STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION (CRC)

In the matter of:
CRC BUSINESS MEETING

FRIDAY, JUNE 25, 2021
9:00 a.m.

Transcription by:
escribers, LLC
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Jane Andersen, Commissioner
Alicia Fernandez, Commissioner
Neal Fornaciari, Commissioner
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Antonio Le Mons, Commissioner
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Also Present

Public Comment:
Dan Ichinose, Orange County Civic Engagement Table
(OCCET)
Renee Westa-Lusk
John Mendoza
Jacqueline Coto, NALEO Educational Fund
Unidentified Caller
Jenna
John Mendoza
Renee Westa-Lusk
Ayana Best
Rosalind Gold
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June 25, 2021

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Good morning, California. Welcome to Friday, June 25th, our meeting of the California Citizens Redistricting Commission and our business meeting. I'm glad to see everybody back.

What I want to do is -- shall we take roll?

MR. SINGH: Yes, Vice-Chair.

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 LE MONS: Here.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Sadhwani?

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Here.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Sinay?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: My apologies. Here.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Taylor?

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Present.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Toledo?
COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Here.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Turner?
Commissioner Vazquez?

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Here.

MR. SINGH: Thank you. Commissioner Yee?
Commissioner Ahmad?

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Here.

MR. SINGH: And Commissioner Akutagawa?

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Here. All right.

Thank you, everyone. And I just want to just say that I will be chairing the meeting for at least through break. At 11, Vice Chair Linda Akutagawa. I apologize. I rushed earlier, because I thought my dog was about to bark. So just wanted to get onto mute.

So I do want to -- before we go to public comment, I just want to just thank and acknowledge the staff for all of the work that they've been doing over the last several public input meetings that we've had. And I know that it -- it's -- they make it look very easy, but I know that there's a lot of work that goes into it. So I just wanted to personally give my thanks to them.

Shall we -- let's see, why don't we just go to public comment?

And Katy, I think you will be reading off the instructions.
PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair.

Good morning. In order to maximize transparency and public participation in our process, the Commissioners will be taking public comment by phone too.

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 92476505888 for this meeting. When prompted to enter a participant ID, simply press the pound key.

Once you have dialed in, you'll be placed in a queue. To indicate you wish to comment, please press star 9. This will raise your hand for the moderator. When it is your turn to speak, you will hear 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 are waiting 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 I would like to remind those that have called in to please press
star 9 to raise your hand, indicating you wish to com ment. Please press star 9.

We do have one hand raised. There we go.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Great.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Go ahead. The floor is yours.

MR. LARSON: Thanks so much. My name is Dan Ichinose, last name is spelled I-C-H-I-N-O-S-E. I'm with the Orange County Civic Engagement Table or OCCET, O-C-C-E-T. We're mobilizing stakeholders in Orange County to engage in both statewide and local redistricting processes. And we had a question regarding our engagement in the public hearings that are coming up.

As a coalition, you know, we're organizing to educate folks about the redistricting process, collect and articulate communities of interest, and -- and eventually submit mapping proposals. But as a coalition -- but we are organizing around communities of interests, and we're wondering if we might be able to present as a coalition during one of Orange County's public hearings.

Rather than kind of have folks call in separately, we were hoping to maybe reserve a block of time for our coalition. So I don't know if that's something that the Commission would entertain. And I wanted to just see
what your thoughts might be.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

And I'd like to remind those who have called in to please press star 9 to raise your hand, indicating you wish to comment. Please press star 9 to raise your hand, indicating you wish to comment.

We do have a raised hand at this time. We have two raised hands.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Great. Let's hear from the next person.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes. If caller 2829 would follow the prompts that Zoom is giving them. That's caller with the last four 2829, if you could follow the prompt that Zoom is giving you to press star 6. There you go. Caller 2829, go ahead, the floor is yours.

MS. WESTA-LUSK: Yeah, this is Renee Westa-Lusk, and I was wondering, what happened to the very first instructional video that -- for -- that was played during the June 10th statewide meeting, because that video was better than the current one that I saw played at later meetings? But I'm talking about the public input hearings. Because it had better drawing tool instructions.

The other video just skips over the drawing tools,
and I think a lot of people are stumbled by those drawing tools. I didn't understand how to use them until that -- I watched that first instructional video on June 10th many times, and then it -- I understood it really well. I -- so I'm asking, could you put that other vid -- original video back on the website so people could look at that too, besides the current instructional video to use the COI tool?

And then I'm -- I'm asking that they keep those third input public meetings, because I understand that those might be reassigned or something? But I think you're going to need those. And then the handout for today --

MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

MS. WESTA-LUCK: -- that's Outreach Strategies for Phase II and Phase III, there's two page 2s, so there needs to be some renumbering of that handout. Thank you.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

And up next, we have caller 1926.

Go ahead. The floor is yours.

MR. MENDOZA: Yes. My name is John Mendoza. I live out here in the 31st Congressional district, the 20th Senate district, and the 52nd Assembly district. And as you well know, we're facing one of the most extreme droughts in several decades right now. And there's going
to be a lot of policy changes as Democratic, Republicans, Liberal, Conservative, you know, also try to deal with a lot of the crises that we face right now.

Anyway my -- my public comment is that, over the last ten years, when we had this redistricting, frankly, what has really happened is that for a lot of areas, it's just become an exercise of going to the vote and electing the same people because the fields have been cleared.

And challengers, through some of these Congressional seats, Federal, Legislative, and the State, you know, everything's kind of, like, settled down, and it's no use, you know?

I mean, there -- it's just like -- I'd never run for no opposite, but it's a matter of now, I just, like, you know, just vote for whatever. And I'm not trying to say that we're not getting anything done, you know, or anything. We're getting a lot of good out of this -- out of these things, you know. But the democratic process sometimes is undermined where people, like, on the lower level or the local level are forced to make -- forced to make decisions.

You know who I -- which side do I take? You know, there's that --

MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

MR. MENDOZA: -- blah, blah, blah. And so I just
hope the redistricting process takes a lot of this into consideration. Thank you very much.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

And up next, we have Caller 7912.

Go ahead, the floor is yours.

MS. COTO: Hi. Good morning, and happy Friday, Commissioners. This is Jacqueline Coto, the director of Civic Engagement Policy with NALEO Educational Fund. And I'm calling to uplift a couple of items that I have already flagged to your staff related to the appointment system to testify at a COI input hearing. And this is feedback coming directly from our community members that are attending our workshops, who have started to use your scheduling system. And they are expressing some confusion with the automated -- automated email that is generated after the Google Document is sent out to sign up and -- and is submitted.

The email has no text at all that communicates that the appointment slot that they -- that the member has selected was -- is actually confirmed. So we were wondering and recommending if it's possible to add some simple language where it clearly -- communicates that the email is an actual confirmation of their appointment and that the copy of the Google in the body is in -- is the email of their submission and not another form that they
need to fill out.

And then the other feedback is related to the email that's received the day before the hearing. In addition to the details provided to access the meeting, the community members actually are -- are looking for the time slot that they signed up --

MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

MS. COTO: -- in the body of that email. So we're recommending if you can include the appointment slot the -- the individual signed up for to facilitate the system easier for folks to testify, as they are learning the process --

MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

MS. COTO: -- to engage in your community input hearings. So thank you for taking the suggestions and -- and for the work that you do. And we hope that these are -- are able to -- these changes are able to be made. Thanks a lot.

MR. MANOFF: Two minutes.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

And I would like to remind those that have just called in to please press star 9 to raise your hand, indicating you wish to comment. Please press star 9 to raise your hand, indicating you wish to comment. And Chair, at this time, we do not -- oh, that was
the one I was waiting for. We do have one more raised hand. Thank you.

And go ahead, the floor is yours.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Hi. Thank you. Good morning. I'm a resident of Sunnyvale, part of California's 17th Congressional district, and I work in a Silicon Valley tech company.

It would be great to see an Asian-American representative for Silicon Valley's Congressional district 18, which is the neighboring district where I work. The Asian-American community has been contributing to the growth of Silicon Valley's economy, and we're keenly interested to continuing to grow it to benefit the American people.

Our community has been engaged in empowering the tech sector with our hard work and technical skills. However, our say in the politics of the CA18 district has been limited. Representation is a key factor for a diverse and successful society. It makes everyone feel integrated. So having someone from my community represent the Congressional 18th district can help upward mobility of our community by providing us access to key services, such as education, health care, and more.

Asian-Americans are the largest minority community of the Congressional district 18. But this district has
never had a minority Congressional representative.

Keeping communities of interest together is an important principle in redistricting.

Can the Redistricting Commission please ensure that more Asian-Americans have the chance to be elected to Congress? My recommendation is that you include the Cities of Sunnyvale, Cupertino, and Santa Clara into Congressional district 18, which will group --

MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: -- more Asian communities into district 18. Thank you for listening to my suggestion.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

And with that, Chair, that is all of our public comment at this time.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you very much, Katy.

And thank you to all who called in and gave public comment.

And for Ms. Westa-Lusk, who asked about the video, we will go ahead and check into that.

Okay. Let's go ahead, and we'll move on to the next item on our agenda. What we've done is to make things easier, we have grouped all of the reports from our directors.
So let's start with the Executive Director's report.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Chair Akutagawa.

And good morning, Commissioners. I will be sharing some information with you this morning about our staff and personnel. We are continuing to bring on board additional folks to help with our efforts.

I'll start first, we have made a recommendation to our Finance and Administration -- Administrative Subcommittee -- Finance and Administration Subcommittee with a candidate for our Northern Field Lead. So that'll be coming forward later today.

We are also submitted a couple of names for data -- our Data Management Team. We are bringing on board a data analyst. And that individual, we -- will be -- that candidate will be mentioned by the Finance and Administration Committee as well.

We are working on finalizing the candidate for the data management piece -- the data manager. And we'll probably be providing that information to the Finance and Administration Subcommittee for the next meeting next week.

So those are the -- the hirings that we've done for the Data Management Team. We also are bringing on board a student assistant and a couple of other individuals to
help with other tasks in organizing public input and
getting things in order to make sure that we're ready for
the Data Management Team.

Moving on to the Protocols and Commission
Communication. Our travel policy, I'd mentioned last
week that we are working on it. We are still working on
it. What we're trying to do is put information that the
Commissioners will need once we begin travel. So we're
trying to streamline that information. There is a lot of
information out there on the CalHR website.

Some of it is applicable to the Commissioners in
their travel efforts, some of it is not. So we're trying
to make it as easy as possible to provide the information
that you'll need. And the Finance and Administration
Subcommittee will be providing some more details on the
various scenarios for travel that we'll discuss at that
later date.

I also want to mention that I -- we posted the
schedule for future COI input meetings. So one of the
tasks that we were given to put together the times for
those that have been scheduled beyond July 12th. And so
if -- if you haven't had a chance, it is posted on our
website.

What I have done -- what we have done, I should say,
is look to make sure that each one of the zones at least
has one date that -- or one time frame that is in the
evening. So for example, 12 to 8 being the latest time
frame that we have. So you'll see that the different
times are posted there.

We took into consideration whether we had a meeting
the day before, how close to the previous COI input
meeting was had. So we took a lot of different factors
into consideration in putting the times for the following
meetings.

This is not to say that this is set in stone because
my plan is that in August, we will be doing a hybrid of
in-person and virtual meetings. And at that point, we
may have to adjust our schedule, the public input
meetings, given the location, you know, trying to find
venues and the time available for those venues.

So I just want to make sure that you recognize and
are aware that there may be some slight changes come
August. But for the most part, these are the times that
we are setting forward for the future COI input meetings.
And future being beyond July 12th. And I do apologize
for not having -- well for not having these up a lot
sooner for you to take a look at. But if you have any
questions, I'll entertain any questions at this point.
Okay. Seeing none, I'll go ahead and move on. We have
also -- staff has been working on a budget to present to
the Commission to show, you know, our expenditures and
things of that nature. We're still working on that.
We're fine-tuning it.

Hopefully, we'll have that to you at the next
meeting next week. We've also -- we'll be discussing
later on today information about our Phase II and Phase
III outreach planning. And this is in -- as a result of
not moving forward with the outreach contracts, or
grants, as we were previously calling them.

Staff was asked to put together a plan, so we'll be
discussing that later today. I just wanted to uplift
that to you. And that concludes my report.

Any questions?

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Looks like
Commissioner Sadhwani has a question for you.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah. Sorry, I was just
looking quickly at the timings that you had mentioned.
So it looks -- I'm just wrapping my head around this. So
these are the timings until June 12th.

And I'm assuming then it's -- is it too late? Are
we too close to these dates to change any of the times,
based on the fourteen-day Bagley-Keene need?

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: So to -- to clarify, this is
beyond the July 12th. This goes through August and into
September. And you'll see the different meetings. And
the way I -- I organized this to make sure that each of
the zones was covered, they're organized by zone.

So these are the time frames for the zone meetings.
And so that -- that is where you'll see across a zone
when the meetings will be held. In the latter part of
August, we may have some additional changes because of
the venues. So that's where we would be looking to
possibly adjust, if necessary.

For July, they pretty much are going to be static,
because we're still in the virtual world through the
month of July.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: And when you said it's on
the website, is that a document, or -- I'm -- because I'm
looking at upcoming meetings, and I don't see times after
July.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: I apologize. That is a
handout --

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: It's a handout.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: -- for today's meeting.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Okay, sorry. Got it. Got
it.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: And so I wanted to present it
before I actually started posting them onto the web.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Gotcha. Okay. I just need
a minute to find that then. I mean, in general, I do
have a concern that our input meetings are just very
long, and I would very much advocate for shortening that
time period.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Thank you. And I have been --
VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. I also --
DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Oh, I'm sorry.
VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Oh, go ahead. Go ahead. Go
ahead.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: I was going to indicate that
there will be additional discussion later on today as
part of the Public Input Design Meeting Committee as to
how we're moving forward, given our last four meetings --
or our first four meetings, I should say, not last four
meetings -- our first four meetings and how they're going
and then also what we've heard from the community. So
with that, I will defer to them for further discussion on
that topic.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: And I saw Commissioner Sinay
with her hand up.

Would you like to comment now, or would you want to
reserve it till later? Okay. Thank you.

All right. I'm not seeing any additional hands.

I do want to also thank you, Director Hernandez, for
the different format in which this handout was created.
It does make it easy to see across each of the zones,
what days, what times are going to be available in an
easy enough way.

All right. So let's go ahead. Let's move on to the
next agenda or director report, which is Communications
Director report.

Director Ceja?

DIRECTOR CEJA: Thank you so much, Chair.

Hi, Commissioners.

I couldn't get my mouse to work. Thank you so much.

So wanted to start off by going over some analytics. I
did post the social media analytics for this week.

Thank you, Ceci, for getting those to me.

I'll just go through them briefly. Not much has
changed since the last meeting we had, because it was
last week, but going over Facebook, we have a total of
891 likes; Instagram, we have 147 followers; Twitter, we
have 1,501, which is really good. Ideally, we'd want all
our channels to look that way, so we'll work to that.

On LinkedIn, we have 196 followers, and then on
YouTube we have 53 subscribers. And of course, with all
our messaging, we continue to ask folks to follow us, to
like us, and to subscribe to our stations, so that we can
grow our audience.

Also wanted to share analytics for the website. I
still have not figured out how to connect Google
Analytics to our website so you can actually see what pages and what buttons people are hitting. But we'll give you an overall picture. As of last week, we've had 251 clicks onto our website, which is actual visits to our website. Total impressions, that's how many times people have seen our -- our link or our website on the web, that's 4,024, which is really good.

And people are still looking us up as wedrawthelines. That's the majority of the way folks are finding us. And folks are accessing our website pretty much 50/50 via their computer and via their phones. So people are finding multiple ways to reach us in that sense.

As far as short videos, I did put together language for three short videos. I know that during some of the dead silence at our COI input meetings, it was suggested that we have short videos pretty similar to the ones that the Statewide Database has put together. So we have three of those in the making. The scripts are over with the Outreach and Engagement Subcommittee, so we'll get those going soon, and hopefully, by next week I'll have those done. They're going to be animated.

As far as interviews for this past week, we spoke to KSRO, Voice of Orange County, The Community Voice, Capital Weekly, KCBX, Central Coast Public Radio, KUCI,
and KQMS Radio. We'll start -- continue pitching to our media partners, so that we can get more stories in the coming week.

And I'm also working on the website updates. I have still three to four pages from the Website Subcommittee on changes and updates, so I'm working on that. Have done a few, but you'll start seeing the website change a little as we move along. We've had some suggestions on how best to make it accessible to folks and are also working on actually putting the certification for ADA compliance on our website. So we'll be doing that this next coming week.

And I think that's all I have for my report. I'll take questions. Concerns.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. It looks like Direct -- Commissioner Andersen has a question for you.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah, it's just the -- about getting, you know, on the website, if you go to the meetings and you have a live meeting, then it'll say it's not secure. And I'm getting that from several people. And some -- depending on how you're set up, it'll let you look at it anyway. But on several people, they can't -- that's it. They cannot look further.

Have you had a chance to look into that or?

DIRECTOR CEJA: Yes. Thank you, Commissioner. So
when I first touched base with NationBuilder, they told 
me that, depending on what device you're on, if you do 
not include a W-W-W, you will often get that error 
message. But I know you gave me additional insight, so 
I'll look into that and give you a definitive answer in 
the next few days.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Actually, Director Ceja, I'm 
getting something similar to what Mr. Andersen is 
referring to, but it usually happens after I leave the 
browser open for a period of time, and then I come back, 
and it said, this is an unsecure website or something 
along those lines. And I just refresh.

