your hand and enter the queue. The full call-in instructions are read at the beginning of the meeting and are provided in full on the livestream landing page.

We do have a caller at this time with their hand raised. And I will ask them to unmute. And go ahead, the floor is yours.

MS. HOWARD: Good evening, Commissioners. This is Deborah Howard with the California Senior Advocates League. I have a comment related to the conversation regarding outreach and engagement. I missed part of the
debrief meeting that you had about your public input meeting.
   And went to listen to it this morning and the audio is not available. I bring this up because it's not the only time that this has happened. Regularly, the audio cuts out at about, oh, I don't know, a few minutes into the video. And the problem has been, I have a few dates for you at least May 24th, the June 2nd, and even the June 10th COI hearing itself.
   I'm excited, and I know that you are also, that you're beginning your effort to engage Californians. But it really seems like this is a glitch (indiscernible) I shouldn't really be facing at this point. I think in coupled with the lack of transcripts, it simply undermines the ability of anybody who can't watch every single minute of your meeting in real time to engage.
   You have invested enormous time and treasure to make every work -- all of the work that you're doing to be accessible, and yet it's not. I suspect -- I hope, actually, that you find this as unacceptable as I do. And I want to add that not a single one of the COI Commission -- submissions has been posted yet. And yet Kennedy -- Commissioner Kennedy pointed out this evening that --
   MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.
MS. HOWARD: -- those numbers keep going up, and they keep going up faster. So I really hope that you can take these con -- into consideration.

I have one last thing. You just came back from executive session, and you did not report out what you talked about.

MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

MS. HOWARD: You went into Executive session saying you were going to discuss security and pending litigation. I am not aware of any pending litigation, and I know that you have to keep that strategy --

MR. MANOFF: Two minutes.

MS. HOWARD: -- private. But if there is, in fact, litigation that has been brought, I think that has to be named. So I thank you for your consideration, and I hope that you will invest an additional commitment to make the --

MR. MANOFF: Past fifteen seconds.

MS. HOWARD: -- meetings as transparent as you've invested to do so. Thank you.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And that was all our public comment at this time.

CHAIR AHMAD: We'll give it a couple more seconds in case there's others who would like to call in.

(Pause)
PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And the queue is still empty at this time, Chair.

CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you, Katy. Moving on to agenda item number 8, which is the Public Input Design Committee report out, myself and Commissioner Fornaciari.

I will pass the mic over to you, Commissioner Fornaciari, and just keeping in mind that we do have a hard stop at 8 p.m.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. So let's see.

We had our Public Input Design meeting. There's a document that I put together that kind of summarized that.

I apologize. We didn't get it up until just today, so I'm hoping you all have had a chance to see it. Committee members, staff, line drawers attended. We discussed the input meeting from the 10th, lots of positive feedback from staff for their preparation, and how smoothly things went off.

I -- I referenced a feedback document that Alvaro put together and just realized that it's -- it wasn't posted for this meeting for all of the -- all of the Commissioners to see. So we should probably get that posted so that all of the Commissioners can see the feedback. So we discussed some of the points on that -- on that feedback document.
So I got a couple of notes. There were a couple of pieces of public feedback during that meeting. One piece of public feedback was to -- that I wanted to bring forward to the entire Commission. So one piece was to consider that the use of social media to comment on public input to be viewed as support for that input.

And that -- and the second piece of public input was a question; and is the Commission considering providing opportunities to groups to present COI input? And we had set aside four dates near the end of our public input meeting time. But we as a Commission have not made a final decision on that. And so we're going to bring that issue forward to the Public Input Design meeting -- Committee is going to bring that forward at our July 6th meeting and -- and rec -- bring forward a recommendation.

So there are a number of suggestions for the staff. I just want to kind of skim over this a little bit because there are a few things I think we need to talk about as -- as a Commission.

But I want to talk about the first bullet point. Since the transitions went so smoothly, the staff is going to -- we're going to reduce the transmission time -- transition time to one minute so we can enable more folks.

I think I want to circle back to the discussion that
we had earlier about maybe overbooking a little bit. We have allotted three minutes per person. The I -- I wrote -- I wrote down all the times for everybody's input, except I missed the first ten. And the average that I came up with was two minutes and five seconds. That may be a little skewed because I think the first several callers went three minutes, and I think a lot of the last callers went short.

But you know, somewhere in the neighbor of two minutes, maybe 2:10, 2:15 would be a more accurate number. And so you know, there is potential, you know, potential opportunity there to overbook a little bit. And -- and if everyone showed up, we -- we would still have time to get to them. So I would just offer that for the staff to consider.

And then, there are -- there are a few things further -- for further discussion by the Commission. We can talk about any of this. I just -- I just I want to share what I want to, you know, what I thought were the highlights.

And so if we look at the third bullet point, I think we've got, you know, there's a policy question here. When we voted to allow callers three minutes -- or -- or participants three minutes to provide input on their COI, I think that could be interpreted a couple of ways.
Right?

One would be that -- that each individual would be only allowed three minutes per meeting to provide public input. And the other way we could interpret is potentially that, you know, folks to provide three minutes for public input, and if there was an opportunity, they could get back in the queue and provide three more minutes of public input.