DIRECTOR CEJA: Okay.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. That's not what -- 
what I'm hearing. It's you're brand new, go to the 
website -- you're on the website, and then from the 
website you try to go into the live meeting, and you 
can't. Then you get then non -- it's from -- so it's 
within -- it's within the website. So that's where -- 
yeah. It's just -- it's -- it's an odd thing. I -- but 
I'm hearing it for several -- from a few different people 
now.

DIRECTOR CEJA: Okay.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thanks for looking into it.
VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Great. Thanks for letting us know, Commissioner Andersen.

And I am not seen any additional hands.

All right. Thank you, Director Ceja.

Let's go on to our Outreach Director, Director Kaplan.

MS. MARX: Director Kaplan is enjoying a few much-needed days off. So I'll be giving the -- her report since her --

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: What? You mean you let her on vacation?

MS. MARX: Well, I'll be giving that report today instead on her behalf.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay, thank you.

MS. MARX: So it's been a really exciting week for our Outreach Team. Well, we're more fully staffed now, so this is allowing our field leads to focus more on developing connections and engagement in their assigned areas.

And then Marcy and I have been able to engage further with our statewide sections. We've had really great teamwork with the field leads, and they're helping each other across zones to make sure that we're getting in front of the upcoming zone focus meetings as much as we can. And I'll tell you a little bit more about what
we've been doing as this Phase II is off and running.

But before that, we've also collected some of the Phase I data on all of the Commission's outreach efforts during the educational phase, and that's being put together in an easily-digestible way, and we anticipate sharing that with you soon.

But just a few highlights in the meantime. We've had -- we will have had by the end of July, 182 redistricting basics presentations. Those have been all conducted. Mostly that all happened because of all of your -- all of you through your hard work. So these happened in every outreach zone and in thirty-four out of our fifty-eight counties.

Attendance at meetings these last two months for the business meetings, the COI input meetings, everything, it's been up 72 percent since the fall, with an average of 268 people viewing Commission, Business Committee, and the public input meetings online. So at least seven of the presentations that happened were actually conducted in Spanish or interpreted into Spanish. And language has just been a piece of the broad access and belonging focus that went into Phase I and is continuing into Phase II. So we look forward to sharing more about the strong phase one effort in the coming week.

In the past two weeks, our Outreach Team has
connected all of those 182 groups who hosted presentations and many, many other local and statewide organizations, including contacts which the Commissioners provided to staff. We -- just last week we had more than 500 contacts in just the two days that led up to last Saturday's and Monday's meetings. So really a -- a lot of contact happening.

And you can see that in our actual public input submission data. So in total, we have received 477 public input. This is through the online form or in the meetings. And just through last Wednesday, 141 of those were just from the past week. So you can see that things are ramping up, and we're getting more -- more responses and more input.

As far as our last three public input meetings, on the 19th, it was a statewide meeting. We had thirty-one people provide public input. On Monday, the 21st, the meeting was focused on El Dorado, Nevada, Placer, Sacramento, Sierra, Sutter, Yolo, and Yuba Counties. And we had thirty-one members of the public providing input. And then just yesterday on the 24th, we were focused on southern California counties of Riverside and San Bernardino. We had a busy meeting with thirty-nine members of the public speaking.

So executing these meetings, as Commissioner
Akutagawa mentioned earlier, it's -- it is a lot of work, and it's specifically a collaboration between staff, line drawers, our videographers and all of you and the -- as the meeting moderators. And these different teams have just been working together so well that we do feel the meetings have been smooth and successful. And we're -- we're happy with that.

Besides that, one of the other things that's happening that might be invisible to all of you is that, besides the line drawing team that is capturing the input during the meetings, our outreach field leads have also been taking notes. And they'll be meeting with the line drawers to review notes and fine-tune information that will get added to the database when that's ready.

So that -- that is happening. I -- going forward after today, the outreach team will keep providing the Commissioners with these weekly COI submission number updates. And if you would like to add the total or the weekly numbers to public input meeting scripts, we could do that in the opening remarks.

Then just to -- to close out, what we're hearing from many of the organizations that we've connected with over this past week is that they are gearing up for the zone-specific COI meetings. And they, especially from the larger organizations, that they are conducting their
own educational efforts, their own COI Tool training
efforts, and that they anticipate many more public input
submissions as we approach mid-July.

That's it. If there are any questions, I will do my
best.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Great. Thank you, Ms. Marx.
Okay, any questions? Any comments from the
Commissioners?

Commissioner Andersen?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: First of all, I'm glad that
that Director -- that, let's see -- Kaplan is getting a
vacation. She deserves it.

And thank you very much. This is really -- all the
input has been wonderful. All your work is really
appreciated. It's -- and it shows. Thank you.

I have one question about if you could, when
you're -- are meeting with the groups, and they're doing
this wonderful outreach education, could you make sure
that as they're collecting, they're doing the Communities
of Interest, that they also ask their -- you know,
their -- the members of their cons -- groups to make sure
that they submit those con -- those COIs to us?

Because I know a lot -- I -- I've heard of a couple
of different people have been gathering it for their own
maps, but we need the basics as well. We need, like, the
individual components. Please, submit them to us. If
you'd just please additionally bring that up. We
appreciate all the work and thank you very much.

MS. MARX: Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you,

Commissioner Andersen.

Any other comments?

Commissioner Sadhwani? Okay.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Just really quickly, do we
have a sense of how many folks are registered for
tomorrow's L.A. meeting?

MS. MARX: All right. Let me see if I can grab
that. Let me see if that's been forward it. Hold on a
second.

And if anybody else on -- has that, feel free to
chime in.

Yes. We have twenty-three people that are
registered for tomorrow at this time.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Out of how many slots?

MS. MARX: Well, that takes more math on my part, so
I'm --

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. That's okay.

MS. MARX: Sorry about that.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. No problem. Just
wanted to ask.
MS. MARX: I -- I do think we're going into it with more slots filled than the last meeting. We've had a lot of people calling in that has brought those numbers up, so we are going into it with more slots.


Commissioner Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Actually, there were twenty-eight signed up for yesterday.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Hm.

MS. MARX: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay.

And is the registration closed now? I believe that it must be closed, I think.

MS. MARX: Yes, it was closed yesterday at -- by 5.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay.

All right. Let's see. Okay. Commissioner Le Mons?

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Since we are meeting today, is it possible, and there may be people tuning in, is it still -- is there a barrier to people being able to fill slots that are still available, even though registration officially closed yesterday?

MS. MARX: It's part of the -- the organization that happens with the videographer team and the line drawers making sure that they have the time to look at which areas people are planning to bring up and all of that.
So that's part of why things are being closed in advance of the meetings.

And then the call-ins are taken, and people are able to join in in that way as much as possible. But it's just that they've got a flow process of all of the different parts of the teams being able to get the information and do what they need with it in advance.

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you for that.

Commissioner Sadhwani?

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Is it possible for us as Commissioners to get that registration information also? I don't necessarily need people's names or anything, but it's just really difficult for me. I'm taking my own notes also, but just having it in front of me would be really helpful. I know Alvaro sent out, like, the numbers in advance, which was great. But certainly having that data available -- actually just hearing people's input isn't super helpful for me. I kind of need to have it -- something in writing.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Are you -- Commissioner Sadhwani, just for clarification, when you ask for a list, are you -- if you don't need the names, are you looking for just whether it's numbers or like, some
kind -- I mean, what would help?

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah, at minimum numbers, if we can get -- if people have give -- provided their names, I would use that too. And for example, I'm taking notes myself, since we don't have access to any notes yet.

And what I've learned is that I'm spelling everyone's names wrong, or you kind of miss it when they say their name. So you know, just having access to that would be really helpful. Yeah.

And then I do think also, it would be helpful to clarify the speaker numbers. I think that there was, for example, last time, there was a duplicate, and then we continued the counting. And so I'm -- in my own notes, I'm not sure how that's going to pan out with the other, you know, other notes that are being taken or when the data management team is on board or the line drawers. I, you know, I -- I don't know how we're going to capture all of those kinds of things.

MS. MARX: Okay. We can definitely take that back and look into that. And -- and I just -- the list that I received has the unique I.D. numbers and email addresses. So we'll have to see what -- what is possible to share and what formats that information comes back.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Thank you.
MS. MARX: And then I saw Commissioner Fernandez just shared that there were sixty-four slots available and twenty-three were filled. And we have increased the number of slots since the very first couple of meetings because we shortened the period of time in which we were expecting the transition to happen and are still reflecting on how much time people have actually been taking.

The average time has not actually been the full three minutes. Some people are much shorter and some people (audio interference).

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Thank you for that. I did see Commissioner Ahmad have her hand up. Okay. Pass. All right.

Okay. Ms. Marx, I do have a couple questions for you. One is, you know, the information that you're sharing during these sessions are very helpful. I think perhaps along the lines of what Commissioner Sadhwani is saying, it would be helpful if, even if it were, like, a single PowerPoint slide that just outlined what you'll be covering, it would be easier to follow along.

I think, visually, it just is better for me as a Commissioner to be able to process it and follow along with what you're saying. And I'm seeing some nodding heads, so I think there's some others that also agree.
It doesn't have to be fancy. You could just even have the titles of what you're going to talk about and give us the numbers. But it just helps us to, I think, focus a little bit more easily. If that's something that you could do, I think that would be helpful.

MS. MARX: I'll share that was Director Kaplan, and I would imagine, as we're getting more fully staffed, something like that would be more possible.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you. Thank you.

Commissioner Le Mons?

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: While the official registration for tomorrow's meeting is closed, based on the data that Commissioner Fernandez just shared, does this trigger any specific outreach efforts, whether it be social media or other types of ways of getting the word out? So while individuals aren't able to reserve slots, they are able to -- it seems like we need a push, at thirty-six percent of filled slots in a county because L.A. -- yeah, I don't think I need to say more on that.

MS. MARX: So it -- it -- there are ongoing efforts. There is an email blast that's going out that highlights the availability. Over the last week or week and a half, some of that messaging has changed to make it even more clear that people can continue to call in, even if they did not register. So I think that our language has
gotten better with that. And again, having some of these early meetings be on the smaller and is -- is consistent one hundred percent with what we saw in 2010 where the meetings just got bigger and bigger as efforts were ramping up.

So it's not unexpected, and I don't -- I don't think it's an indication of -- of people not paying attention. I think it's just, like, we've been hearing back. We put -- push out some of these things and remind them a day before, and the social media blasts are happening, and we're actually hearing back. So thank you so much for this. You'll -- you're going to hear us in a few more weeks. So we are getting some of that feedback.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: And Commissioner Le Mons, just for clarification, I believe my understanding is the Outreach and Engagement Committee is going to speak a little bit more on this.

So Commissioners Sinay, I -- I just want to get a verification from you.

Am I putting words into your mouth? My understanding is that you're going to give us a further update on outreach efforts?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: There will be the rolling out of the plan for Phase II and III, but a lot of the questions being asked are not necessarily dealt in that.
And we do need to have a con -- this is an important conversation that needs to happen. And I think the best place for it is under the Public Input Design Committee Agenda item, which is chaired by Commissioner Fornaciari and Commissioner Ahmad.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Great. I just wanted to make sure that we are not going off topic. And so before we did that, I wanted to check with you. Okay.

Commissioner Le Mons?

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: So I just was wondering, like, I don't know if we have a tick. I've not looked at the live feed itself, so I don't know what it looks like, but I know we -- there have been some talk about, like a ticker tape that runs along.

Do we have something like that currently? If so well, first of all, do we? No? Yeah?

MS. MARX: We -- when I -- I looked yesterday at some of the livestream, while we had one of the videos playing, and it did continue to show the call-in number at the bottom of that screen, if that's what you're talking about. So that if somebody was seeing the video, it would say, please call in, and get in the queue. And that's what I saw during yesterday's meeting.

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: So what I was going to say, and only because I know -- I know we're going to talk
about this more in depth later in the meeting today. But I also realize we have an audience right now -- or at least I think we have an audience -- because we're having our meeting.

And maybe if we had a streamer going along the bottom of our meeting today that's saying COI input meeting tomorrow, whatever the time is, L.A. County, is just sort of reinforcing the message consistently, at least while we're live. And maybe that's something that could be folded into some of the future opportunities.

But I'm just -- since tomorrow is only X number of hours away, I was just wondering if there any ways that we could leverage whatever platform opportunities we have either vis-a-vis this meeting, maybe we can announce it when we come back from breaks and things like that, just to sort of be promoting it more. So anyway, I'll stop, and I won't beat that horse any further.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you, Commissioner Le Mons.

Any other comments, questions?

All right. Thank you.

Seeing none, we'll go ahead.

Thank you, Ms. Marx.

We'll go ahead, and we'll move on to Chief Counsel's reports with Chief Counsel Pane.
MR. PANE: Thank you, Chair.

Good morning, Commissioners. For a brief legal hiring status update, the Legal Affairs Division is hoping to add two retired annuitant attorneys to the legal division ranks. And we'll be deferring more to the Admin and Finance Subcommittee for this later, but I wanted to give a brief summary. One of the potential hires is a thirty-seven-year attorney; has a long history as an attorney with the State of California. He's worked at various departments and boards and Commissions, addressed various department of general -- legal -- Department of General Services legal contracts. He has a tax background, and he will be addressing -- hopefully, upon hire, be addressing contracts and other legal issues that arise.

The second potential hire is a previous fourteen-year Superior Court judge in California, previous administrative law judge, and Deputy Attorney General; and he will be addressing conflicts of interest and other legal issues that may arise. Again, we'll -- we can defer more to as an action item for the subcommittee regarding those hires.

Separately, I just wanted to note for Commissioners, I will follow up with all of you about the Business Roundtable communication that was posted for today's
handout so I can get your response to that.

And also, I want to thank Marian. She's continuing
to do the Legislative updates for all of you, and we'll
continue to send them on Mondays, as well as any time
there's a new development.

And with that, if any of you have any questions?

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yes. Thank you. I'm trying
to pull up the bill numbers right now. I am interested
in continuing to track the Legislative efforts on
Commissions and Boards and digital access for not just
the public, but also members of those commissioners and
boards. And so there were two bills. I can send those
to you afterwards, but AB-339 is one of them.

Current -- my understanding is that the current
bills in play focused mostly on community digital access,
which I think is great. But I have not heard anything
related to shifting access -- digital access for members
of those boards. So my understanding is that once the
public health orders have been lifted, that members of
those Commissions and boards will have to revert back to,
you know, existing rules around digital access, which
would require us to be publicizing our -- publicizing and
make accessible our locations.

And that's obviously, an issue for at least one of
us, but maybe potentially more. So just wanted to
track -- have us actively track those Legislative issues,
because it impacts our Commission's ability to do its
work.

MR. PANE: Noted. Thank you. It looks like Marian
wants to chime in on that as well.

MS. JOHNSTON: On AB-339, the coverage for state
agencies was eliminated from the bill, so it only applies
to local agencies.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yes.

MS. JOHNSTON: On the other -- there are rumors that
there may be Legislation dealing with that situation.
But I've got a -- I don't know what you call it, an
update that comes to me regularly, and so far there are
no bills that have been introduced on that, but we're
hopeful.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Got it. Yeah, the other one
that I was tracking is AB-361 (Rivas).

MS. JOHNSTON: I'm sorry. AB?

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: 361.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: 361. And that one's only
Brown Act. And I believe that's also mostly related to
community access.

MS. JOHNSTON: Right.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: And again, not --
MS. JOHNSTON: It's only local governments, not State governments.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Right. And again, that's still community access and not board -- members of those governing boards or Commissions.

MS. JOHNSTON: That's correct.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Got it.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you. Yep,. another one? Okay.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Sorry. Additional legal question. I mean, what would -- is there a legal avenue for the Commission to pursue a Legislative fix? An amendment to Bagley-Keene.

MS. JOHNSTON: I don't know whether --

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: I mean, granted -- setting aside capacity, given everything else that we're doing legally --

MS. JOHNSTON: I think that --

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: -- is that something that we could do?

MS. JOHNSTON: It would be possible, but if there's a bill that applies to all state agencies, it probably would have greater chance of success.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Understood. But I'm, like, I guess, in terms of, like, taking a position and maybe
sort of more actively trying to build a coalition too, so that we again, also wouldn't have to lead that effort, but we could sort of try to identify other boards and Commissions who would be interested in maybe leading that effort, and then we could sort of take a step back. B

But I'm just curious, again, legally, if that would be possible because I think I would be interested, again, in helping to think through what that might look like.

MS. JOHNSTON: As soon as I hear about any bill that's been introduced, we can certainly present to the Commission so that the Commission can take a position on it.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Sadhwani, I see that you had your hand up, too.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah, I was just like, I hear you, Commissioner Vazquez, and certainly also understand, like, the very real impact of this for you, in particular, as well as for many of us as well.

My sense is, like, as Marian said, if other -- if there is a bill introduced, we should absolutely support it. And after our maps are done, I think that might be a really valuable thing for us to dedicate some time to.

But in the meantime, you know, the governor's office has been very responsive in the letter that we sent, in the request to maintain the executive orders. My sense
is perhaps we could just ask for more additional relief for our Commission, because our process is ongoing, because we have this time line right now, and then maybe think about being a part of a larger coalition, as you mentioned, in the future.

We're on this Commission for ten years, so -- but our -- the bulk of our work, of course, around the maps is, of co -- is frontloaded now. So my sense is after that, we could certainly do more of that kind of advocacy.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commish -- okay. I see Commissioner Andersen.

And we'll come back to you, Commissioner Vazquez.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. I see this as -- it's a new idea, in that it's public access from -- and a disability issue also, not just from the public's perception, but from the board's, the actual board members' area. And it is about access for, you know, all Californians.

So I -- you know, I think this is an issue that certainly you're absolutely -- Commissioner Sadhwani's absolutely right. It's an ongoing thing right now. And it's -- the total access for so many more people is kind of being reviewed right now, because we're doing all this by Zoom, and how it's been quite successful at local
level certainly, but also at State levels.

So it is something where I think, you know, our letter for -- we're ongoing, we can't wait for, you know, let's change it later. I think, you know, the idea of possibly even exception for us, as we're continuing through this very short window here is something that, you know, we could, if we need to add, like, a supplemental to our letter, I think that would be a very good idea.

But again, legally, what -- how would that work?

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Vazquez?

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: And --

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. I see Marian.

MS. JOHNSTON: I just wanted to clarify that under current law, and it will continue, the Commission can continue to provide public access via Zoom to all members of the public.

That is permitted under Bagley-Keene. It's just that right now, under existing law, apart from the executive order, Commissioners have to be in a public location.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay.

Commissioner Vazquez?

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yes. And I think Marian somewhat made my point, is that I just don't want us to
be caught flat-footed when come September, and the
governor lifts those orders, yes, theoretically, we'll
have -- we'll continue to be able to have, you know,
digital access for community members. But again, my
particular situation is more complicated.

But I also, I think to Commissioner Sadhwani's
point, like, I do think there's a longer term, like,
access to being able to serve in government as a disabled
person, as a disabled, homebound person.

But just wanted to make sure that, like, the
Commission is not -- I would like to see the Commission
take a more active role in advance of the lifting of the
public health orders, so that when -- so you know,
honestly, come like September 30th or whenever the
tentative deadline is, that I am suddenly forced to make
a choice, because we weren't proactive in seeking relief
or an exception or alleged fix or what have you. So
just -- I really want us to think about what we can do,
so that we're not caught flat-footed.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Sinay?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I just wanted -- I support what
Commissioner Vazquez is saying. And I was just listening
to a podcast regarding kind of disabilities and people of
color.

And the truth of the matter is that one out of three
people who got COVID ended up -- has -- is now eligible to be on the long-term disability list. They don't know it yet. And there's a lot of outreach. But that's going to be millions of people that are now going to be joining disability. And the other piece to think through is that when you look at COVID and how it's affected our communities, it has been low-income and communities of colors that got COVID more so.

And so this is really an issue about pipeline, because we always talk about how do we diversify commissions? How do we diversify those who run for office? And so this is a much broader issue than just, we don't want to lose Commissioner Vazquez on this commission, because she's been affected. This is the big picture of civic participation and civic engagement in the United States.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you, Commissioner Sinay.

I think we're -- I'm hearing generally, in agreement that what you're saying, Commissioner Vazquez, is something that I think would be something that we'd be supportive of. I will also add in that I do remain concerned that, based on news that there could be a resurgence in some of the COVID cases, as much as, you know, there's concern for those who have gotten it, I
will say that it's better to avoid getting it.

And unfortunately, COVID is real, and we're operating in a different kind of environment than we were previously. And so I think --

If I can, Chief Counsel Pane, I don't know if this is something that you would be able to help us in, in terms of whether it's drafting a letter, or if it's something that we need to perhaps add into the purview of the Legal Affairs Commission -- Committee or the Government Affairs Committee to perhaps work with Chief Counsel Pane to come up with a position from the Commission on this issue.

MR. PANE: I'd be happy to work with the Government Affairs.

Is that -- Commissioner Sadhwani, is that how the previous correspondence went as well?

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes, that's correct.

MR. PANE: I am happy to do that.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: And I just want to say that Commissioner Fernandez just also reminded me that Government Affairs did send an initial letter to the governor, but I think -- I think to Commissioner Vazquez's point, we want to make sure that we're not caught flat-footed. And I think she does bring up some
really important points. And so we want to ensure not only accessibility to our Commissioners, but to anybody else who may want to continue to participate, whether it's now or in the future as well too.

So thank you, Commissioner Sadhwani. And I think that is also together with Commissioner Toledo and Chief Counsel Pane.

All right. Chief Counsel Pane, anything else that we need to know as -- since we were on you before we go to public comment?

MR. PANÉ: No thanks, Chair. That concludes my report.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay.

Director Hernandez, did you have something that you wanted to say? I thought maybe you -- I saw your hand go up. No? Okay. Very good. Thank you.

Katy, we are going to go to public comment on agenda item number 3, the Director Reports.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair.

The Commission will now take public comment on agenda item number 3, Director Reports. To give comment, please call (877) 853-5247, and enter the meeting ID number, 92476505888.

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
in full on the livestream landing page.

And I would like to remind those that have called in
previously to press star 9 to raise your hand, indicating
you wish to give comment at this time on agenda item
number 3.

And at this time, Chair, we do not have any raised
hands or -- in the queue.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. We'll just wait a
couple minutes for the instructions to finish and give
people a chance to call or hit the star 9 or star 6. I
always get confused.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Star 9. Please press
star 9 to raise your hand --

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: -- at this time.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yes.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We don't want to jump
ahead. Thank you. PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And I'd
like to remind those calling in to please press star 9 to
raise your hand, indicating you wish to give comment on
agenda item 3, Director's Reports.

And we do have a raised hand at this time. It is
Caller 6946. And again, this is for agenda item number
3, Director's Reports.
Now -- perfect. And the floor is yours.

JENNA: Hi. Yeah, my name is Jenna, and I was just wondering if for the data management -- or the database for the Commission, will those be made publicly available somehow? That's all I was wondering, if -- I believe it was under the Communications Director's Report, when they were saying that the -- compiling notes of the database, and I just want to know if those will be publicly available for us to see. Thanks.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And thank you so much. And I'd like to remind those calling in to please press star 9 to raise your hand, indicating you wish to comment on agenda item number 3, Director's Reports. And we do have one more caller at this time. It's Caller 2829.

And the floor is yours.

MS. WESTA-LUSK: Yes. This is Renee Westa-Lusk. I just have a question regarding the Outreach Director's Report.

How many things have been already implemented to -- for the Regional hearings? Are you implementing all the communication advertisement that was put in or outlined in the Outreach Strategies for Phase II and Phase III report that's in one of the handouts for today? I just wanted to know, are you utilizing all those
venues of advertisement for the Regional meetings?

That's my question. Thank you.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

And that is all our public comment at this time.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you very much.

All right. Seeing no one else, all right.

I just want to very briefly just address the two public comments around the reports that will be put into the database. That is being worked on. We will -- we're looking at trying to put some interim steps in. We're just looking at a lot of data to just try to organize, index so that it's easily found. But it will be -- the intent is to have it put up, both into an access -- a publicly-accessible database. And then, as an interim step, we're hoping to be able to also have it available on a page on the website as well too.

In terms of what was just asked about the implementation of the Phase II and III report.

Ms. Marx, correct me if I'm wrong, but I believe that this is just the proposal, and so not all of the items will have been implemented just yet.

MS. MARX: That's exactly right. So that has not been put into the -- some parts are happening, and others are not.
VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Great. Thank you very (audio interference).

MS. MARX: You're mute.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Sorry about that. I put myself on mute.

All right. Let's keep moving on. We have about twenty minutes before we hit our very first break. And with that, we will be going to subcommittee updates. And we'll start with agenda item 4A.

And that is Commissioners Sadhwani and Toledo.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Sorry, I didn't have the agenda up, so I didn't realize it was us.

Is Commissioner Toledo here today? No. I thought I saw him. Nothing -- no -- not too much to report, though I -- I did want to just bring to your attention. Alvaro and I had done a follow-up conversation with the -- a member of the San Diego Commission.

I had reported about that, the -- our outreach with them in the past. Previously, they were trying to get the Legislature to support a bill that would allow, just for their county, a carve-out to certify their maps later in January, I believe January 31st.

As a follow up, they -- they reached out to us to let us know that they have now changed that process, and they are looking for relief for a January 15th map
adaption date. So we had a good conversation about that. Of course, even if a carve-out is made for San Diego, that doesn't impact our time line necessarily, though some -- certainly something that we want to keep on our radar, as we continue to look at -- at our own time line as well.

I believe that's all that we had. But certainly we're happy to work with Chief Counsel Pane on the -- the letter regarding additional relief, and hopefully, a carve-out just for the CRC, at least for the rest of the year or beyond.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Great.

Any questions?

Okay, Commissioner Sinay?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: So I'm just going to ask the million-dollar question. When are we going to have the discussion of our time line, and when we're going to turn in our maps? Because I would say that's the number 1 question asked when we went out in the public.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: So we have agendized an initial conversation with Strumwasser-Woocher, and we can mention this also under -- under the Legal Affairs update. Where we left this conversation was that this is most certainly a legal matter, because ultimately, our mop -- map adoption date was altered by the California Supreme...
Court. And if we want to see a change in that, or if we want additional clarification in our understanding of what triggers that time frame set by the Court, that we would -- that we would need a legal avenue in which to do that.

So Strumwasser-Wooucher is -- we'll talk about this in Legal Affairs. But that -- that contract has been executed. They are coming on board June 30th to the Legal Affairs Committee. We have agendized at -- at least an initial discussion with them about this matter, at least at a minimum, to bring them up to speed and hopefully, to begin to get some understanding of a strategy that they might recommend.

They will also, on June 30th, be joining the full Commission to do a general introduction and just to talk briefly about potential litigation, right, and what we need to be aware of as it relates to litigation. So you know, we could certainly stress to them the importance of this issue at that time.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Thank you, Commissioner Sadhwani.

And any other questions before we move onto the next item under agenda item 4?

Okay. I have gotten a request for agenda item 4B. We are going to move that to after the break. So Finance
and Administration Report will be moved to after the break.

So we'll go to agenda item 4C, see the GANTT Chart Comm -- Subcommittee.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Nothing significant to report it this time.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you very much -- thank you, Commissioner Kennedy.

Okay. Let's go to agenda item 4D, VRA Compliance Subcommittee. And that is Commissioner Sadhwani and -- looks like Commissioner Yee is back.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Welcome back, Commissioner Yee.

Do you do want to take the lead on this one?

CHAIR YEE: Sure.

So just to say, as Commissioner Sadhwani just mentioned, we are looking forward to now finally being able to engage with our VRA Council as it comes on board, and we'll be starting our discussions on the 30th about how to proceed with the VRA work and start answering the questions that have been on our mind all this time. So that will start happening soon.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: And I'll just add on to that, that we have asked the team to prepare a short document, hopefully, which would lay out their proposed
VRA strategy that they would advise us to take over the next several months. And in addition, we have agendized for July 7th, a VRA training for the Commission.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Looking forward to that. Did you say July 7th?

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: That's correct.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Great. All right. So July 7th, a VRA training. So we will note that. Thank you very much. All right.

Any questions on the VRA compliance?

All right. We will go ahead and move on to agenda item 4E, Outreach and Engagement.

Commissioner Sinay and Fornaciari?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yeah. Hi. How are y'all doing today? So let's see, as was mentioned earlier, I believe, we're -- Commissioners Sinay and I are putting together a report that summarizing Phase I, the educational phase. It's really, you know, the idea is to look at the work that we did and you know, Commissioner education, zone outreach, and statewide outreach, you know, kind of capturing what we did, what the Lessons Learned are, and ensuring a smooth transition from, you know, kind of a Commissioner-driven outreach to staff-driven outreach.

So we've been working closely with the staff. I
think it's a good -- it's a good opportunity to reflect back on all the work that we all did and you know, capture that for the next Commission and also Lessons Learned, as I mentioned. So we should have that for you all at our next meeting to take a look at.

And then the -- the second thing that was brought up is this strategy approach for the Phase III -- Phase II of, you know, outreach and discussion about that document. And then -- so Phase II is public input and Phase III is line drawing.

And so you know, just to kind of reflect on the goals that we set forth, you know, it's -- it's an activation rate of -- our goal was to get 40,000 pieces of input through the process. And to ensure that we engage Californians, you know, throughout California, regard -- you know, geography. There's a whole list here of different areas of consideration. But to ensure that we engage in a number of different approaches and ways and then to ensure that it's, you know, accessible to all Californians, whether they have internet access or not.

And Commissioner Sinay, did I capture that? Okay. So at this point, we're going to turn it over to Director Hernandez and to talk about the Phase II/Phase III proposal.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: I think that --
DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Thank you. Ann was going to go ahead and do this part. I apologize. We changed it.

So Ann, if you're ready to go, it's all yours.

MS. MARX: Sure I am.

And Director Hernandez -- I am -- or sorry. Ceja -- Director Ceja, also, if you have anything to add in, feel free, either one of you.

But -- this the plan was put together with the background that we're not -- we were not able to do the grants or the statewide contracts that had been anticipated. And so staff was asked to put together a new plan. And that's kind of what we did together with the subcommittee. And we -- we designed this to assure that there would be multiple exposures to people around the state, because that's what -- that's what's really needed to get somebody to engage.

So that includes not just what the Commission will be pushing out, but also through the engagement that we've done with all of the -- and are doing with all of the community-based organizations that they -- they'll be making different exposures also. And so you have an overlapping of all of these exposures, and hopefully, people will -- you know, they might see at once on Facebook, they might see it once in an email they get from an organization they're part of, and then maybe they
hear it once on the radio ads, and that's the kind of overlaying that we're looking for.

As Commissioner Fornaciari said, we are continuing to target different sectors, and that is a key element, making sure that -- and different audiences that we're trying to do that. So the action toolkit that's mentioned is intended to be something very short, where there'll be different digital links and kind of a digital action toolkit that somebody can come on to say, you know, ways to provide public input and see things together in one place very easily, and we'll be working on that.

And then the COI Tool training, we've heard different -- we've heard different feedback about how that's important and pieces of that are already happening. But we'll be able to put something together with some of the short videos that Statewide Database is putting together to help people to understand the COI tool and then figuring out what other materials we can put together in one place and have some kind of a, maybe a smooth video and/or PowerPoint, some kind of a presentation, like what happened with the Redistricting Basics, that people would be able to access or utilize in their own presentation. So we'll be working on that.

And then, I know that the mention was made also
about making sure people have internet access and have access. And so that is something that just that that ability to get to the COI Tool. We've had some very positive engagement from the libraries already, so I'd anticipate they will continue to be a good partner on that.

With the interactive tech speaking campaign, that is something that we're excited about and hope will -- that will be able to be implemented. It will allow for -- it's two-way interactions. So while people would be receiving the texting, they also would be able to respond if they wanted to. And hopefully, looking at both a Southern and Northern California vendor.

In general with -- we're looking for expanded media outreach. And that would be focused on the August through December time frame, just because it will take some time to get that into place. So I'm hoping to have really strong presence by early August and looking at different kinds of -- different options there, including the public service announcements, the short digital videos that Directors Ceja mentioned earlier, and directly contracting with ethnic media, so that we can be working in language with as -- with some of the fourteen languages that we've been focused on, at least some of them, and be able to reach monolingual populations in
that way.

Radio, newspaper, and just, you know, trying to reach people where they're at. And I'm finding that there will -- in the newspaper ad, that would tend to be more of the local media, where some of those smaller newspapers still do gather large readership from their communities. The social media ads is something that is already being looked into. All of these things have been researched and are being looked into. So we're ready to move forward once we hear back, if you'd like us to go in this direction.

And with billboard ads, that's something that there's some excitement around as well. Expecting this to be a big summer travel season. Some people aren't flying yet, but they're driving, and there's a lot more travel, and last summer was so different for everyone.

On the budget end of things, this is an estimated budget. So there -- it will depend on what we're able to actually implement and put together, but it is an estimated budget. And these smaller procurement amounts that are really regionally-focused, will allow us to move faster on the procurement end of things. So that's part of what that is designed to do. And that's the high-level overview of that.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Sinay?
COMMISSIONER SINAY: I just wanted to add, on the budgets, what really -- we know that this has come to all of us, and with short notice, to be able to review it and act upon it. But the idea is that we will be approving all contracts. That's part of what we do as Commissioners.

And so what staff does need from us is an approval, if I'm correct, a motion and approval that these budget es -- that they can move forward on contracting with these budget estimates. And please correct me if I'm wrong on that.

MS. MARX: That sounds right to me.

Director Hernandez, anything else there?

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Sounds good to me.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: I -- okay.

Commissioner Kennedy?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair.

I'm just wondering why billboard and radio are broken out by outreach zone, but then newspaper ads, for example, aren't and maybe even why social media advertising isn't broken out by zone.

MS. MARX: Okay. So you were just looking at the -- the billboard radio zone and newspaper, not. I -- there is a piece of needing to keep certain things on the smaller end, but also focusing on where we think we'll
have the best spread and the best ability to actually implement. So I think that the way that some of the media advertisers, they do have access into different areas. So there might have been, through the research, and maybe if there is anything else --

Director Ceja, feel free to chime in.

But there would be some contracting that would go up in this -- the larger amounts. And then with the newspaper ads, as you get into some of those smaller local newspapers, the ads actually get much less expensive. So part of that is a reflection also of the costs of the different types of things. But choices that are being made about where we think we might have the best responses.

DIRECTOR CEJA: Yeah, and if I can add, so the idea is to have local contractors deal with radio advertisements and billboards, because they know the zones and the areas better. And so everything that we're doing, as far as utilizing our funds to do outreach and media, are really tied back to the constraints that we have as a Commission with regards to contracting.

So we've looked at different ways that we can contract to get things done as quickly as possible with as least red tape as possible. And the best solution that we found was small business contracts.
So we're looking at a list that California has of small businesses that are approved to do business with the state. And from there, we'll be pulling bids, asking folks to submit bids for each one of these items. The reason why we did billboards and radio specifically for zones is that, as you know, California is super diverse, so all the markets are going to look different for each zone.