And so I think that, you know, providing some clarity on that topic might be a -- a good idea for -- for the Commission to -- to talk about and provide that clarity to the -- to the staff moving forward and the -- and the next chair so that we can then come to -- so we can understand how we're going -- how we're -- we're going to run our meetings.

So with that, I -- I didn't know if it was -- we wanted to talk about that point more at this point, or if we want to just open it up for general discussion.

Commissioner Ahmad, I don't know if you -- you had anything else you wanted to add that I passed over?

CHAIR AHMAD: No, you covered it pretty well. And I think there was just a conversation from earlier that is relevant to this agenda item that I would welcome the group to bring up again. But besides that, I think you covered it all.
COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Do you want me to drive? Commissioner Turner?

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you, Commissioner Fornaciari. I certainly would be interested if there are public -- if there's a public waiting to hear their thoughts on when it's time as well.

But when you lifted up the different interpretations of the three minutes, I certainly would like for people to stick with if we maintain a three minute -- I'm glad you did the average of two. -- if we maintain the three minutes, that we would stick to that her testimony and if someone had a different testimony -- a different COI that they'd like to submit, then they should call back in and give an additional three-minute time for their different COI.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Commissioner Sinai and did -- Anthony, do you have a comment?

Okay, Commissioner Sinay?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I like Commissioner Turner's -- where she's going with this because we have made it really explicit that people belong to more than one community. And maybe one of the things we can do to make it more explicit and that the registration is we do ask them for what region or what area do you want to speak in? But we can also say what it -- what is the name of
your community, your COI, and see if they have multiples.

But I do feel that if we have the time, we should use as much time as we have when we have it, you know, allow the public to speak. And so if they -- if we have space at the end of the line for someone to step in, I agree with that. I think the issue is not allowing people to sign up for multiple, three -- you know, multiple times to speak in different sections, but that they can go to the last block of time, meaning that being the last -- back of the line.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Thank you.

Commissioner Kennedy?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you. I -- and this may be that I'm not recalling this correctly. I had thought at one point that when we were discussing the three minutes we had said that the three minutes would start once the mappers blocked the map to the correct portion of the state.

And I know that I found it difficult to follow the map zooming at the same time as I was trying to listen to the input from the speakers. So I just wanted to ask if we could clarify that. Thank you.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Commissioner Yee?

VICE CHAIR YEE: Yes. So I was chairing the -- co-chairing the COI meeting, and I think I was chairing
during most of the repeat calls. I think one was actually helpful because the first time the caller called, the sound wasn't strong. And when she called back, it did clarify her input.

Nevertheless, I'm thinking the -- you know, we can announce clearly and repeatedly our general rule, if we wish to adopt it, of one three-minute testimony per COI. So a person can maybe call back or even make different appointments, as long as it's different COIs. But once somebody starts sharing, we've been told we, you know, not to interrupt and to not try to judge whether the comments, you know, are relevant.

So I didn't interrupt anybody. And for future Chairs of these meetings, I just want everyone to be clear on whether that is indeed the policy.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. So what I've heard so far is not allowing people to sign up for multiple time slots, but if there's an opportunity, they can call in and get it at the end of the queue. I've also heard that, you know, we could adopt a policy to make it clear that it's one three-minute testimony per community of input. And then a question about when the time starts, whether it's after the map is pulled up or during the map -- during the map being called up.

MR. PANÉ: Commissioner Fornaciari, if I could just
raise just one point on one of the potential items. One of the potential possibilities I'm hearing for clarification is that we would allow one three-minute spot per COI during a public input agenda item. The question I would like to raise for all of you is, it sounds like if we were to go -- if the Commission were to proceed on that line, that we are distinguishing content. And we are saying you get more time if you have more COIs?

If you're not going to talk about more than one COI, which is content based, then you only get one three minutes. But if you talk about more than one COI, you get more time. So that would be my hesitation in any recommendation regarding that because I think we might be distinguishing among content.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I got -- just looked up. I don't know though -- I see Linda -- I mean, Commissioner Akutagawa, Commissioner Andersen, and Commissioner Turner. I don't know who was -- oh, and Commissioner Vasquez. I don't know who was -- and Commissioner Sadhwani.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: And Commissioner Kennedy has had his hand up.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. All right. I'm
going to randomly pick because I don't know who went first.

So Commissioner Sadhwani?

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Sorry about that. I'm listening to this conversation, and I understand both sides of it. I do -- yes, I do want people to have their opportunity to say what they need to say. However, I do think it's also somewhat unfair when, if you have the time to stay in line, then you'll get additional -- an additional three minutes or more.

And I think what I -- what was happening at our June 10th meeting that I saw was that those people that stayed on and continued to provide additional testimony, that testimony gets amplified. And I do want to be cautious of that because I don't think the content was all that different, quite frankly.

My other question that I think I -- we don't have to answer it now, but in general, we had a caller who I believe identified himself from -- as not being a Californian. We had a caller who identified herself as a candidate.

How do we handle situations like that? Do we handle them? Do we want any policy around them? I leave that there for you all to think about.

But I -- I'm leaning more towards it's three minutes
per person and that's it. I think ultimately otherwise, people can really take advantage of that -- that time as well. And certainly we want to make that time available. But I think it ultimately ends up with unfair advantage for some.

CHAIR AHMAD: Okay. I'll be stepping in to help Neal. So please correct me on the order if needed.

Commissioner Akutagawa and then Turner?

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yes, thank you. I agree with what Commissioner Sadhwani said. One, I just want to say, I think in my mind, I thought it was one three-minute slot, you know, opportunity to give your testimony. I think all -- I think perhaps in my mind also too, I also thought that we were going to be so full with appointments or people wanting to give testimony that there would not be an opportunity for people to just get back in line and give multiple testimonies.

I am concerned that if we give somebody three minutes and then we say, okay, well, you could get back in line and you could continue to elaborate on whatever you wanted to say, you know, that person for their particular COI could be speaking, possibly, depending on the number of times they are willing to call back in and wait in line, could be anywhere from, you know, additional three minutes. So it could be an additional
six minutes to who knows how much, whether it's nine,
twelve, fifteen minutes in total around their particular
COI.

So that's -- that is a concern. And -- and it feels
a little unfair for others who are able to keep their
testimony to within the three minutes. And even if they
had multiple COIs, you know it's -- I think it's either
their decision to speak about those COIs within the three
minutes or they submit it in other, you know, there are
other opportunities, other ways in which COI testimony
could be also provided.

If that is uncomfortable for all of us in terms of,
okay, well we don't want to cut anybody off then you
know, the other alternative is -- is three minutes, then
enough, if somebody wants to give testimony on multiple
COIs in one shot instead of making them get back in line
over and over.

And the other thing, I think -- I'm glad that
Commissioner Sadhwani brought up the issue of somebody
calling in from outside of California and also somebody
who was a candidate for office. And both those people
called back in multiple times. And it was a little
uncomfortable, you know, in that sense.

So I also hear what Chief Counsel Pane also said, we
cannot police or restrict because that is restricting
their freedom of speech. And so therefore, we are not, you know, we cannot do that.

And so you know, it becomes either we -- we're going to allow all and so we have to be able to tell everybody, hey, you know what, you could call in multiple times if you don't feel like you got a chance to say what you wanted to say. Or we just say to everybody, you know what, for this meeting, once you've given testimony, you're done.

I think there can't be, like, a squishy middle in this particular case. And I'm a little uncomfortable about the squishy middle.

CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you, Commissioner Akutagawa. I have Turner, Kennedy, and then Vasquez?

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you.

CHAIR AHMAD: And then Sinay, Andersen.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you. I wonder if we're trying to regulate something that we cannot regulate. People do not have to give their names. If I call and give you three minutes of testimony and tell you my name is Trena, and call back and then say, my name is Lynell, because it is, and call back and give you my last name as Ms. Turner, I can call you anyway and give you three different COIs and tell you I may be calling for my mother because she doesn't want to talk live. I may be
calling back again for someone different.

Content, thank you for that reminder. Yes, I hear all of that. But if people call back, if they call and get different appointments, if they call and get back in line, we want to hear from Californians, and we want to hear from them until they are confident that we're clear in the testimony that they were trying to provide us. It might be the answer to give more time if that's what is needed.

But Commissioner Fornaciari just signed an average of two minutes or so, so maybe that's not the case. If indeed we -- the three-minute segments provide a break, it gives people a guideline to say, you know what, call in so that we can make this as fair as possible for many Californians as possible to call in.

But if I make several appointments and I'm doing it for different COIs by different names, if I call in to give you the same COI from a different perspective, again, there is nothing that we have set up legally that's going to stop Californians from doing that. And so I think we're spending a lot of time trying to say what they can't do when quite in fact, they can.

CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you, Commissioner Turner.
Commissioner Kennedy and then Vasquez, Sinay, Andersen, and then Toledo.
COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Okay. I'll try to make this quick because others have raised the issue. I'll make this in the form of a question to Counsel. In the case of the caller from Michigan, I would not have a problem with someone calling from Michigan, raising a general point during general comment.

But when it is time for community of interest input, my question is can we cut off someone who identifies as calling from Michigan and saying, you're not a Californian, we don't have any reason to be listening to you during time set aside for hearing about communities of interest from Californians? Thank you.

MR. PANE: Thank you, Commissioner. I'd be happy to look into that and get back to you.

CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you.

COMMISSIONER VASQUEZ: Yeah, I think -- I am -- I'm just of the mind that if we have -- if this is -- if we have so much time, that this is a real practical problem for us, in terms of having so many folks come and just sort of stand in line for three-minute segments in perpetuity, that, for me is way to hold ourselves accountable for doing more outreach.

We need to fill those slots with a broader array of
input so that we're not just hearing from a select few voices. So I -- and at the same time, I'm also a bit uncomfortable, now, the more we think about it like this squishy middle.

And I feel like I am of the mind that I would like -- I would like to err on the side of giving community more flexibility because that -- there's a way to game any policy we make in this digital space. So I feel like I would rather be less rigid in our policy and use it as an accountability tool to increase the number of voices that we hear from at each meeting.

CHAIR AHMAD: Commissioners Sinay, Andersen, and then Toledo.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yeah. I think the one -- I'm just going to do my usual reminder that we have said from the beginning that all COI input is equal. It doesn't matter that it's a testimony or if we receive it in other formats. And so in other formats we will -- we have received it multiple times. You know, people -- some people have emailed the same COI. Yeah. And we're just going to have to balance that.

But to say that if someone calls in multiple times, that's going to have an effect on us, yes. But also, if someone calls, submits a COI, I mean, we're going to have -- we are fourteen people that will help each other
really pay attention. And yeah, it -- we're the human element that's going to make this real.