And so having one contractor alone is not feasible financially, because our grants are limited at 250,000 per contractor. So that's why we split it up into one, two, three, four, five, six different contractors for those areas. For social media, we can have one contractor pretty much do a statewide campaign. That still localizes and concentrates on local markets with advertisements. And newspaper ads, we have -- we came across a few contractors that have relationships with community papers.

So instead of contracting with individual newspaper companies, what they do is they have a master contract, and they can do ads in about 200 local papers so that we just go through one entity, as opposed to 200 individual smaller contracts.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Kennedy, follow up?
COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yeah, if I can follow.

The -- I guess the point of my question was, you know, we're ensuring by breaking the -- by setting out the billboard and radio spending by these zones or groups of zones, we're ensuring, you know, some geographic spread to that.

Newspaper ads, you know, it's just a single lump sum with no breakout for these zones or groups of zones. So you know, how are we going to ensure that those funds are going where they're most needed?

MS. MARX: I think the key part was in the very last part of what Director Ceja said, that it's -- that the research found a vendor that was able to contract with 200 local newspapers around the state. So I'm not sure of that vendor's name, but I know with -- as a different example, different place with bus shelters, there's one vendor who can put those out into all the cities around the state. So that's a reflection of a geographical spread but one vendor being able to provide it.

So I think that your desire is being met with that option. And then social media, it is everywhere, so there is that -- there wasn't any need to break it out that way.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Okay. Well, and the mention of bus shelters is a good one, because you know, I've
been looking at, you know, what can public transit do for us in our outreach? So yes, by all means, let's look at bus shelters as well as advertising inside of buses and trains.

DIRECTOR CEJA: Yeah.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay.

DIRECTOR CEJA: So we're actually doing some research on bus shelters and bus advertising. Most advertising for billboards actually comes in the form of bus shelters and bus advertising, everything north of Sacramento pretty much. So you'll see most of that.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Thank you.

I also saw Commissioner Toledo.

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Two quick questions, one around time line for the procurement process and how long the spickets will take to have contractors on the ground and beginning to do this work and then secondly, around ethnic and language minority resources and where you see that happening given that, I mean, it's a niche of a contractor that does this type of work, and so I don't see a carve out here for that. Is it -- so I'm just wondering your thought process on that.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: So I understood about the time line, I wasn't sure of the last part of your question.
COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: The last part was around ethnic and language minority, ethnic media and language minority media contractors and just curious what your thought process is to ensuring that we're reaching ethnic minority and language minority populations across the state and how the contracting fits into that.

MS. MARX: Okay, so as far as time line, what we anticipate again, is that August through December time frame, so we think that we can be having some of the procurement pieces of this in place so that ads would be running or posted by early August and that's if we're able to move on at this point. And then with the ethnic media, there is -- some of that may end up being earned media and other parts of that would be in some of those newspaper ads and I think that I'm seeing -- because you're just saying, where is that on a budget breakdown?

Yes, go ahead Commissioner Fred -- not Commissioner.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yeah, so Director Ceja, yeah.

DIRECTOR CEJA: Yeah. So I think that's going to be included in the scope of work when get bids from contractors for the different zones as making sure and ensuring that they have an ethic media breakdown and solicitations that radio ads and spots going to a diverse group of radio stations and it's not just English-speaking radio stations.
VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: So Director Ceja, and Commissioner Toledo, I'm glad that you asked that question. I do have the same question. I am a little concerned that if you're looking at, you know, a single contractor, what their ability is to be able to actually reach many of the diverse communities and they may not all be familiar with -- or they may not be familiar with all of the various, you know, nuance communities and so I was concerned that I didn't see how there was going to be a way to reach the various ethic media that was noted in the plan.

And you know, when you look at the money at the end of the day, it's not going to spread that widely if you're going to try to include both mainstream and ethnic media. So that's why I am kind of concerned about, you know, just how this is all going to actually happen and whether or not these -- maybe, these dollar amounts, whether it's for a newspaper ads and even radio is really going to, you know, reach who we need to reach.

MS. MARX: Okay. So that's the only part that I would clarify is, it's not just one vendor that was specifically for the newspaper that that might be, but we'd actually be looking at different vendors for each of these different buys and part of what will happen, is within a particular area that we're contracting, for
example, central California, they may choose to focus completely on non-English languages because again, they know that community and know that region and what would be most effective there. So those will happen within that regional decision making.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay, thank you. So I know that Director Hernandez does what to say something, however, were are -- my apologies, we are past the time of our break.

And so let’s take our fifteen-minute break, we will be returning at 11:21 and then at that time, Commissioner Yee will be taking back over as Chair of this meeting and starting with Director Hernandez as the first comment.

(Whereupon, a recess was held)

CHAIR YEE: Thank you and welcome back. And special thanks to Commissioner and Vice Chair Akutagawa for covering this morning while I was doing an educational presentation.

I am Commissioner Russell Yee and we will continue this morning’s business meeting with item 4E, Outreach and Engagement.

I believe Director Hernandez was next up to comment.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Yes, thank you and welcome back Commissioner Yee, Chair Yee, I should say. What I wanted to mention was that there is no one size fits all for any
of these buys that we're talking about whether it's radio, whether its billboards. So even though we're looking at a specific zone or area, northern California 1 or 2, we may be looking at multiple vendors to accomplish what we are hoping to do and reach to the greater numbers and the specific target audiences. So even though we've put that amount there, that doesn't reflect that it's only going to be one contract. We may have multiple contracts with various different vendors that offer different services. We will be looking at all of them to see which ones offer a greater service for the least amount of money, obviously. But there may be some areas where we have to focus on the ethnic media market, so we'll look at an ethnic media small business who can provide that cast, that Broadnet that we cast for that particular area.

Now, Northern California versus Southern California could be very different, so we are going to be looking by the area to make sure that we're covering the greatest number of the targeted goals that the Commission has set forth and looking at what vendors can provide us that biggest net to cast for the different targets.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Toledo?

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Just as a follow up to that, in that I hear you Director Hernandez.
I'm just curious. I thought I heard also that we're going to be looking a certain subset of vendors that already have relationship with the State of California and I wonder if that's going to be a limiting factor to achieving contractors that have expertise with reaching disk-free hard to reach population or whether that's -- or whether those contractors are in place with the State that did already have relations with them.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner (sic) Hernandez?

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Yes, so that -- that is a concern. The list is very broad. I would say probably in the thousands. So we're going to be looking to see what is available for the different zones. If something is not available we may be reaching out to different vendors and seeing what, you know, what we might be able to do. So it's, again, although we're talking about a small business contract, we may be looking at other types of contracts or how to organize that piece of it to try to get those services for the Commission.

So again, it's not a one size fits all. We may have different types of contracts that we look into that, obviously we don't know what we don't know at this point, but we're going to be casting that Broadnet to try to get the most vendors in those specific areas to give us the most outreach and the targeted outreach that we're
looking at.

So it may change, but again, it's not the one size fits all. We may have multiple contracts and multiple types of contracts as well in those specific areas to reach the people that we want to get to.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fernandez

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Thank you Chair.

Yes, I just wanted to comment. I think it was early on, I think it was Commissioner Sinay or maybe it was Ann, I can't remember, noted that we were going to be approving every contract. I really, I will caution us -- I have caution in terms of approving every contract because I already feel we're behind in outreach and if we approve the budget and we say yes, my recommendation would be that they move forward, have the flexibility to contract with whoever they need to contract with, they noted the small business and different criteria, but I just feel that it's -- it will just delay out outreach efforts and as we can tell from the prior three or four outreach meetings that we've had, I mean having thirty percent of our appointments filled or even calling in is really low, so I -- I would urge us not to approve every single contract.

CHAIR YEE: Chief Counsel Pane, maybe you can give some thought to that and comment on the need for that,
but in the meanwhile, we'll go to Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Hi, I was just going to ask the
same thing because I think legally we do need to
approve -- approve contracts, but I don't know.

MR. PANE: Sure, I'll be happy to help with this.

CHAIR YEE: Okay.

MR. PANE: So the statute says that a commission
shall make contracting decisions regard on staff, legal
counsel and consultants with the special threshold. So I
think the question is, what is a contracting decision.
If the contracting decision is, perhaps, the individual
contracts could come before the Commission. I think
another possibility could be that the Commission allows
staff to pursue particular contracts, but with the
proviso that the Commission approves those contracts. So
I think there's a way to work it.

I think Commissioner, I think Commissioner Fernandez
is saying hey, let's make sure that we move this along
efficiently. I think there's a way notwithstanding the
statutory requirements for the Commission to still
approve contracting decisions okay? The statue says
contracting decisions. It doesn't say contracts. And so
I think there are some options available to the
Commission when we're deciding what a contracting
decision is.
Does contracting decision include contracts? Sure.
Might it include other options as well? Yes. So I do think we have some flexibility. I'd be happy to work with the Commission or particular Commission members on how we work that out, but we -- I think we do have some options here.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Can we leave that perhaps to Outreach and Engagement then to pursue that further with Chief Counsel?

Any other discussion of item 4E, Outreach and Engagement?

Go ahead Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I believe we do need a motion to move forward so we're getting direct guidance to staff. Can I please get a confirmation on that from staff, including Mr. Pane?

MR. PANE: Yes, Commissioner. Are you referring to direction of staff in regards to what specific activity?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Okay, so the motion that I wrote down, just --and just to let staff -- what I said was just to approve staff to move forward to identify contractors that ensure we reach our three outreach goals. Do we need that or not?

MR. PANE: Commissioner, I would say that if that's -- if the Commission believes that that's
something that isn't already empowered to staff and we're in some way focusing or narrowing that, that's entirely appropriate as a motion.

CHAIR YEE: Does this outreach strategy phase 2, phase 3, plan follow any new ground? Does it go beyond what's already been authorized?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: To me, is new grounds, just because the budget has -- you know, it's the full budget and everything we want to do. But I just wanted, you know, I want to make sure that we're just following whatever needs to be for staff to feel comfortable -- I mean, for Commissioners to feel comfortable and staff to move forward because this is urgent.

CHAIR YEE: I'm wondering then if the motion might simply be to approve the draft outreach plan, phases 2 and 3?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: My only concern with that, is that we did approve a plan in the past and this is a living document and people kept going back and saying we approved this plan and it was supposed to be a living document and people didn't understand and that's why I short -- you know, kind of narrowed it to the budget which is the part that's most related to the Commissioners' purview.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Let's see, Commissioner
Fornaciari

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, to follow up on Commissioner Fernandez's comment or question or desire or whatever it is, for us, I mean, I'm wondering if we can make a motion in such a way that where the Commission gives approval to the staff to enter into these contracts ASAP, which is kind of the direction, I'm hoping we can go here so that we can really get the ball rolling on this, but I kind of feel like we may need to take a few-minute sidebar with Chief Counsel and talk about this to -- to kind of get this right, maybe? I don't know.

MR. PANE: Commissioner, I think that that would probably be advisable. Yeah.

CHAIR YEE: Can we do that in open session? So the question being, can the Commission pre-approve entering into contracts that have not been brought up yet?

MR. PANE: So Chair, what I might recommend is that we perhaps return to this agenda item and perhaps at a later time we would -- the Committee would be able to bring forth any motions. That is an option.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Would the Subcommittee be open to that, tabling this for the moment and then picking it up back up later today?

Okay, very good. Let's go ahead and do that then and move on to item 4F, Language Access.
Commissioners Fernandez and Akutagawa.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: We do not, I believe at this time, have anything to bring forward.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yeah, I think at this point, we've pretty much -- it's Sunsetted Subcommittee and it's been forwarded to Outreach and if anything comes up, Director Kaplan does meet with Commissioner Akutagawa and myself, but so far, we haven't had the need to meet.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Sinay?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Our language access, I know that staff has explained why we're not doing social media and diverse languages, but I have seen other redistricting commissions and the census and others really being overt about wanting to engage people at who are English -- English proficient -- yeah, and so I would like -- you know, we were just told that that's not a best practice by state entities, but it is a best practice among nonprofit and others. So I just wanted to see how others felt because it's feeling a little uncomfortable for me that we have -- we're reserving spots and we're doing all sorts of things to be language accessible, but nothing we have recreated so far has been in Spanish or other languages including our signup sheet and -- and et cetera, even our emails. So I'm strong -- I'm really concerned about this. Oh, sorry I think our
flyer was translated, but I'm not sure.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Kennedy, and Sadhwani.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Commissioner Sadhwani was first.

CHAIR YEE: I'm sorry, okay. Commissioner Sadhwani then Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Thank you, Commissioner Kennedy. At our last meeting they had asked if we could just simply get quotes or better understand what it might look like to hire language interpreter consultants for us so that we could either have all of our meetings interpreted into a Spanish potential livestream or something like that and/or have ongoing Spanish language interpretation at all of our input meetings. Just curious about the status of that request.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: So we are still looking into it. I'm sorry, raise my hand, but I blend into the background so --

CHAIR YEE: Yes, please.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Thank you. So we are still looking into it and just in doing the basics, I think is where -- does that mean just the COI input or does that mean our business meetings and is it just the public comment during the business meeting. So there is a lot of different elements that we're looking into and trying
to break it down for you to provide you a better understanding of what the cost will be. So hoping to have something for you at our next meeting. We're still working on the details.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you Chair. I will join Commissioner Sinay in expressing my deep concern that we are not doing enough to provide for effective means of participation in other languages. I -- I just think we've fallen far short of where I envisioned this commission being on that topic.

CHAIR YEE: And back to Commissioner Sadhwani.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Just as a follow up to Alvaro, I'm wondering if any service providers have at least been identified who can provide such services. You know, for myself, I'm not certain. I do know that there are interpreter services out there, much like we have ASL available for all of our meetings. Just wondering, you know, if we have a sense of that landscape at all or if maybe any of the folks on the Outreach team or Communications have any sense of even the possibility of -- of what that might look like.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Akutagawa?

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Just to respond to what Commissioner Sadhwani is asking.
Commissioner Fernandez and I did look into those --
those costs and they're quite high. We -- and so that --
that's the balance we're trying to do. What we proposed
to offer the interpretation for the public comments was
the best way that we could balance it, but if we were to
undertake full interpretation of the entire meeting for
all the meetings, I mean it -- it became pretty cost-
prohibitive and I think we did speak about that
previously, too.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Sadhwani?

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah, no, I appreciate that
and I'm wondering, like when we say "hi" is it hi
relative. So for example, to the contract that we have
for ASL interpretation and you know, I think when we
discuss this previously, we were still had in our mindset
that we were going to be doing the grants or contracts.
We're not doing that. So we do have additional funds
available and I think before we make decisions or
certainly before we have a motion to utilize all of those
funds for media buys and other things, I -- I -- I would
like to have the opportunity to consider at least using a
portion of those funds towards this. So I understand
that the cost probably would be quite highly, but at the
same time, we have a very large Latino population here in
California as I raised previously. We're spending a
whole lot of money to consider VRA strategy for example, which in a state like California, predominantly -- not only, but predominantly is -- is taking into consideration the representation all needs of the Latino community who has been historically excluded. So if we're willing to spend that kind of money on legal fees and quantitative analysis, my census ensuring that we have the opportunity to receive that qualitative analysis that we have said is -- is paramount to this process. It's at least worth -- worth taking a considerable look at given that these funds are now available.

CHAIR YEE: I might note that in 1849, the original California constitution was a bilingual document and that was at time when the Spanish speaking population of California was actually lower by a percentage than it is today so -- it's certainly precedent.

Any further discussion in Language Access?

Commissioner Akutagawa?

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: I'll just say that -- that what we'll do is -- we'll -- Commissioner Fernandez and I what we could do is, we could do further analysis and then to your Commissioner Sadhwani, we can come back with, you know, the comparative costs and then given what you did bring up about the availability of - what was supposed to be used for Outreach contracts, we could look
to see if it would be better deployed to provide Spanish
interpretation, minimally, for all of the meetings. So I
think that's what I'm hearing.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. So we look forward to hearing
that from the Language access on this matter. Anything
else?

Commissioner Sadhwani.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: May I just add, I mean, I
know that I've raised this topic numerous times and I --
I think I've -- I kind of feel like I'm the only one
feeling this. So it would be helpful just to know if
other commissioners -- I don't want to have people doing
busy work. So if there's zero interest in moving this
forward as a -- as a directive of the Commission, you
know, that would be helpful to know, because, you know, I
recognize, we're not getting a lot of Spanish speaking
callers into our meetings and it's hard for me to assess.
Is it because it's so hard to -- to get any information
about our meetings in Spanish. I don't know the answer
to that and if so it would be helpful to know if other
Commissioners have a similar concern or not. I don't
want to send staff and -- the Language Access
Subcommittee on a wild goose chase before not going to,
you know, consider it as a -- as a possible path forward.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Sinay and then Kennedy.
COMMISSIONER SINAY: Well, there's two parts to this challenge that we're having right now. So if we're really looking at our goals right now is to get at least 40,000 communities of interest input. And of that, it's supposed to be reflective of the State of California. What does that mean? And how are we going to do that? Part of that is access in the diversity of languages and we've said from the very beginning that parts really important to us. But I have felt that we've been passive on that to a certain extent. We've translated somethings and have put them on our website but aren't the face of Commission has not been multilingual. Not even -- you know, at one point, we said, can we have at least even "hello" or redistricting in all sorts of different languages.