And again, these input sessions are one way of the public participating. And if we're spending time, money, and opening up a sess -- you know, opening these sessions for eight hours, or however long it is, and if people have not filled it in, but people have things to say, let's be open and use those resources wisely. So I'm -- let's -- we've have already invested them.

So I've said two things. One is let's allow people to go to the very back of the line and speak if they have more to say. And two, we have to constantly remind ourselves that this is one way of getting input, and that all input is fair -- is weighed equally.

CHAIR AHMAD: Commissioner Andersen?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you. And I appreciate the whole conversation here.

One thing I want to bring up that I -- is the policy is right now, they have three minutes of time. It doesn't say you have to -- you can only talk about one COI in that three minutes. You can talk about -- if you are really organized, you could do, you know, one, two, three, you know, a quick minute, quick minute, quick minute.

And we should not say there's only one COI per three
minutes because that's controlling content. And you
know, if we want to do a policy of you get back in
line -- one policy should be one appointment per meeting.

If you want to get back in line, and we realize
you're -- the first question should be, is this about a
different COI? Because if they start talking about the
second COI, it's preferential. I mean, the same COI
again, preferential treatment. I think that's quite
obvious.

It's like, now you get more time and more time, more
time. If they're talking about a brand new one, and
again, that they've gone to the end the line, did not
make an appointment for this. And then, I don't think we
want to be scared of -- we lay out our policy and
someone's gaming it and we have no control of that.

And that's, you know -- and they will. You're
right. There is ways to get around and game stuff, but
we can't not set a policy because we are worried about
gaming it.

CHAIR AHMAD: Commissioner Toledo?

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: My point's been made, so I'll
pass.

CHAIR AHMAD: Commissioner Fornaciari, no more hands
have been raised as of yet.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. Okay. I have a --
I just have a comment on Commissioner Andersen's comment.

If we allow people to come back in the queue and someone decides to talk about their COI again, and we stop them, then we're regulating content.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Isn't that us enforcing this -- a consistent policy?

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Oh, well, I mean, if our policy -- I mean, our policy is people can get in the back of the queue and they have three more minutes.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: No. I said for a different COI.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: But -- I know, I know, but then that would be regulating content.

And that would be up to the interpretation of the -- of the Chair at that point, right?

Commissioner Fernandez?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yeah, I see where you're going with this, because what's the difference between that versus coming to the next COI input meeting and providing the exact same testimony? It's the -- you know, it's the same information.

But we're not going to ask them, is this a whole new COI?

In terms of a candidate providing testimony, I think I'm okay with it. I'm probably not okay with it if they
take up three slots. But they're Californian, we want to hear from everyone, that's good with me. And again, communities of interest, there's multiple ways for Californians to submit their communities of interests.

I like having just a three minute. I wasn't -- I wasn't sold on the get in line and do it again if there's time. But I -- I think that would -- I would be okay with that. But I strongly believe they should only be allowed to reserve one time slot in a meeting.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. So in order to move things forward, based on what I've heard, I'm going to -- I'm going to kind of throw something out there at this point.

That I would propose that we allow persons -- people who sign up for votes only sign up for a single appointment for a meeting. And that if the appointments are all completed in a given time slot or you know, time space, that we open it up to callers and not preclude anyone from providing multiple inputs and not regulate with that content would be.

Commissioner Yee?

VICE CHAIR YEE: I just want to note that if that had been the policy on June 10th, then we would have continued to take repeat calls from a small number of people if they continued to call back. You know, at the
beginning of that meeting, we did open ourselves up to repeat callers midway through that meeting, but it became a problem, it seemed. We stopped taking repeat callers and announced that publicly and then ended the meeting when we did. If we had allowed people to take us as late as we could go, then they may have.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: So I would -- I would offer to -- we are -- have a very small sample size. Right. One -- one meeting and we're -- we don't know what future meetings will hold. We have an expectation that -- I think all of us had a underlying expectation that the meetings would be full and jammed up.

So I saw Commissioner Fernandez and then Commissioner Turner.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: The difference with the first meeting is the one caller that spoke three times actually stayed in the -- what is it called, in the group?

In the queue. So they didn't -- they didn't actually leave and have to call back and get into the regular queue. They used their calling information for their block of time. So I believe what we're saying is you get to call in one time for your block and then you get bumped out and you have to go into the regular queue.

Is that correct, Commissioner Fornaciari? Is that
what we're saying?

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yes. And that each caller -- yeah, then you just have to call back and get in the queue every time.

And then Commissioner Turner?

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yes, thank you. I'm terribly sorry. I thought you were frozen. And it was neat when you first started saying -- trying to do a recap, my system froze and I really want you to say it again.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. So what -- what I -- what I guess I would -- what I would propose is we would only allow an individual to make one appointment per meeting. And if the -- if the appointments in a given block were all -- I mean, were all used up and we had that air time, we would open it up to callers, and we would -- we would not preclude anyone from calling back into the queue and providing additional input.

Commissioner Andersen?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I do have a question.

Is that possible to be enforced and to say, okay, now you're out by the staff? You know, we might say that that's a good idea, but -- oh, I see Marcy's going to answer that. Thank you.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, go ahead, Marcy.

DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Yeah. I get -- just in hearing
this whole conversation -- so there's a logistical side, if someone is coming in via Zoom and then we rem -- via video of their registered person coming in through video, if we remove them, we can block them from reentering.

If someone's calling in by phone, they -- when they're done, I believe they can be removed but then can call back in. So I think there's that, the getting clarity on your decision and then looking at the logistical side of when someone is calling back in, they're back in the queue -- in the line that they raise their hand to go into the queue.

And so there's this piece of tracking if someone's already spoken or not spoken. And I may have just confused everyone. I'm trying to explain this.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. But I think what we're saying is, you know, if the queue is your hand raised, you know, when you're done, you know, you call in, you're in the queue, you raise your hand, you give your -- you got your three minutes, then we remove them from the -- from the queue.

Then they call back in and reraise their hand?

DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Yes.

MR. MANOFF: So I don't -- I can't really raise my hand, but I can give some clarity to --

DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Okay, sorry.
MR. MANOFF: -- what Marcy was saying. This is Kristian talking.

DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Sorry.

MR. MANOFF: So based upon the current direction, what we had planned to do was to remove people after they had spoken for three minutes. And at that point, they could only -- they could either watch the meeting on the livestream or they could listen to it on a listen-only phone call. So they wouldn't be able to raise their hand anymore.

Now, what you are suggesting, Commissioner Fornaciari, is that, let's say you had a person that either called in or joined via Zoom. They raise their hand, they give their comment, their hand is lowered, their comment ends. There is no line for them to get back in. It's simply a press of a button and their hand is raised again.

So there is no process for them -- they don't really need to, like, hang up their phone or turn off their computer. They, simply put, press a button, their hand would immediately go back up. And at that point, you know, that's -- I think that's what we're trying to figure out.

What do we do at that point?

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Well, is there a way for
you to disengage them from the call?

MR. MANOFF: Yes. We can remove them from the meeting. Once they are removed from the meeting, they cannot rejoin by that computer. And they can't call back in.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Oh, they can't call back in --

MR. MANOFF: No.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: -- using that same number? Oh, hm. That throws a wrench in the works.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes. That was my question because I was pretty sure that's exactly how it went, so.

MR. MANOFF: That's -- that's ex -- so that's the -- that is true. If they -- if we remove them by phone, they cannot call in from that phone. And so then we get into the weeds on some -- some technical issues. Based upon the direction we got at the last meeting, our plan was, is that once somebody was removed, they could call another number and to listen to the meeting because listening to the meeting by phone is important to the people that are watching.

But from that number, they would not be able to raise their hand. It would be a listen-only number. And we are ready to support the Commission with a listen only number where people wouldn't be able to raise their hand.
And then as far as people who joined by Zoom, they would still be able to watch the livestream so they could follow the proceedings that way once they were removed. But otherwise, you know, we didn't -- we wouldn't remove them and they could just raise their hand after three minutes, essentially.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Chair, Ahmad?

CHAIR AHMAD: Just an administrative update. Kristian has so kindly notified me that ASL can stay until 8:25 p.m., so we could use the additional time, if the Commission so chooses to exercise that.

I would have to stop around 8:20 to take our closing public comment, but just wanted to make that known. And we do have about two or three agenda items remaining.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Well, I mean, I -- I'm not sure where to go from here with this. You know, again, I think it's a very small sample size of a meeting.

Marcy, how are things coming along with sign-ups at this point for the next meeting?

DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Let me -- give me a minute, and I'll circle back.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay.

Trena, why don't you go ahead? I mean, Commissioner Turner, why don't you go ahead?

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah, I'm wondering from
perhaps Kristian, what happens now, how will you track
the order of people when they raise their hands? So --
because we're talking about people only being able to get
back in at the end of the line. And if there are five
people waiting with hands raised, the hand goes down.
You said they can put their hand up again.
Isn't there already a sequencing in the queue that
you know that they're at the back of the line?

MR. MANOFF: So essentially, the way that the hand-
raising function works is it's a first come, first serve
queue within a queue. So when you raise your hand, the
first person to raise their hand will be chosen. But if
there's nobody with their hands raised, then the person
who raises their hand is just the first person chosen.
So we're, you know, we -- we do -- we were aware of who
had already given comment.

So to -- in the sense that we had -- a we had a
really -- we had really good coordination between our
teams tracking who had already called in and who had
already given comment. But once you ray -- basically if
you were to give your comment, while you're giving your
comment, we lower your hand. You finish giving your
comment. If you hit raise hand again, yes, you do go to
the back of the raised hands. But if there's nobody else
with their hand raised, then you are the next commenter,
essentially.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Okay. Okay.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Commissioner Sinay and then Commissioner Akutagawa?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I don't want to get in the weeds.

You know, I think I agree with what you're saying, Commissioner Fornaciari, that we have a small sample size. You know, I don't get the -- I know we have three different slots of time people can sign up. And I don't know if there is a different number of people call for each of those slots or how that works and how the fourth slot works when people can just call in.

And if that's -- you know, my whole thought always was, if they get tossed to the fourth -- not tossed, but they get moved into the fourth slot, which is our open -- our open session with no registration. But I'm concerned that we're trying to solve a problem versus think through a policy and let staff and contractors figure out if it can be done or not.