I know when I do the redistricting basics, I have put on the last side, thank you in four or five languages. I am trying, when I say hello in the morning, you know, we're invited to say it in Spanish and that has been, obviously intentional, but it's because I'm not seeing us putting a diverse multilingual face on -- on the Commission and -- and when I brought it up about social media, the first things I was told was, well, only the government of Mexico, put things in Spanish, you know it's you do it in English.
We put a lot of content so that when they're getting -- yeah, if they're getting things in English that they're getting in Spanish, it will be translated and that's fine, but it's still not the face of the Commission where we actually, like we did one, when we did do the Spanish redistricting basics. That one was done in Spanish.

And as much as we may say it's getting translated, it really does make a difference for individuals, especially because the best -- and I'm focusing on social media because social media is used by a lot of these diverse communities and it is the quickest and easiest way as us Commissioners to get it out to other Facebook groups and WhatsApp and whatnot. It is a quick and easy way to share information.

I was playing around with our website to figure out how do you get it in Spanish and you know, you kind of need to know all those things so even just have instructions on the website. If you want this in Spanish, hit Google translate and it will translate the whole thing. But I feel like we've so much work and the Language Access Subcommittee has done so much research, so much work, but it's still not out there as front and center and so I don't want all that work to be done for not.
So I hear what you're saying Commissioner Sadhwani, and I kind of feel like there's a cart and a horse and maybe you do need to do both at the same time, but if we don't let people know that we're open to hearing them in Spanish, we may have the translators for not. And so we need to make sure that we are doing that Outreach in Spanish and Chinese, and Tagalog, and -- and -- and.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Kennedy?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you Chair.

Yeah, just again to reassure Commissioner Sadhwani, you are not the only one. I've been raising this issue since we were the first eight, before we even had the -- the -- the sacroiliac chosen ones join us. And I will continue to raise it, you know, having a front end that is a barrier or not effective -- not an effective gateway to actual participation. That's what I mean when I'm referring to effective participation.

Yes, we have the backing processes as far as, you know, we'll hire an interpreter. But if we only say we'll hire an interpreter in English, we don't say it in Spanish, or Vietnamese, or Tagalog, or these others, I don't see that it does us that much good. So we really need to take a serious look at this issue if making our process effectively accessible to everyone. Not just nominally accessible, but effectively accessible.
Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes, and I will agree with my fellow Commissioner on language access. We have looked at this, and it was cost prohibitive at the time. There may be other options we can look at in terms of interpreting or public input meetings into Spanish. And it was, correct me if I'm wrong, Commissioner Akutagawa, but it was in the hundreds of thousands of dollars, and that's why we didn't come back. So I think we might come up with a different option.

In terms of social media, I would request that Director Ceja look into that piece of it, because that really is not anywhere near my comfort level or zone. So if you could get that information to us.

So we'll just dust off the information that we've had. We'll revisit it, and hopefully we can have something maybe by the next meeting. I'm not sure if that's next week already. But we'll definitely come forward with different options.

And another option that we had thought of as well was actually hiring interpreter, a Spanish interpreter, which then they would be on our staff versus having to contract for that for every single meeting.

So we'll look into that information. And
Communications Director Ceja, if you can look into the social media side of it, that would be great. Thank you.

CHAIR YEE: Okay, so I'm hearing support for further investigation into these possibilities of making our language access more effective.

Commissioner Le Mons.

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: First, I'd like to say I support that effort as well.

To Commissioner Kennedy's point, effective participation, I think it raises a bigger question as it relates to all of the languages. And so I don't know if we'll feel comfortable just patting ourself on the back if we address Spanish. I mean, Spanish seems like the low-hanging fruit, because that's really what I kind of hear.

Because if we're going do this kind of analysis, particularly when we're going into certain zones, different zones have different prevalence of different languages. And with that same opportunity, are we going to put that same kind of energy into those languages in those zones. I would recommend that we do, if that's where we're going.

So I think that we are facing sort of this balance of time, resource, and intention. And I do want to also acknowledge the Language Access Committee for all the
work that they did as well leading up to this point.

So I think like with all of these initiatives, we can go back and say, there was a lot of big dreams that this Commission had from the first day. And being a part of the formerly known as the Grants Committee. That was one of the biggest ones dashed, and so -- I guess I'm just saying that yes, we have what we want to achieve. And I think as we make these adjustments and changes, that we be very mindful of really trying to maximize its participation that Commissioner Kennedy is talking about. If this is going to be the jump off for that, then I just invite us to look.

I know Spanish is the predominant, you know, head and shoulders, so I'm not confused by that. But I just wanted to make sure that, you know, we don't start patting ourselves on the back just because we're looking at Spanish.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioners Kennedy, Akutagawa, and Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair, and thank you, Commissioner Le Mons.

Now, I mean, I continue to be guided by the language in the Voting Rights Act and in the Federal Regulations on Implementing the Voting Rights Act regarding language access. I continue to believe that the work that we do
is part of the electoral process. Candidates, you know, rely on our work in order to get on the ballot. I think that is part of the electoral process. The electoral process is not just voting. It's voting, it's registering, but it also being a candidate, and what we do is directly related to that.

The Voting Rights Act and the determinations that are based on census data require California to provide election-related information in Spanish statewide. It also establishes other languages in those local areas where there is population that meets a certain threshold.

And as I say, I continue to view this through the lens of wanting us to be, you know, if we don't want to say compliant, I would at least like us to be guided by that language. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Akutagawa, then Fernandez.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Actually, Commissioner Fernandez was before me, so. So I'll yield to you first.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Thank you.

And I just wanted to reflect back to what Commissioner Le Mons says. I am so with you, and as Commissioner Akutagawa would attest to that -- I really, being a Spanish speaker, it's -- my first language is Spanish, I really had a problem trying to move forward
with Spanish only in terms of providing interpretation and translation.

Because I do want to be as inclusive as possible. I don't want to show any bias. I just, you know, being brought up, it was -- I want to make sure that everyone -- so of course, we're going to go back and we're going to get the information, not just for Spanish, but we'll also get the information for the other languages that we have agreed to. And specifically, those that we've identified in our upcoming communities of interest input meetings that we have certain languages. So definitely look at what those costs could be.

But I'm glad that you brought it up. It's actually an uncomfortable position for me to be in to say Spanish only, because I want to make sure that if we're going to offer in Spanish, it's offered in other languages as well. So thank you very much for bringing that up.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Akutagawa.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: I think I want to, perhaps, just maybe put something out here.

You know, I just want to say that we have looked at other tools. You know, there are AI tools, artificial intelligence tools, that help to provide, you know, multilingual translations. I think there was concerns
about their accuracy perhaps, or their just kind of usefulness.

However, you know, this conversation, you know, just brings up for me whether or not we are, you know, maybe dismissing some of those tools a little too soon in the quest of perfect versus something is better than nothing.

And I don't want to say that, you know, it's not going to be great but you know, is there a point where, even if we were to use like an AI type tool, would that be good enough? Like, is the quality of the interpretation good enough to convey an understanding to those who may want to hear in their preferred language, you know, to understand the proceedings and what is going on.

So I just wanted to put that out there. I think that's something that Commissioner Fernandez and the Language Access Committee, along with the Outreach team can revisit. And I guess we'll also have to look at the cost of that versus the cost of, you know, the interpreters through our contractors that we have. So I just wanted to put that out there as well, too.

CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Commissioner Andersen and then Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you, all, for bringing this up because it is, and Commissioner Kennedy has
indeed been mentioning this since essentially day one. But I have an idea, and you know, we're still in our early getting our communities of input meetings advertised, and we're still on our really spreading the word.

We have two meetings tomorrow, Saturday, in L.A. that we call Zone H, and those are, you know, the special languages for that meeting that we have special sections allowed for Spanish and Khmer. And then Monday we have the Bay Area, sources for the Bay Area. And the languages are Chinese, Mandarin, and Tagalog. Both those meetings have very few appointments right now, because the word isn't quite out yet.

Could we possibly really spread the word in these particular languages with our -- and we're starting to reach our ethnic newspapers and media, and push, really push on, you know, those particular COI meetings that have been so designated for specific languages, really push in those specific languages about the meetings.

And you know, we're still kind of in the early point, but I think the next one is actually the first week, July 8th. So it's more time to get this going. I would recommend that we maybe move, you know, the Spanish and Khmer. If we add that to another H, you know, Zone, L.A. meeting, and also the Chinese, Mandarin, and Tagalog,
add that to another Zone C, or Bay Area meeting, so we
give those languages time, you know, those special
languages time to really be outreached to. Because I
know, you know, right now we only have a few, like 36
percent sign-ups for Zone H, and clearly that doesn't
represent the people.

And Zone C, you know, I live here, I really haven't
heard much about it yet just other than what I know. So
I -- if we could possibly do that, I would recommend
that.

Thank you.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Kennedy, then Le Mons.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair.

And Commissioner Akutagawa, you know, yes, I would
love us to be able to use these online tools that are
available. My concern, and you know, I can be persuaded
on this, my concern is, you know, if we're concerned at
all about misinformation or disinformation.

I've been at this long enough in enough places
around the world to understand that Google Translate and
any other similar tool, you know, they're better in some
languages than they are in others. And even when they're
generally good, occasionally, depending on the quality
and the simplicity of the base language, what is
otherwise usually a very reliable tool, can completely
mangle something. And then we have the problem with
disinformation or misinformation to deal with. So that's
just my concern.

And as I say, I can be persuaded. I know that the
quality of the output is better in some languages than in
others. I know that the quality of the output depends
heavily on the quality and simplicity of the input. We
just need to keep all of these things in mind.

Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Le Mons, and then Sinay.

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: I wanted to lift up
Commissioner Andersen's idea. I actually think it's an
excellent idea. Because we already, as a commission,
agreed to provide translation services in the languages
that we've agreed to.

And so I think to Commissioner Sinay's point, and
Commissioner Sadhwani, and the cart before the horse kind
of concept, if the availability of that opportunity is
only communicated in English, then that could be a
barrier to individuals even knowing they can take
advantage of it.

So I think where this will dove-tail really nicely
into the media -- the proposed plan, which is heavy
media, radio, ethnic paper, et cetera, this could be the
opportunity for our communications department to really
leverage those media opportunities which we did not have, which is probably our broadest reach with reaching those groups, and then making sure that we're very clear on the process in how you engage the translation services. And then that way we're driving demand and then we're responding to demand, which I think will be a great use of our resources as opposed to investing resources in an infrastructure that may or may not show itself, as Commissioner Sadhwani raised earlier, as a potential dilemma.

So I just wanted to give an uplift to that proposal that Commissioner -- or the idea that Commissioner Andersen put forth. Because I do agree, we haven't really promoted, right? And those groups, I think all the groups who showed up when the eight was making the determination, there were many, many groups that came forward.

Activate, you know, your communities as well. Like, when we're talking about the availability of these appointments, you know, let them know, I know that you're training up and all that good stuff, but you don't need any training to call us and tell us what's important to you. So I mean, how can I be against the training, I'm not against anybody doing the training.

But just really encourage people to get involved.
And I think that if we do more of this promotion of what's available, and then support it on the backend, that might be a quick way for us to be able to move on this and be -- give as much parity as possible.

Thank you.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Commissioners Sinay, and then Kennedy, and then I'm going to ask if Language Access has enough info to move forward with this.

Commissioner Sinay?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Commissioner Le Mons, I completely agree with you that -- I think sometimes, and I've said this before and people disagree with me, but I think sometimes we make submitting your Communities of Interest much more difficult than it needs to be. And I've really appreciated those who have called in and have just shown how, and tell us what is important to you and what's important to your neighbors, and whatnot. It doesn't need to be that complicated.

And even talking to my friends who have sat through our trainings and such. They are like, well, I'm still trying to figure it out. And I'm like, okay, let me ask a few key questions, so I -- oh yeah, I can answer this. So I agree, Commissioner Le Mons, that sometimes we make things -- civic engagement -- that's a barrier to civic engagement, is making it complex.
I also did want to say that, just for the record, that I did mention other languages. Like I started with Spanish, but I did bring up the other languages and have been -- yeah, as I said, I looked ways to say thank you even in Chinese characters. Hopefully, I get it right. That's always one of my paranoias when I use AI to translate.

So I have been impressed by, like, Zoom Interpreter just in English. I don't know what that's called. If you're speaking up and it brings it up in English --

CHAIR YEE: (Indiscernible).

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yeah, thank you. I'm sorry. Commissioner Ahmad and I dug up and have played with it in Google Meets as well, and it's pretty accurate. Where it gets mixed up is, if it's not set up to speak that language, and it's trying to translate in English when you're speaking in Spanish. And that's a mess.

But I do think that -- oh, the main thing I want to say is yes, we need to drive demand, and we need to think about interpreters. And the Commissioner has already asked the Outreach Committee to look at the plan that was put forward, and we were going to meet with legal counsel. And we'll look to see when looking at the budget, if this is a piece that needs to be looked into with staff when we bring the plan back with the motions
and the wording.

CHAIR YEE: Thank you.

Commissioner Kennedy?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair.

I believe that we need to be a little bit clearer with the public as to what it means, when we say, when we have that column over to the right with Spanish, and Khmer, and Mandarin, Tagalog, et cetera. I mean, we've been saying that anyone, even if they need interpretation from Spanish to English at this meeting tomorrow, they still have to come in five days in advance and request it. And at the same time they could request any other language, or at least any of the other 12 or 14 languages that we have committed to support, with that same five days' notice, and have that interpretation available to them.

So you know, having those languages in the column over on the right, I'm not seeing a whole lot of value in that if, A) even if it is for one of those languages, they still have to submit their request five days in advance; and B) anyone could request any of the other languages five days in advance and get that support.

Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Thank you everyone for your input. So Language Access Subcommittee, Commissioners
Akutagawa and Fernandez, do you have what you need to move forward on this? Anything else you need?

Commissioner Toledo.

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: I mean, I really do support Commissioner Henderson's proposal to promote the forms that we have both on Saturday and Monday that are focused on the minority populations. And I'm just wondering if our field staff and our communication staff might need additional guidance from the group, if that is something we so want to do. At this point, it's an idea, and I'm wondering if they want to make -- if we are in support of directing our staff to focus on increasing engagement in those, and potentially other meetings.

Now, I don't know if they do or if we don't. This is just an idea for us as Commissioners to go out and mobilize our networks and communication. But I just want to be -- I want to make sure that we're giving our staff the direction that they need, if that's what we're -- if that's our intent. So just maybe a little bit. I'm not clear about the intent.

CHAIR YEE: Sure. Director Ceja, maybe you can speak to that?

DIRECTOR CEJA: Yeah. So I think both the outreach and communications teams have been working with the resources that we have. A large portion of -- thank you,
for moving or starting the conversation about expanding the communications lines so that we can reach additional members. Right now we're stuck in our bubble.

The folks that we're able to communicate to, I know that the outreach team definitely has been going back to those organizations that we've worked with, whether we presented to them, whether we've had any sort of interaction with them, and going back and saying, hey, can you share the information for upcoming meetings with your audience and your membership?

And we've been doing blast after blast, seeing our numbers decreased as people open their messages, and certainly on social media. But again, we're only talking to the finite group that we're have in our databases. So as soon as we're able to reach out outside of outside of our bubble, once we get approved by Facebook, and I think we're at the precipice of that, we'll be able to expand our reach.

But certainly, I will speak on behalf of both the outreach and communication teams, as we have been doing everything in our power to get the word out, and the numbers are just not there. So we will take suggestions on what to do, and what best practices to utilize to expand our reach. But right now, we're sort of stuck.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Le Mons, and then
Akutagawa.

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yeah, I just wanted to clarify and hopefully, maybe respond to Commissioner Toledo's point. So while I was uplifting Commissioner Andersen's proposal, I didn't see that as something that (indiscernible) idea could be triggered immediately, like for tomorrow. I mean, I think that was my plea this morning, like, what can we do? Because the meeting is tomorrow, right.

But I think that what I heard is that the Outreach Committee, the Input Committee, the Language Access Committees were going to take all the content of this conversation, looking on the proposal on the table, looking at feedback from the medias that's happened so far. Like, look at this in a more global way and see how all of these needs can be incorporated. And I hope that my support of that was really -- was twofold. One, in supporting, even though we're not talking about the plan specifically yet.

But supporting that plan and seeing a way to leverage, I personally don't feel like we have the luxury of time on some of the additional research on these things. So I was -- what triggered for me with Commissioner Andersen's idea was being able to leverage what was, like, right in front of us, and be able to get
somewhere of -- hopefully get some of the same outcomes, taking into consideration all of the different sort of point that have been raised by various Commissioners in this conversation.

So I guess the takeaway was that the path forward, which would then be associated with direction to staff, was forthcoming in short order as early as maybe this afternoon. But if I'm not being too ambitious, that's what I kind of thought.

Chair.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner, thank you. Commissioner Akutagawa, and then Andersen.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yeah, I guess I was going to just mention something else. But just on what Commissioner Le Mons said, that -- I think that-- yeah, I think -- I guess a few things.

One, I mean we're struggling to get even English speakers to call in to our meetings, too. So I just wanted to just acknowledge that, right? So I think the further we go in, I'm sensing that we're going to see increased engagement. Because I think, you know, the fact that we're having these meetings, I'm going to be hopeful that that's going to capture more people's attention. And then as we go into July and August, we'll start to see the numbers tick up.
I think on that note though, I do also support the idea that we shift some of the language translations that we had intended for some of the earlier meetings. If there's possibilities, I think we can shift, you know, those translations or actually make it available. Although, technically we did say that, you know, we will take or accommodate any interpretation request for any of the meetings, as long as we have the five days in advance. You know, I also want to just note that too.

It can seem a little confusing. It's like -- but to try to make it easy if people want to group into a certain meeting, I think that's just what makes it easier for them to do so.

ON the -- the thing that I wanted to originally ask, I wanted to see, you know, if, Director Ceja, I don't know if this is more you, or if this is Director Kaplan. But you know, there is a flyer that lists all of the COI input meeting dates. It's a little busy, because there's a lot of dates on there. But that is a really helpful flyer that I'm now starting to just try to remind people.

I've been using social media to try to get people to show up, but I think there's honestly limits to that too. So I'm now trying to make some very targeted outreaches to people just that I know, and saying, hey, this is coming up. We have L.A. Here's the whole set of
meetings. This isn't your first time. There's going to be other chances, but can you help get the word out.

I think to the conversation that we've been having, I know that we have a set of materials. I think that would be very helpful to have translated. I would also say, I would recommend, I know you have the flyer that says, how you sign up for an appointment. I frankly think what is more helpful is that section on the website that has the questions, like, how do -- what do you -- what can you say, what are some suggested inputs when you call in.

That I think is actually really helpful, and I've been cutting and pasting those questions into the emails to say, hey, there are some suggested things that, you know, you can give as part of your input. I think if that's also translated, that would be also really helpful in terms of helping people to understand what it is that they can do. And so as part of the outreach materials, I think adding that could be very helpful, along with if you want, how to make the appointment too. So I just wanted to give that suggestion.

CHAIR YEE: Let's go to Ms. Marx first, and then Commissioner Andersen.

MS. MARX: To that too, that last point and earlier, the flyer that you referenced with all the COI input
meetings, it is already available in Spanish and has been circulated. And the request was made Monday, I believe, for the translation into the other languages. So that should be back today or Monday from our translation vendor. So we will have that.

And then, specifically, we did have at least a couple organizations that we can say, do you have that in Korean or do you have that in another language. So there are some groups that are waiting for that, and that will get pushed out. And we will be, of course, utilizing that tool at the outreach in the field stop level as soon as the different languages are available. So that one is on the way.

And we have already been highlighting the different materials -- the outreach materials page with different languages; which for some groups, they were not aware of that. So we have been trying to raise the profile of those materials as well.

CHAIR YEE: Thank you.

Commissioner Andersen?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes, thank you very much for this. And I'm going to be a little more specific. I love all the additions to my ideas and clarifications. Thank you.

And I was specifically saying, you know, we know
that right now, as we're still in the early stage and
getting people aware, and they, there are these meetings.
But for the ones who are now just suddenly becoming aware
of it, if we could on this -- the blue flyer, which has
all the listings of the input meetings, and it also says
on there what languages; two things. Because one, a lot
of people will only be getting it now, and so the
meetings will have passed. The June 26, the June 28,
which specifically say, you know, Khmer, Chinese,
Mandarin, Tagalog. Those languages don't repeat in those
zones again. And so it looks like, oh well, I can't, you
know, I'm not being invited.

So if we cold maybe update this sheet, and also
include on here about -- on the back we have lines of
little bits of information, one bit of information
about -- for language access, what that means. Because
it's -- you just have, and we also have that on our
meeting page that says, you know, dedicated time. But it
doesn't -- there is no, like extra little star to say a
little bit more of what that means.

So if we could add those to those two documents,
that would really be helpful. And I was specifically
saying, you know, we are going to get more and more
people, more and more people aware, and I don't want the
languages for Zone H and Zone C, specifically, who are
the ones who are right now, to get lost in that -- if
they could be moved over as well.

And I agree with all of the rest of what everyone
has been saying. Thank you, thank you, thank you. I
think this is a very good and fruitful conversation.

Thank you.

And also, thanks for the Language Access, who have
been working on this for a long time. So we really
appreciate it. Thank you.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Thank you, everyone, for your
input on this important topic.

Let's move on now to item 4G. Materials Development.

Commissioners Fernandez, and Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. On -- oh, did you
want to go, Commissioner Kennedy? Go ahead.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Okay. Just to let folks know
that we are working on a new entry for the FAQ document.
It may be as a stand-alone, it may be -- whatever
Director Ceja wants to do with it. But we have been
getting quite often the question, why can't my district
just remain exactly as it is. And we want to provide a
clear answer to folks, to the public, as to why districts
can't remain exactly as they are.

So we're working on some draft language.

Commissioner Fernandez and I are close to having that
finalized, and we will get it to Director Ceja so that he can take it and run with it.

CHAIR YEE: Very good.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: And then -- oops, I'm sorry. Just a couple things. As Director Ceja mentioned, we're in the process of reviewing -- or reviewing the language of some of the short videos, which hopefully that'll come out soon.

And then also, we did -- Commissioner Kennedy and I did provide feedback to the paper COI, and I believe right now they are working with the post office to figure out the postage. So I think that is about it for us. Thank you.

CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Materials Development.

Commissioner Le Mons.

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: I have a question for Commissioner Kennedy. I wasn't tracking the last -- your statement. Isn't it conceivable that some communities may not change? So I guess I may be -- I don't either understand -- I understand the question, like why can't my community remain the same, but that could be any number of reasons, right, by that particular community?

So how are we coming up with blanket statements to that? I must have -- I missed something, but I just wanted to just have a little bit more clarity of what
we're talking about there.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Kennedy?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: The bottom line is that, you know, population changes in California have not been uniform. And to the extent that they're not uniform, and we have some areas that, you know, are growing much faster than the rest of the state, we have some areas that are declining quite a bit.

But I mean, it would be statistically not impossible, but fairly unlikely that any district could remain exactly the same as it is. And we just want people to understand all of the factors that go into that. And the fact of the matter is that, you know, as population grows and shrinks at different rates around the states, you know, district boundaries are going to have to shift to accommodate and reflect those changes.

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Thank you.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Moving on to item 4H. Website.

Commissioners Kennedy and Taylor.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: As Director Ceja mentioned, he is working through our -- some of the first set of recommendations that we provided to Director Hernandez. And Commissioner Taylor and I are beginning work on a second set of recommendations that we will at some point conclude and share with Director Hernandez for his review.
and instructing staff.

We are going through public input or public comment, I guess, that comes in, because there are frequently public comments directed at the Commission related to the website, and so the Subcommittee is reviewing all of that public comment for suggestions that we can forward to the Executive Director for staff to implement.

CHAIR YEE: Very good. Anything else? If not, we can go to 4I. Data Management. Commissioners Ahmad and Turner.

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you, Chair.

So we do have a few updates which have been mentioned in some of our previous meetings. But the Airtable contract is in process, and learned it's not as simple as punching in a credit card number and clicking purchase, unfortunately. So we are well along in the process for getting that set up and in place through our systems.

I believe, although I had mentioned this in a previous meeting, that Phil will be continuing as our consultant and working with the Data Management team, which is great. And he is currently working with Statewide Database to set up the protocols to export the COI tool into S3, which is that Amazon web server, right? And then export that COI tool data into our public facing...
Airtable, which I am so excited about because I, too, have not seen that information yet, and we are all waiting together collectively for that to be set up. Alvaro and team will be bringing on a data manager and a data analyst as part of the data management team, but also be looking to hire those additional staff for data entry sometime in the near future.

Two other items related to this. Commissioner Turner and I have stepped back in terms of the interview process for the data manager and data analyst positions. So we won't be participating in those interviews. We have Alvaro and team, and now that we have Phil on board as a contractor, we have the technical expertise on the panel to be able to lead that discussion in the hiring process.

And Commissioner Turner and I are also in conversation in terms of trying to figure out what this Subcommittee's charge will be after we do have that data management team in place. And we're trying to figure out what our purpose will be.

So once those pieces are in place, we'll have a more robust conversation between the two of us, and then notify you all in an open public meeting on what we are thinking about the future of the Data Management Subcommittee.
And that is all that we have to report today.

CHAIR YEE: Thank you. Any question for Data Management?

Now, we can move to 4J. Outreach Contracts. I believe, that's been folded into the outreach discussion. So Commissioner Le Mons?

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: I was going to ask the Chair to sunset that committee, if there is no objection from my Subcommittee partner, Commissioner Akutagawa.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: There is no objection. I think our work is done.

CHAIR YEE: We will give you a long-suffering award. Any discussion or recommendation, Commissioner Andersen.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I want to congratulate the team for hanging in there as long as they did, trying as hard as they did, through a myriad of issues, which I don't think -- the amount of things that they did that we don't exactly know -- I don't even -- it scares me to think of how much work they put in. And you know, kudos, kudos. Thank you very much on behalf of the Commission and the public.

CHAIR YEE: Indeed. So with gratitude I declare the Outreach Contracts Subcommittee, sunsetted.

Moving on to 4K. Community of Interest.
Commissioners Akutagawa and Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: The latest statistics from Statewide Database indicate that there are now 438 registered users. And we have had so far 434 communities of interest submissions from the public. And again, none of the new community of interest submissions are in non-English languages. Commissioner Akutagawa.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yeah, I also want to note that the 400 and -- or the total number of communities of interest submissions does include the communities of interest input that we had received up until, I think, the most recent communities of interest meetings.

And then also, lastly, I do want to just make note that the -- I know that we're getting questions about when the public will be able to see the submissions through the Communities of Interest tool. However, as the data management team had also indicated too, they're waiting for it, and part of this is just the process that we have to go through from a contracting point of view.

And a table needs to be set up. There has to be a way in which we can actually, you know, have these inputs all in a place where it could be accessible, secure, but also organized as well too. I believe that the staff is also working to -- even though this is a little bit separate, I want to just reiterate the staff is working
to include the inputs that the staff has received via the public comment, letters, emails, other things like that, in a single place on the website, so that you don't have to go through all the handouts. So they are working on trying to organize that as an interim step.

But the inputs that we receive through the Communities of Interests tool, we will need the Airtable and the data management system set up to be able to view all of the input. So that is part of the wait. But I just wanted to assure the public that it is not because we don't want to share, we're just all waiting for it as well too, so.

CHAIR YEE: Very good.

Commissioner Sinay?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Did you say that the 434 submissions included those at the COI input sessions, or that just to the COI tool -- with the COI tool?

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: That is just the COI tool. The ones including those submitted from the public input meetings that the line drawers have put in, it's a total of 483.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: And we have asked them from here forward to break that out for us. Because when they first provided us with statistics this week, it was all lumped into one. And I was, like, wait a minute. How
did that happen? And they came back and said, it's
because we're now inputting -- you know, the Statewide
Database team is inputting the input from these sessions.
So they're breaking them out for us as to which have
come in from public users as individuals, and which have
come through the input meetings.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Sinay?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I'm sure this is too difficult,
but we can't get that data right now while we're waiting
for the database. And -- yeah -- can we get this data by
at least the zones right now or is that too difficult
while we're waiting for the other ways that the public
can see. I'm just trying to help the public and others
see, even if it's an aggregate, that we did receive their
COI input.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fernandez?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes, Commissioner Sinay.
Was it Monday we had our meeting? I can't remember what
day we -- so on Monday, right before the meeting, I did
ask Karin for that specific information. And because I
was curious as to okay, we're going to have a meeting
with Zone D, what's the information. And she said, at
this point they can't -- they cannot. They need to wait
until the database is completed, and that information can
be entered into the database -- or downloaded.
But I did ask if prior to every meeting, if they could update us with at least the most current information that's in there, so that we can report it out prior to -- or during every COI input meeting. Because that was a concern or a question by someone that called in as, you know, we're putting emphasis and accolades on public input meetings, but it's just as valuable the input that we're receiving in our COI input tool, so. I guess, the answer is they can't do it yet.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Andersen, then Le Mons.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Just a quick, and during the line drawing update we'll give you much more detail about this, but remember the COI input tool is a Statewide Database. Our line drawers are Haystaq and Q2. So the only reason why we have a connection there is because of one of person, who also has two different jobs, which is why we have this information.

The line drawers know they get their information from us. They don't get it from the Statewide Database directly. So that's why -- what do they have? They're inputting it into the tool from input meetings and then, so you know, so they're, you know, we -- and I'm saying this for the public's -- basically information that, you know, we're all hoping to get that and just getting these things going. And we'll have more about this in the Line
CHAIR YEE: Thank you. Commissioner Le Mons?

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: The promotion of the COI tool was our responsibility; is that correct? So with that said being so -- I'm not certain, but I think so. That's why, I don't know, if the COI Subcommittee can answer that question. But I think that is the case. So if that is the case, this sort of raises -- do you have an answer to that, Commissioner Andersen?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: You know, thank you. It's actually -- Legislature has been charged with accessing this to the public. I think Commissioner Kennedy probably can -- knows this better than I, being on the COI. But and then we're working with the -- for the -- to submit to the Commission. So in terms of who's responsible for advertising, I don't know if that's been officially delineated. Commissioner Kennedy? I don't know that.

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: So the reason I asked that or raised that, it's sort of augmenting our earlier conversation. So this might be something that we want to consider as the subcommittees that were mentioned earlier, that are going to be looking at this outreach and language access, and all that. And what triggered it was Commissioner Kennedy's report that all of the COI
tools so far have been in English. So it was suggested to me that they're having a very similar issue that we have, and again, we have a ticking clock.

So similar to what Commissioner Vasquez was saying earlier about certain bills and you know, things that are happening and may or may not affect, you know, happen in time to affect us, I see this very similarly. So as we're looking at promoting, we may need to fold in driving people through our radio outreach, et cetera, to the COI tool. Especially in other languages.

So I just wanted to put that out there as we're thinking about this utilization of our research -- resources and approach moving forward.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Toledo?

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: I thought it was my -- and it would be good to get clarification on who's responsible for the outreach. I thought it was our responsibility from one of the reports that we've had in the past from the Legislature, that it was our responsibility. It was their responsibility to fund the creation of the database and whatnot. But our responsibility to promote when it comes to the statewide redistricting of -- it would be good to clarify that as -- if that's the case.

And I think we have been promoting it through our outreach efforts and in, you know, talking through the
media in our op-ed pieces and such. But we may need to
do more, especially around language access and language
minority populations as we expand our media efforts if,
in fact, it's our responsibility to do so.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Anything else for the COI Tool
Subcommittee?

MS. JOHNSTON: Marian.

CHAIR YEE: I'm sorry, Marian? Yeah, you're right
in the corner.

MS. JOHNSTON: Sorry. There is one legal wrinkle
too, to what -- when the Commission receives the public
input data from the COI tool. As you recall, all public
input received by the Commission has to be received in
public. So until you have your mechanisms in place to
make it available to the public, the Commission can't
really receive it. Because at the time of receipt it has
to be in a publicly accessible form. So that's another
reason why you cannot receive it at the present time
before you have your data processing systems all in
place.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Let's move on to 4L.

Cybersecurity. Commissioners Fornaciari and Taylor.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, nothing significant
to report on my end.

CHAIR YEE: Mr. Taylor, you look like you're
transporting in from somewhere.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yeah, all in an effort to save bandwidth. I agree with Neal. I guess, since I have a moment, I'll say it. Remember that the end-user is the greatest threat to security, so let's all be mindful of our cybersecurity footprint. Thank you.

CHAIR YEE: Good reminder. Thank you, Commissioner Taylor.

4M. Incarcerated Populations, State Facilities.

Commissioners Fernandez and Sinay.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I have a little bit to report. Hopefully, more to report in the next meeting. But Commissioner Sinay and I are putting together a recommendations document that we can bring forward in terms of what our outreach -- recommendations for outreach.

Initially, we were thinking of holding off on this until we -- the paper Communities of Interest tool was completed. But at this point, we feel that we are in a position where we can bring forward the recommendations, and then hand it over to the outreach unit for them to continue with the outreach efforts for the incarcerated people in California.

CHAIR YEE: All good. Thank you.

4N. Incarcerated Populations at all Facilities.
Commissioners Kennedy and Turner.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Nothing significant to report.

CHAIR YEE: Very good.

40. Lessons Learned. Commissioners Ahmad and Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Please keep them coming. And one thing that I would like to just remind folks of, there is a Google Doc, kind of an ongoing Lessons Learned document from former chairs to future chairs. So that is available for colleagues to contribute to.

CHAIR YEE: So that's in our Google -- shared Google drive? Maybe we could also -- that's a great idea. Also maybe, you know, your full working document on Lessons Learned, maybe making that available sometime too, so we can get an idea of what you guys are collecting. Maybe that'll spur further ideas to add.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Well, what we have so far and Commissioner Ahmad, correct me if I'm wrong. We've basically been working on broad categories, not necessarily populating that outline, that framework. But we've been working on putting the framework together that will guide our discussions next year.

CHAIR YEE: Okay, thank you.

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: And to add to that, I took
notes from today's conversation already and Bagley-Keene
is something that comes up over and over again. So I
noted that down from today's conversation as well.

CHAIR YEE: Very good.

Okay. 4P. IT Recruitment. Commissioners Andersen
and Fornaciari.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Do you want me to go?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes. Okay, go ahead.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: We met with Director
Hernandez last week to talk about the plan as was
reported out in the data management report. The plan is
to hire a data manager and a data analyst. And so in
those two roles, you know, we feel like we got the IT
needs covered well, and then students in other support
staff. With those two meeting roles, we cover the areas
of IT management that we're concerned about with related
to the data and the database, and how we're going to be
able to, you know.

The IT manager is going to stand up the database and
ensure that the nuts and bolts of the database are
working. The data analysts will help us understand and
interpret the data in a way that we can effectively make
use of it. So you know, I think we were both comfortable
with the proposed plan moving forward at this point.