And I'm curious if what we want is more data from contractors to think -- contractors and staff to think through how to do this and then create the policy. But we can go in circles if we're trying to solve this problem right now.
COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah.

Commissioner Akutagawa?

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah, I was -- I was going
to -- to build on what Commissioner Sinay just said, I
was going to just suggest that, Commissioner Fornaciari,
given your comment that we have a small sample, just the
one meeting, we have two meetings coming up this
weekend -- or Saturday and Monday. What we could do is
if it makes everyone -- maybe -- it gives all of us more
comfort and also more data. Let's see what Saturday and
Monday give us.

Our next meeting is on the 25th, and at that time,
perhaps then we could assess, you know, what the next two
meetings bring about, and then we could then have perhaps
a little bit of a more informed discussion about was what
happened on the 10th an outlier? Are we going to see
additional or increased engagement now that we've done
the first?

I agree with what Commissioner Vazquez said about
it's on us now to make sure that all those slots get
filled and we don't have this problem. So you know,
that's really the better thing to really think about is
how do we ensure that we get the slots filled up so we
don't have to even debate this any further, you know,
because we have so many people who want to give testimony
that everybody will only have their one time to give
their public input. So if that might help move us along.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Commissioner Toledo?

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Yeah. Just going to say from
a policy standpoint, I think -- I think we all agree we
want everyone to have an equitable opportunity to have
input, that we don't want to unfairly treat others. And
I think that's the guidance we want to give to staff to
development a process -- to work with us on developing a
process to ensure that we're not giving anyone more than
equitable a voice or an opportunity to give their
voice -- or their -- or rather, I think is better said
that we're giving everybody an opportunity to give their
input equitably. And -- and I think -- I think from a
positive standpoint, we just want to treat everyone
fairly and consistently. Thank you.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Commissioner Sadhwani was
trying to raise her hand, but didn't get noticed.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I'm so sorry.

Commissioner Sadhwani?

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Thank you, no, I'm good.

Others made the same comment. I think it's appropriate
for us to wait at this point in time on making a policy
decision until we have these next meetings.

Thank you, Commissioner Andersen, for noticing.
COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. Well, then, I think the guidance is for Alvaro and team to, you know, consider our input and the discussion that we had today and help us develop a policy that's in the spirit of what the Commission's looking for as far as fairness and openness and works with the technological capabilities that we have.

And Commissioner Turner?

COMMISSIONER TURNER: I'm not certain where you're going with that, Commissioner Fornaciari. I thought the instruction was that we -- or the direction was that we were going to wait to get more information and then continue the conversation. I think we're not -- I don't feel like we're on the same page with what we believe is fair.

So I'm not comfortable with just having staff determine what's fair. And we're still discussing what we believe is fair and equitable. So I would like -- and I am willing to have and go through the next couple of meetings and receive more data and then come back at the conversation. But I would like us to continue it.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Thank you. It's fair.

Commissioner Ahmad?

CHAIR AHMAD: I have a different request of my colleagues around COI input meetings. So if others have
comments on closing this loop, then I'll step back until
you're ready for the next conversation.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Commissioner Vasquez and
Toledo?

COMMISSIONER VASQUEZ: Yeah. I just -- I did want
to echo Commissioner Turner's request that we keep
thinking through this. And just wanted to note that I am
also uncomfortable with asking staff to think through
what is fair. Thank you. I think that's on us to decide
what is fair. We should be --

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay, okay. Okay, fair
enough. Thank you.

Commissioner Toledo?

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Yeah.
And I just wanted to highlight that we do have a
policy on this, is my understanding, right? And really,
it's optimizing that policy, if there's a way to
optimize -- and I'm not sure -- to promote fairness and
equity and all these values that we want to promote.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Marcy?

DIRECTOR KAPALN: I did look again at the sign-ups
for Saturday. We have eleven. This is something staff
has been looking at and working with the Outreach Team
and really focusing on promotion and working with our
Communications Team. Obviously, going into these
meetings, we're going to want to increase participation,
but just flagging that number for you right now.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. Thank you.

Commissioner Andersen?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: All right. Just a quick
one.

They can sign up until when; Thursday or through the
end of Thursday?

DIRECTOR KAPLAN: So right now, we have set them
Thursday at 5 to close.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay.

Commissioner Ahmad?

CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you, Commissioner Fornaciari.

Well, my request comes to my colleagues more of a
process item regarding the COI input meetings. I would
highly recommend that we, as Commissioners, narrow down
our communication between us and our staff and
contractors during the COI input meeting.

So while Commissioner Yee and I were moderating, our
staff and contractors were getting suggestions or
recommendations for direction from other Commissioners
and it left folks kind of confused on what do we do? Do
we, you know, you know, allow -- open the caller -- line
or do we not? And so it really confused things on our
team who already had a process in place and a
communication plan.

So if other Commissioners have, myself included,
have recommendations during the COI input meeting, I
would suggest that we funnel those through to the
moderators for the moderators to then take forward and
communicate with our staff or contractors or whoever the
appropriate party is behind this. So I would just
recommend that to my colleagues for our future COI input
meetings.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Is there anything else on
this topic we want to discuss? I know we have other
agenda items to get to.

Commissioner Akutagawa?

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: This is more of a -- I'm
not sure where it fits, so perhaps this is more directed
to the Chair.