Commissioner Andersen, do you have anything you want
to add?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah, the plan is -- it's a little different than I think. Just to clarify, the analyst is essentially the person who will step out and getting these reports out to us, sort of analyzing what's in the database. The data manager is the person who is responsible for collecting and essentially assembling the database, and then maintaining it. And then, Phil, as consultant, will stay on through the transition of this. And then extra people being added in. So that's the plan, and it depends on the people and how it works. So yeah, that's basically --

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, that's basically it. So I think from a Subcommittee standpoint, I think we're -- I kind of feel like we're done.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Well, there -- you know, it's just as Data Management said, where do they go from here. It's also a little recruitment probably. What happens moving forward is a little vague. So I think it'll be some sort of switch and change in terms of, you know, who ends up following the data or the technical side of it.

And that's something we talked about a long time ago in terms of moving through phases of we've been recruitment, recruitment, hiring, hiring, and then there
is a maintaining moving forward. And so I think that's a little bit of a transition.

As far as recruitment, we -- you know, basically the staffs were doing that. So you know, I think it might be -- it's almost sunset, but not maybe quite sunset, or we may have to revise it as -- once we make the transition. So that's my perspective.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: So yeah, okay. So I guess that was assuming that, you know, following the data and how we're working that would have been the data management -- would fall on the Data Management team. It all was really focused on recruitment.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Right. It's just as Commissioner Ahmad indicted, then whatever happens is, you know, there is two sides to that. Analyzing the data and maintaining it. Well, it's like the upload and the download essentially, so.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Very good. So it sounds like we need to keep you around a bit more, and that's fine. Commissioner Ahmad?

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Hi. I don't want to open up a conversation if I don't have to, but I might try. If the purview of the Subcommittee is to recruit an IT manager, and we are not recruiting an IT manager, then what is the Subcommittee's responsibility? I guess that's a question
more for Commissioner Fornaciari and Andersen.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Oh, I mean -- I thought we were focused on recruitment, and I think we're done with that, the recruitment style. I mean, we've identified a couple of candidates for these roles and you know, we've identified what our IT structure is going to look like. I mean, I think following it up, I think that's all of our responsibility to kind of keep an eye on what's happening.

But to me that -- following what's happening with the data, and how the data is being managed, and what we need to do with the data down the road, falls under the purview, in my mind, of the Data Management team.

So I mean, I kind of feel like this Committee is done. I mean, as individuals we can monitor and monitor and provide input, but you know, I think we're both comfortable with the design we have for the IT staff, and you know, other folks that they're going to be hiring to support that are really, really support staff students and that kind of -- that kind of thing. And that's kind of where I was coming from.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. As far as the IT recruitment part, you're absolutely right. Do we want to sunset the IT recruitment? Yes.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Any discussion of that? If not,
I will declare the IT Recruitment Subcommittee sunsetted.

Okay.

It's just a few minutes before our lunch break.

It's the line drawing. You will probably need quite a bit of time.

Okay. So after we come back from lunch, we'll go back to the top, actually, and hear from Finance and Administration, then we'll come back to Outreach and Engagement, and check in with them if they've got some answers to the questions we raised this morning about contacts and so forth. Then we'll take up line drawer, Public Input Design Committee, I believe has a fairly major discussion, and then legal affairs has some contracts to approve. So wow. Quite a bit for this afternoon. Don't eat too much. We need you fully awake. And so why don't we go ahead and break now for lunch, and come back at 1:48.

(Whereupon, a recess was held)

CHAIR YEE: Welcome back. We're continuing this afternoon with agenda item number 4. We're going to start with 4B, Finance and Administration, go to 4E, Outreach and Engagement, and then 4Q, line drawing.

So Commissioners Fernandez and Fornaciari can start us off with Finance and Administration, which we skipped over this morning.
You're on mute.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. Oh, yeah. I was just checking to see if Commissioner Fornaciari was back yet, but not a big deal, because we will go ahead and take it, or I will go ahead and take it.

As Executive Director Hernandez mentioned during his report, we are putting together a draft travel policy for the Commission, and hopefully, we'll have that ready for discussion either at the next meeting or the meeting after that, as we get -- as we start looking forward to potentially traveling, which will be great.

And the other area that we're looking for, that we will need some motions for, is we do have, as our Chief Counsel noted, that we do have two retired annuitants that he would like to hire, so I would recommend that we move forward with it. Commissioner Fornaciari and I have both reviewed the resumes for those positions, and he's explained what the uses for each one specifically is, so we would recommend approval for that.

And then we also have a data analyst position. We reviewed the duty statement as well as the application, and Commissioner Fornaciari -- oh, there he is. Here he is. I'm speaking for you. We're both in agreement that we support moving forward with the hire of that position. And then the third area is the lead analysts for outreach.
for the northern region. Again, we have reviewed -- we already had the duty statement from the past and we reviewed the application, and again, we're in agreement with moving forward with the hire of that position as well.

So does anyone have any questions before we submit a motion?

CHAIR YEE: Let's see. You mentioned that the two RAs, you've had some description of the areas of responsibility. Perhaps you could share that with the whole Commission?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes. I'm going to pass that on to our Chief Counsel Pane.

MR. PANE: Yes, Chair. Again, it's just to briefly highlight the areas they're going to be working on while they're here. One of the retired annuitants is going to be focusing on contracts and working with the contracts team, and the second retired annuitant is going to be working on conflicts of interest, both in terms of a periodic conflicts as issues come up, as well as Form 700 and just a whole host of issues that could potentially come up regarding conflicts.

And as you may recall, the way retired annuitants work, is they work by essentially assigned project. They are not a full time -- there's not full-time work. It's
by assignment. And there is an -- there are a number --
there's an hour cap by fiscal year.
And normally, I believe that's 960 hours in a fiscal
year. And so again, I would be delegating and assigning
specific assignments as needed. But those are going to
at least be the starting focus areas for them.

CHAIR YEE: Very good. Okay.
Discussion?
Commissioner Andersen?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Sorry. Was that discussion
about just the legal RAs, or was --

CHAIR YEE: Any of them.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. I want to clarify,
and I think it was just a miscue or a miswording. The
Northern California, that is a -- you're saying lead
analyst, but isn't that a -- that's the field lead, is
it, or?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes. It's a field lead.
I'm sorry. Yes.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. Okay.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I apologize. For outreach.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. Okay. Okay. That
was my -- I just want to make sure of that. Thank you.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Oh, oh, I'm sorry. I do
have one other about travel.

Is that in different than it already was? We did have to travel before the COVID hit, and we had policies, so I don't know it --

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Oh, I didn't find the -- I mean, we haven't --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Oh.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: -- formalized the travel policy, so it's just formalizing the travel policy, and then also, maybe different scenarios, as well, in terms of what's approved travel versus not approved, what has to go through Commission. So just trying to establish, potentially, boundaries or parameters. So we'll come forward with that information.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: The travel policy for the State is huge, right? And it doesn't apply. All of it doesn't apply to us. So what we're trying to do is really make a succinct document for the Commissioners to understand what applies to them, and how we go about and do travel. Because while we all drove in the first time around, right? And I guess you --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: -- drove back, so you didn't say in a hotel. Commissioner Kennedy stayed in
hotel, but --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Right.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: -- I mean, and

Commissioner Sadhwani flew, but I think that's probably all the travel that this entire Commission has done. And so when we start traveling more, we're all going to be having to be involved in it, so just some clarity for how to do that effectively and ensure we get reimbursed.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Akutagawa?

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: I actually have two questions, on both the hiring, and also, the travel policy. Just for clarification, Commissioner Fernandez, you mentioned that -- it sounds like the two retired annuitants would be a hire. You mentioned that on the data analyst, you said that you reviewed the duty statement, and then later, you said on the field lead, the Northern Cal field, you reviewed the application. So just for clarity, the data analyst position, is it still in a duty statement stage, so it needs to be posted?

It's not a person that you have in mind, or is it --

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: It is a -- it is a person. We --

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: -- have the duty statement.
We have the application. They've already interviewed the candidate. So they're ready to move forward with filling the position.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. I just wanted to -- because I heard just -- I just heard "reviewed the duty statement", and I didn't hear "review application" like you did for the field lead, so I just wanted to -- I thought, wait, I thought we had people. So okay. Just want to make sure.

Secondly, and this is similar to what Commissioner Fornaciari also mentioned, I think in terms of the travel policy that was -- I mean, before COVID, honestly, I think I am concerned about what the impacts of travel on -- given the environment and everything, and what this means for us.

I'll be just blunt, and I'll just say that, do we put ourselves in any kind of place where we will be liable should somebody get sick, given what we know? And so I think we just need to be very careful about how the travel policy is constructed given that. I also do want to ask, and Commissioner Fornaciari, you kind of answered it.

My question was, can we opt to drive if we don't want to get on a plane somewhere? That kind of thing, and what's that going to look like and stuff. So I guess
that would be part of the scenarios that I think you're
talking about.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: That's certainly part of
the policy. There's a caveat in there for take the
cheapest route, the cheapest travel approach, which in
some cases would probably be flying, but there's also
some language in there that there are -- for exceptions.

And so we're planning on getting together with --
Commissioner Fernandez and I with Alvaro, and Raul, and
Anthony, and kind of hash through in detail, what are
these exceptions, and how do we manage these exceptions?
There are some other -- I have some safety concerns with
regard to parking, with regard to hotel rooms and what
type of a hotel could we stay in? Parking, that was a
big deal for the folks I work with, to feel like they're
safe parking in an airport. And that maybe costs more,
but to me, I don't care how much it costs as long as
you're safe. That's all I care about.

And so how do we -- how do we work within the rules
of the State? So we'll work through those questions.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. So we'll look forward to the
travel policy. Meanwhile, in terms of the hires, it
looks like we have four different hires.

Maybe Chief Counsel, you can advise us as to how
many motions we should entertain?
MR. PANE: Yes, Chair. And what I could recommend is we could have one motion, if we wanted -- if the committee wanted to designate by category. For example, the hiring of two retired annuitants, et cetera, you could do it by category, and it could all be in one motion. On the other hand, we could do them individually.

CHAIR YEE: So that sounds like either three or four motions, and the committee and subcommittee can --

MR. PANE: No, no. I think you could have one motion. I think you just have to delineate, in that motion, the categories of the employees, so we're specific. So that could be in one --

CHAIR YEE: Oh, so one motion for all four?

MR. PANE: Right.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Right. We'd have to be specific.

CHAIR YEE: Oh, great. Okay.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. Should we go for one, Commissioner Fornaciari? Okay.

So I will move that we move forward with two retired annuitants in our legal area, move forward with the lead analysts filling that position for outreach, and then also, moving forward with the data analyst position.

Is that right?
COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI:  It's a field lead.

CHAIR YEE:  Field lead.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI:  Field lead.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ:  Field lead. Yes. I keep getting that wrong. Sorry.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI:  Yeah. Field lead and data analyst.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ:  Okay. Field lead and data analyst.

CHAIR YEE:  Okay. Do we have a second?

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI:  I'll second.

CHAIR YEE:  Commissioner Akutagawa, is that a second?

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA:  Yeah. I was going to just -- yes, second.

CHAIR YEE:  So Commissioner Akutagawa beat you, Commissioner Fornaciari. We have a second.

Discussion? Yes, Commissioner Akutagawa?

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA:  Just a question. So just for clarification, with the hiring of the Northern California field lead, that will now complete all of the positions for the outreach staff; is that true?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ:  It will fill all the field lead, and now, the next step will be the support positions for each area, correct? I'm sorry, Anne. I
just --

MS. MARX: That's exactly correct.

CHAIR YEE: That's correct.

MS. MARX: That's exactly right.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay.

MS. MARX: It will be the fourth field lead. And we are working on the duty statements, actually, for the support staff.

CHAIR YEE: Very good. Let's go ahead and go to public comment.

And Katy, if we could have the short form, and open the lines?

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair. The Commission will now take public comment on the motion on the floor. To give comment, please call 877-8535-5246, and enter the meeting ID number 924 7650 5888 for this meeting.

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.

And I'd like to remind --

CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Katy.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Oh, I just wanted to remind those who have called in, if you would like to
make a comment on the motion on the floor, to please
press star 9 to raise your hand indicating you wish to
comment.

And with that, we do not have any raised hands,
Chair.

CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Katy. Any further discussion
while we wait a minute?

Thank you to the Finance and Administration
Subcommittee. It sounds like you guys have done a lot of
work to get these forwarded to us, as well as the travel
policy. We appreciate it.

Anymore comments?

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: The short form
instructions are completed on the stream, Chair.

CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Katy.

Okay. Let's go ahead and call a vote.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Very well, Chair. I'll repeat
the motion. The motion to move to approve for hire of
two RA candidates for legal, one data analyst, and one
northern field lead. Motion being made by Commissioner
Fernandez, seconded by Commissioner Akutagawa, at 2:04
p.m., and we will begin the vote.

Commissioner Ahmad?

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Yes.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Akutagawa?
VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yes.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Andersen?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Fernandez?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Fornaciari?

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yes.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Kennedy?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yes.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Le Mons?

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yes.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Sadhwani?

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Sinay?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yes.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Taylor?

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yes.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Toledo?

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Yes.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Turner?

Commissioner Vazquez?

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yes.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: The motion passes, Chair. Oh, I'm sorry. And yourself, Chair Yee? I'm sorry.

CHAIR YEE: Yes. Yes.
DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: My bad.

CHAIR YEE: No worries. Thank you, everyone. Thank you, Finance and Administration. Okay.

Moving on. Now, let's return back to 4E, Outreach and Engagement. And I believe you had some discussions during lunch, and we can finish up our discussion, then, on the matter of contracts going forward.

So Commissioners Sinay and Fornaciari?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yes. So we met at lunch, just to make sure that we had a motion that took into account everything that people had shared, what Commissioners had shared, and the sense of urgency we all have to make sure we move forward on outreach.

And just a reminder that the goals we have will not change. What will change is how we may get there.

And so we kept going back to how do we -- how are we going to measure success? And it goes back to our goals. And within our goals is the activation rate of .01 percent, or 40,000 COIs public input. Goal number 2 is to ensure that California's engagement is representative of the area. And goal number 3 is engagement is accessible to a wide range of Californians. And in the last two, we list out some of it, saying, including but not limited to.

So the motion that we wanted to bring -- oh, we also
wanted to highlight that there is interpretation and translation in the budget, and at the same time, throughout the proposal, we do bring up ethnic media, as well as reaching out to California's diversity. And again, really, goal number 2 is about ensuring that we are reaching the diversity of Californians, both in language and in other ways. The diversity in other ways.

So with all that in mind, the motion we would like to put on the table is to delegate to staff the right to place and approve contracts with vetted vendors to ensure we that we achieve our outreach goals.

And I'm not sure I got that right. I see Neal moving.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I think that's what we had in mind.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Okay.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. That's the motion.

Do we have a second?

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I'll second it.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Motion made by Commissioner Sinay, seconded by Commissioner Fornaciari.

Discussion?

I'm wondering who does the vetting of the vendors?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Well, originally, it was discussed that there is a State-vetted list, and so it
would be who -- it would be from that list.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Great.

Other discussion?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Alvaro.

CHAIR YEE: Alvaro. Director Hernandez?

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Yes. Thank you.

CHAIR YEE: Sorry.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: I blend in with the background, I know.

CHAIR YEE: You do.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: I just wanted to also mention that on top of being part of the State list, the staff will be doing a lot of the vetting to ensure that they meet the statement of work for each of the areas, and meeting the goals, that they have things in place to meet those goals as well.

So it's not just looking at a list and picking from there. We are going to have staff vetting the vendors even further.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Ahmad?

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you, Chair. I just wanted to ask a clarifying question. Is this motion giving staff delegated authority on this particular item? Because I thought -- my understanding was that they already do this, and already can bring forward a
contract, and then the Commission has to approve it, or
is this changing that process?

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Sinay?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: It's actually going one step
further, and our contract -- as Commissioners, we need to
make contract decisions. And our contract decision is to
delegate the ability to place, vet, and approve contracts
with --

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Got it. Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Sadhwani?

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: The original document that
we looked at had the full amount that would have
previously been used for the grants, which was in the
ballpark of $2 million. Is that what we're delegating?
Is they're an upper threshold to what it is that we are
delegating?

And we had a fairly lengthy conversation earlier
this morning about looking into what possible
opportunities we might have to expand our language
access. Does this include possible expansions of our
language access policy?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: We included those
conversations, and in it right now, we have -- yes. So
we're looking at the 2.55, 55 million, the whole budget.
In there, there is 150,000, but staff is -- we're giving
staff the flexibility if things need to be moved around, so that we can achieve our goals. So we keep pushing it -- focusing on the goals versus the actual work, because we want to have the flexibility to ensure that we reach our goals.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I'll also add that the Language Access Committee is looking at what the costs would be for that, and will come back to us with that. And at that point, we can talk about how we might move some of the money from one part or other into the interpretation, if we decide that's the way to go. But we're really getting the contracts going, which is the top part.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Andersen?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: So basically, you're asking us to approve the draft of the budget of it, right? So essentially realizing that, and with authority for the staff to adjust the budgets, and hence -- what I'm looking for is at the Commission level what are we -- how do we oversee this? And is it the budget then changes based on our goals, or how are we sort of, at a Commission level, following this?

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Sinay or Fornaciari, you want to --

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Sorry.
CHAIR YEE: -- respond to that?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Jane, so you're wanting to know how do we hold the contractors and staff accountable?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Well, that's a little more than what I said. Accountable is one thing, but how do we even track any of it? I mean, what -- these are numbers of budgets, say when the budget comes up again, okay, we can say, hey, we spent this much, or that much, and this is what we got, but those amounts will shift and change, so.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: No. No. That's a great question, and one of the -- when we met with staff, we did talk about the need of kind of a time line and milestones, so that we know when things are -- how things are moving along with this plan. Currently, the plan doesn't have all of that, because you need the contractors input to have that.