The last public comment did mention that there were
some issues with the recording, so I don't know if this
is something that you'll be taking up with Kristian, or
is this something that -- I don't think we need to
discuss, but I am kind of curious about it.

CHAIR AHMAD: Yeah. I will be in communication with
my Co-Chair, my Vice Chair in addressing that issue. And
we will bring forth a closing-the-loop during the next
full Commission meeting.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Commissioner Yee?

VICE CHAIR YEE: I'd like to get Counsel Pane's opinion on this.

So the June 10th meeting, you know, we started with one policy. We changed it midstream. And that's where it ended. It ended with no repeat callers and staff enforced that.

So if we're saying, okay, on Saturday, we start the same way with an open policy you can repeat call, but perhaps make it clear that the Chairs, which will be Commissioners Ahmad and Fernandez, can make that change the same way, you know, in a -- in this coming meeting, as well as, of course, the whole discussion of whether meetings can be ended early.

That's why you have a Chair to make decisions like that in real time. I mean, that's what happened on the 10th. Everyone seemed to be more or less happy with that. You know it wasn't a problem.

So can we proceed with that?

MR. PANÉ: Commissioner, what I would recommend is just to -- just to sort of summarize as you did, when we discovered that we were going to have this hypothetical become a reality, we first wanted to make sure that we weren't overstepping under the law. And once we could
get as close to real time as possible, what we believed to be on solid ground and regulating time, place, manner, and not content, then the Commission acted consistently, based on that practice.

What I would recommend for next time, since we -- since the Commission is deciding to take a larger sample, is that we be similarly consistent and we continue the practice that we started the first time until the Commission has evaluated it and makes a subsequent and different policy change.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Commissioner Sadhwani, did you have your hand raised?

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes. I hope it's appropriate under this agenda item. But I do want to -- again, I think I've said in the past that it is a priority for me to see some of the regions that -- where we will ultimately be line drawing. I'd like to get a sense of the Commission's interest in directing staff to begin to plan for hybrid meetings now that the state has lifted many of the restrictions.

Certainly, as we know, this state has allowed us to continue to meet virtually. But for me, I do have a great desire to go out and see the areas where we'll be redistricting, particularly those areas where I haven't visited previously. So it'd be helpful to get a sense of
where other Commissioners are on that matter.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yes. And one thing I neglected to say is that the topic that we are going to -- the Public Input Design Committee meeting is going to address it in our next meeting, the conversation we're going to have.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: When is that next meeting?

CHAIR AHMAD: July 6th.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: July 6th.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Okay. I'll certainly work it out with Alvaro here. But my interests, I know, for example, we have a meeting coming up in zones, I believe it's A and B, in the far northern areas of California. During the -- our discussions in the first eight, I had said, at that point in time, that I would absolutely come to the far northern areas of California to visit those regions. And I want to make good on that promise.

So even if we can't have that meeting in public, I do still intend to travel to that area and go and at least see some of these regions that -- I've where I've never visited before. And so I'd certainly invite other Commissioners to join me.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. Well, thank you all.

Commissioner Ahmad?
CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you, Commissioner Fornaciari.

Are you done with the report out for the debrief for agenda item number 8? All right.

So in summary, we will be bringing up a lot of these discussion points again at our future meetings, once we have additional data points. We do have a COI input meeting on Saturday, Monday, and then again on Thursday before we meet again as a full Commission. So thank you for that report out.

Katy, can we open the line for public comment on agenda item number 8?

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair. The Commissioner will now take public comment on item number 8. To give public comment, please call 877-853-5247 and enter the meeting ID number 95775048678.

Once you have dialed in, please press star 9 to enter the queue. The full call-in instructions are right at the beginning of the meeting and are provided on the livestream landing page in full.

There is currently no one in the queue, Chair.

(Pause)

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And the instructions are complete, Chair. And there's currently no one in the queue.

(Pause)
CHAIR AHMAD: Great. Thank you, Katy. Moving on to agenda item number 9, Legal Affairs Committee.

 Commissioners Yee, and Toledo?

 VICE CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Chair. Very quickly, the Legal Affairs Committee did meet earlier today to continue revisions on the Litigation Counsel contracts with Gibson & Dunn and Strumwasser & Woocher, the versions that were posted today have been slightly revised. And the revised versions will be posted for our next meeting on the 25th.

 At the meeting on 25th, we will seek your approval on these litigation contracts. The two contracts are identical except for the billing rates which differ from the two firms. The Litigation Council budget, which is 4.3 million for post map litigation, does need to be divided contractually. And we are going to propose a 70/30 split. Seventy percent is from Strumwasser/Woocher, thirty percent to Gibson/Dunn.

 We'll present more of a rationale for that on the 25th, as well as staff will provide some background on how monies can be and contract amounts can be adjusted later as needed. But we have to put some amount on paper to execute the contracts. And so this is the split that we're going to recommend.

 So please wait for the revised versions to appear in
the handouts for the 25th. And take a look at them. We
will be seeking your approval on those contracts on the
25th. Thank you.

CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you, Commissioner Yee.

And Legal Affairs Subcommittee is Commissioners Yee,
Toledo, and Sadhwani. I just want to make sure I clarify
that.

Do we have any questions for our Legal Affairs
Subcommittee?

Yes, Commissioner Fornaciari?

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: One very quick question.

I see that Prof. Levitt is still on this contract.

Is that -- does he -- is he back on the team?

VICE CHAIR YEE: No, that isn't -- that is a
mistake. We will correct that.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay.

MR. PANE: Thank you for that.

CHAIR AHMAD: Any other questions or comments for
our lack? Seeing none, thank you for that report out.

We will open the line for public comment on agenda
item number 9.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair.

And once again, the Commission will now take public
comment on item number 9. To give comment, please call
877-853-5247 and enter the meeting ID number 95775048678.
Once you have called in -- or once you have dialed in, please press star 9 to enter the comment queue. The full call-in instructions are read at the beginning of each meeting -- or of this meeting and are provided on the livestream landing page.

And there is no one currently in the queue.

(Pause)

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: The instructions are complete. And there is no one in the queue.

CHAIR AHMAD: All right. Thank you, Katy. Moving along in our agenda, agenda item number 11, discussion of future meeting dates and agenda items.

So we do have a calendar out for our COI input meetings as well as our business meetings and our two subcommittee meetings that are greater than three people, so the Public Input Design Committee and the Legal Affairs Committee, through the end of September. I have received notice from our team that they are working on putting together the timetables for the remaining COI input meetings that we, the Commission, had directed staff to do. And once that is ready, they will bring it forward to share with the Commission.

Is there anything else on agenda item number 11 that any of my colleagues or staff would like to bring up at this point?
All right. Seeing none, I would like to open the lines for public comment on agenda item number 11, discussion of future meeting dates and agenda items.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: All right. Yes, Chair.

The Commission will now take public comment on item number 11. To give comment, please call 877-853-5247 and enter the meeting ID number of 95775048678.

Once you have dialed in, please press star 9 to enter the comment queue. The full call-in instructions are read at the beginning of the meeting and are provided on the livestream landing page.

There is currently no one in the queue at this time.

CHAIR AHMAD: Yes, Commissioner Andersen, while we wait for callers?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you. Just a quick -- I just checked and updated the future meeting dates that are on our website for meetings. It just goes through August 10th. It doesn't actually go through all the way through September right now.

CHAIR AHMAD: Yeah. So under -- if you look at the meeting materials under June 2nd, that was the schedule that the Commission approved and that schedule goes through the end of September. So you're correct, the website does not reflect the same schedule that we approved. But the website will be updated as we attach
times to those meeting dates.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. But right now, for
the -- for the public to see that, they'd have to know it
was on the handouts of the June 2nd meeting.

Am I correct?

MR. MANOFF: Um-hum.

CHAIR AHMAD: Yes. The June 2nd meeting handouts
link includes the schedule that the Commission approved.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: All right.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Chair, I would like to
remind those calling in to please press star 9 to raise
your hand, indicating you're calling in to make a
comment. Thank you so much.

We do have a caller with their raised hand.

And please go ahead. The floor is yours.

MS. HOWARD: Thank you. Commissioners, it's Deborah
Howard with the California Senior Advocates League one
more time. I want to say that we have a little bit of a
insight about the audio issue.

When I used the video through Safari, I don't get
sound. But when I use it through Chrome, it does work.

So I wanted to give you that information. Appreciate
your attention to this.

I do think the other transparency issues remain,
like, posting the COI maps and also the transcripts. But
thanks very much. I wanted to give you an update on that. Appreciate it. Take care.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And that was all our callers at this time.

CHAIR AHMAD: Yes.

Commissioner Akutagawa?

COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. You know, these kind of browser issues do come up.

And I'm wondering, is this a -- an issue for the Website Committee and maybe testing out our website on various browsers so that we can understand if there are these problems? At least there could be a note that could be put in next to the videos to say, you know, there will be performance issues using Safari, you know, we recommend using Chrome.

You know, I don't know how Firefox -- how it works on Firefox. So these may be things that might be worth, you know, either staff or I don't know if this is something that the Website Committee may want to take on.

CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you. All right.

Moving along to agenda item number 12, and that is public comment for items not on the agenda and items for future meetings.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair.

I would like to remind the public that the
Commission will now take public comment on item number 12. To give public comment again, please call 877-853-5247 and enter the meeting ID number 95775048678 for this meeting.

Once you have dialed in, please press star 9 to enter the comment queue. The phone call and instructions are read at the beginning of the meeting and are provided on the livestream landing page in full.

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

CHAIR AHMAD: Great. I would ask that we stand at ease for a few minutes to allow folks a chance to dial in.

(Pause)

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Your instructions are complete and there is no one currently in the queue.

CHAIR AHMAD: Great. Thank you, Katy.

With that, we have covered all of our agenda items. Are there any items that I had missed inadvertently or if folks haven't had a chance to bring up that are on the agenda?

Yes, Commissioner Yee?

VICE CHAIR YEE: Not on the agenda, but thank you to Commissioner Ahmad for a magnificent job sharing and for leaving things in such good order for my first chance to
Chair.

CHAIR AHMAD: This was definitely my surprise retirement party.

Commissioner Yee, you are going to make the process all that more better as we move along with this Commission. So I'm excited to hand the baton off to you.

And with that, this meeting is adjourned.

(Whereupon, Citizen's Redistricting Commissions Public Meeting adjourned at 6:54 p.m.)
CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIBER

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

_______________________
JENNIFER BARTON

August 2, 2022
DATE