And so we will constantly be working on ensuring that we do have ways to measure that success and look at it. And Commissioner Fornaciari and I are working on kind of a transition document, and it's the same as -- it's come up with other committees.

What's our role now? Now that we are staffed up, and what do we do as Outreach and Engagement, and what we keep saying is we need to keep our eye on the big picture
versus the details of the every day.

And it doesn't look like I'm answering your question.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. You're answering the more very specific of how do we -- accountability for action, exactly what they're doing. More of, like, a much more micro level. I'm talking about macro level, where the money's going. Where the money's going, and how do we keep -- like, budget, you can look at, okay, this is allocated from that, and here where we are, then we can kind of get a gauge on how much is being done. But these categories are all going to float, is what you're basically saying.

So then will the budget amounts that are connected to those, do they also float, as it's adjusted? Like when I find out a contract, I'll go, oh, no, no, no, I don't need that kind of money, or I need less, I need more. But those other areas need -- like the social media might go up, where certain newspapers might go down, newspapers might go up, social media might go down, that sort of thing, so.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: So I don't think -- so I'll just jump in. No. That's not the intent, right? The intent is if we decide to do something different as a Commission, we will figure out how to reallocate money in
that budget. Now, as far as how money is spent in
detail, each of the contracts that are placed with a
contractor will have explicit goals and expectations for
those contractors in how they're going to execute their
contract in their specific zone.

And they'll be zone specific plans in contracts, to
be the most effective in reaching out to the peoples in
those specific zones, in concert with our Commission
objectives. And so we'll keep track of the progress and
the effectiveness -- staff will keep track of the
progress and effectiveness --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay.
COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: -- of these individual
contractors via the statement of work for the contract.
COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay.
COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Does --
COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: And --
COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: -- that answer your
question?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: -- who reports back to the
commission? Who -- what -- do we just get an overview?
Every -- you know, do we get a, hey, it's going great?
Or do we have more detail? That's what I mean. What --
you know, we're assigning part of our responsibility and
you know, I don't want us to just blindly go, okay, guys,
off you go.

So are you -- does -- do you as the subcommittee report back to the Commission? Or is it a joint thing?

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I mean, yes.

Yeah, yeah, yeah. That's our role, right? To keep an eye on what's happening here with outreach. And --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Because that wasn't clear in the motion I --

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: -- so.


CHAIR YEE: Okay. Going back a while, I think we had Commissioners Sadhwani, Le Mons, and then Akutagawa.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I'll pass at this time.

CHAIR YEE: Okay.

Commissioner Le Mons?

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: I'll pass. Well -- yeah.

CHAIR YEE: Do I?

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yeah, I'll -- I think I kind of got my question answered already. So I'll wait. Maybe I'll get some more clarity. I'll pass.

CHAIR YEE: Okay.

Commissioner Akutagawa and then Toledo.
VICE CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: I think -- I'm going to agree. I'm going to pass for right now too.

CHAIR YEE: Okay.

Commissioner Toledo.

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: I'm just wanting -- can somebody repeat the emotion just because I'd just like to hear the motion again?

CHAIR YEE: Sure.

Director Hernandez?

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Yes. The motion is to delegate to staff the right to place and approve contracts with vetted vendors to ensure the CRC achieves its outreach goals.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Le Mons?

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: So I don't have a question. I have more of a comment.

So it sounds like we're -- the motion on the floor is to give authority, but it's not to do that without oversight. And the subcommittee would continue to monitor and give oversight. And through whatever reporting that we would get back from both the subcommittee as well as the Executive Director's report and/or Outreach Director's report, et cetera, we would have this high-level oversight as to whether or not we feel like the actions that are being taken are moving in
the directions of our goals and objective; is that -- did
I kind of get that? Is that what we're doing?

Okay. I'm good.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I'm hearing --

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fernandez. Commissioner
Fernandez then Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: The only -- when Director
Hernandez reread the motion, I think part of it said to
ensure -- what was it? To ensure --

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: To ensure that CRC achieves its
outreach goals.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I don't say -- I don't
think we can say we can put this all on them to ensure
that we reach our goals.

There are goals that we have, and there -- they'll
be in alignment with our goals, but -- so if we don't
achieve our goals, it's their fault? I mean, I guess
that's -- I'm probably getting too wordy on it, but it
just seems like a lot for them to shoulder right now --
for all of us to shoulder. So I just I don't have a -- I
don't have any issues. I'm totally supportive of
delegating to them. I just had a little concern with how
it's worded. Thank you.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Kennedy -- Kennedy, Sinay,
and then Toledo.
COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: And then Akutagawa.

CHAIR YEE: And Akutagawa.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. I would be much more comfortable supporting this if Commissioner Le Mons' language was essentially incorporated into the motion. Thank you.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Sinay?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I was -- I was listening in and then I was -- I was going to do a friendly -- friendly, what's it called?

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: A friendly amendment?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Amendment to my own emote -- to my own emotion. Not my emotion, my motion.

But before I go there, CRC to me, Citizen Redistricting Commission, is all of us, staff and Commissioners.

And if we don't hold ourselves accountable and all our contractors to reach our goals, then who are we holding accountable to reach our goals? So I do -- I'm a firm believer that if you set goals, you have to hold yourself accountable to those goals.

So my friendly amendment, based on what I've been hearing -- and please do some more friendly amendments, Neal, I mean Commissioner Fornaciari, if we need them -- is to delegate the staff, the placing, vetting, and
approving of contractors not to exceed 2.55 million with vendors -- contracts with vendors to ensure that CRC achieves its outreach goals, the Outreach and Education and Engagement Subcommittee will oversee the implementation? I wasn't sure what Commissioner Le Mons's language was, but I know it was around that.

With the oversight of Outreach Engagement Subcommittee; is that the right wording?

CHAIR YEE: Let's see what Director Hernandez types out.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Yeah, I missed half of that. Sorry.

CHAIR YEE: Once more.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: So I have motion to delegate to staff the right to place and approve contracts with vetted vendors not to exceed 2.5 million to ensure the Commission -- that the Commission achieves the outreach goals. And then there's something about oversight that I missed.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yeah, that was the part that I was trying to figure out exactly what was the language that Commissioner Kennedy and Commissioner Le Mons and it sounded like Commissioner Andersen -- yeah, others were saying about, you know, if that if the committee -- the subcommittee has. And I didn't know if it was oversight
CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Toledo?

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Thank you. I'm just curious, it was my understanding that the full commission has to approve -- the language sounds like a staff will be approving the contracts, that we're delegating authority to approve contracts to them. And I'm just wondering if we can delegate that authority to sign off on the contracts, or if that's what is the intent of the language here. And I think this is just a question to Anthony if --

MR. PANE: Sure. So Commissioner Toledo, the -- the phrasing of the statute that was at issue a little bit earlier was that the commission shall make hiring, removal, or contracting decisions. And that requires a special vote.

So the question is, what is a contract decision? A contract decision would certainly include contracts but would not be necessarily limited to contracts. So here, Commissioner Sinay's motion and seconded by Commissioner Fornaciari is -- the motion is going to be regarding a contract decision.

And that contract decision is in -- is inclusive of a delegation to staff regarding -- and then there is a -- there is the motion that I wouldn't be able to reiterate
right now. But I hope that helps at least --

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: No, that's --

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: -- a little bit --

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: -- that's very --

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: -- with the analysis.

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: -- helpful. That is very helpful.

So you're -- you're also saying that this is a special vote, then?

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Correct.

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Thank you.

CHAIR YEE: And is it 2.5 or 2.55?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I put 2.55, the full -- the full total that's on the budget.

CHAIR YEE: Yeah, we should get that precise.

Meanwhile, Commissioner Akutagawa, I think you were next?

VICE CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yeah, I -- actually, I'm going to pass. I think I got my question answered.

Thank you.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Sadhwani?

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I have full trust in our staff to use these funds appropriately, but I do support the additional amendment of oversight. I think just as good stewards of The People of California's money, I
think it's important that we continue to be very clear
about that oversight.

To that end, you know, one of the things I didn't
see -- and maybe I just overlooked it in the proposal --
I understand that there is a designation between Phase II
and Phase III, which Phase II being activation and Phase
III being line drawing.

Is there any sense of how these funds would be
divided between those two time periods? And if so, I
would want to ask to see -- and I -- certainly it could
come through the subcommittee -- some analytics of what
these funds have achieved, right?

So if the goal is having more people involved, as
we -- as we've outlined here, then I want to see that
report back before we move into Phase III to make sure
that we're hitting those goals. And again, I think this
just goes to being good stewards of this money.

I understand from a contracting -- I don't want to
be in the way of holding up contracts. But I do think we
have an obligation to make sure that these funds are
going to the right places and actually meeting our
targeted goals.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Sinay.

And then at some point we need the whole motion --
amended motion to be stated.
COMMISSIONER SINAY: I'll state.

CHAIR YEE: And seconded, yes.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yes, say it again.

Commissioner Sadhwani, I fully support what you're saying. And we had talked with staff about creating similar to what we have for social media, you know, we get social media analytics. That's easy because it's social media and State can pull it up.

We are working with staff so that we -- that we have a report both on outreach and communications. What we've been waiting for is really for the table, what's a -- the air table to be able to pull all that information together quickly and post -- you know, and present it and it'll be presented by zones and other -- other statistics that we look at that we think is important.

So we are moving towards that. And please send any analytics that -- what you would like to see in that to staff, I would say to Director Kaplan, so we can start kind of vetting through what commissioners would like to see and what can be done.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioners Sadhwani, Akutagawa, and Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Just to that end, I think it's really difficult to identify like the causal mechanism for people's participation. However, I think
simply adding to the signup form, for example, how did you hear about today's meeting, might be really instructive. Not going to be perfect data.

But simply capturing a little bit of, like, were the radio ads effective, right? Were billboards effective? So I would encourage staff to think through different ways in which we might further assess the impact of these funds.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Akutagawa.

VICE CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: I think -- well, one, I think along those lines, I know that Director Ceja is tracking social media statistics. You know, maybe part of it would also be analytics that show after, let's say, a radio ad is launched, do we see additional engagement in our social media in addition to sign-ups and other participation as part of a multifaceted way of trying to really, you know, assess whether or not there's any type of awareness and engagement.

It may not necessarily result in an immediate participation in a community of interest input meeting, but at least if there is engagement, then there's hope that what it's doing is resulting in more people understanding and being aware of the work that we're doing.

I guess, on that end, I -- one other question that I
do have, and I just want to get this clarification. I know that the realm of contractors what I heard this morning is pretty broad. For the staff, I'm curious as to I know you mentioned small business. Personally, I would like to encourage the -- at least some portion of these funds to be able to go to diverse businesses as well too. I think that that would be important.

So being intentional, in terms of ensuring -- I'm not saying that all have to be, but I think it would be nice to see that we do have a good mix of diverse businesses included as part of the potential contractors that would receive some of these funds, since I will still forever be just really sad that we could not disperse the funds in the way we had hoped to. But I think it would be nice if we could ensure that some of these funds do go into diverse communities in other ways, so.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Kennedy and then Fernandez?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. I've mentioned in the past the potential utility of a baseline study or survey. And I'm not necessarily proposing that we go out and commission a statewide survey, but I know from my own experience that it's often very cost effective to piggyback on other peoples' surveys. We could add two questions to somebody else's statewide
survey and I think, you know, relatively -- or certainly reasonable cost and perhaps get some very useful figures. And I'd be happy to pitch in on the analysis.

I mean, we're just looking for -- to get raw data piggybacking on somebody else's, we add two or three questions or whatever, and then, you know, Commissioner Sadhwani, anyone else, I, we can -- we could all crunch the numbers and come up with, I think, some useful information for the Commission. So I just wanted to put that out there that there are ways of doing this.

And I also wanted to highlight one other provision in our legal framework. It's from 8253.6 of Government Code Subsection B says, "the Commission with fiscal oversight from the Department of Finance or its successor shall have procurement and contracting authority and may hire staff and consultants exempt from civil service requirements for the purposes of this act, including legal representation". That's there in addition to what the language that Chief Counsel had read earlier.

I would like to request that we remove the word "right" from the motion. As I understand the motion is currently written, numerous Commissioners have used the phraseology "delegation of authority". I'm perfectly happy with that, but rights exist, they don't get delegated. The authority can be delegated. Thanks.
CHAIR YEE: Okay.

Commissioner Fernandez. And then hopefully someone can give us a reading of the revised motion.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. Thank you, Chair. I'm just going to build on Commissioner Sadhwani's. I have mentioned in the past and I brought it forward to Lessons Learned that it would have been great to know six months ago that it would be nice to add the question of, where did you hear about this communities of interest tool on the Statewide Database. Because if we do add it to our appointments, we're only going to get part of the response because I'm probably a -- it should be a good assumption on my part that the majority of our input will be on our tool, hopefully.

So I don't know if the Community of Interest Tool Subcommittee, if they have even forwarded that possibility to the Statewide Database to see if they can add that additional question.

But I think just overall, if we had that question answered, we would know did our basics redistricting presentations, were those effective? I mean, what has been effective in terms of getting the outreach out there? So I just wanted to throw that out there again. Thank you very much.

CHAIR YEE: Thank you.
Okay, Commissioner Sinay, I think you seemed to have
the revised version ready to go?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yes. And my mistake for saying
"right". I got all confide but it was never actually in
the written piece.

So thank you, Commissioner Kennedy.

So the new motion, to delegate authority to -- to
delegate authority to staff -- wait. To delegate --
to --

Is this right? To delegate authority to staff -- to
delegate --

CHAIR YEE: Sounds good.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: No. To delegate staff
authority -- no. Hold on. To delegate to staff the
responsibility for placing, vetting, and approving of
contracts not to exceed 2.55 million with vendors -- with
vendors to ensure that CRC achieves its outreach goals
with oversight by the Outreach Education Engagement
Subcommittee. That's a lot of to's.

CHAIR YEE: To address one of their previous
concerns, how about "to help ensure"? Just so that it's
clear it's not entirely on them?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I don't accept that friendly
amendment. I'm a firm believer in holding us to our
goals.
CHAIR YEE: Okay.

So with the original rereading by Commissioner Sinay, Commissioner Fornaciari, do you uphold your second?

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I uphold my second.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Do you need me to read it again, Alvaro?

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: One more time, please.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I figured. Sorry.

To delegate to staff the responsibility for placing, vetting, and approving of contracts not to exceed $2.55 million dollars with vendor -- contracts with vendors to ensure that the CRC achieves its outreach goals with oversight by the Outreach Education and Engagement Subcommittee.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Why don't we go to public comment on the motion? And since we are at the end of item number 4, let's also take any public comment on any of the other subcommittee reports in item number 4, closing out item number 4. So we're taking public comment on the motion on the floor, as well as anything else under item 4.

Commissioner Fernandez and then Andersen.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I will respectfully disagree regarding using -- we can always set goals, but
we can never ensure that we're going to reach those
goals. So I just want to be up front as to why I would
not support it, because we can't ensure that a goal is
going to be achieved. We can try to achieve the goal. I
know it's just language issue, but I just want to let you
know why I will not be able to support this motion.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Andersen?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah, that -- that's
separate. The line drawers are still on item 4. Unless
you want to lump us into --

CHAIR YEE: Oh. Oh, my goodness. You're right.

So it -- my bad.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: We could --

CHAIR YEE: -- my bad.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: -- we could shift to the end
and just do all that at one time but.

CHAIR YEE: No, that's fine. We'll not take comment
on item 4, then.

Commissioner Taylor?

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yes. Thank you, Chair. I
agree. I think the language of it is important. I think
I would have to side with Commissioner Fernandez.

It's hard to -- it's hard to put our work and have
it rely on a response. All we can do is ensure what we
do and not necessarily the response that might be in
hand. Thank you.

CHAIR YEE: Okay.

Well, Commissioner Vazquez.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: I just wanted to weigh in on how I hear and understand this whole ensure thing. My understanding, it's clarifying the purpose of the action, and it's a much broader, ensure, like we're ensuring that we are moving toward this goal.

And so I don't view it as sort of a stick-to to bludgeon our staff or our efforts overall, but rather it's defining and clarifying the purpose of the action. So I think it's fine as it is.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Andersen.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah, I appreciate that interpretation. But you know, from one who's had to write things that are carefully scrutinized for years, you don't write it so it can be interpreted properly. You write it so it can't be not misinterpreted.

And so I think we, with that idea, we need to -- we need to modify the words because we have an idea of what we're trying to get to, but we don't quite have the words. So I think it's worth the time to adjust.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner -- oh yeah, thank you.

Commissioner Le Mons?

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Might we change "ensure" to
"in service of" CRC goals or whatever that statement is?

Because the actions that they're going to be taking are
in service of the goals that we are outlining. And we
know we are all responsible for meeting those goals
collectively.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Sinay, it's your motion.

What do you think?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yeah. Commissioner Le Mons
and Commissioner Vazquez knows where I'm coming from
being nonprofit leaders and so you can see how much I've
pushed my client. I would almost be more comfortable
saying "that ensure" versus "to ensure". But it is -- it
is about the contracts, not the contacts.

I could do "in service of". But again, I -- going
back to what Commissioner Andersen says, all these words
weaken, I think, what we're trying to achieve and let the
contractors off the hook.

But -- so I'm seeing it the opposite of you all.
I'm seeing it as we're weakening it and the contractors
can say, oh, we were in service of. Oh, yeah, we got --
we got ten percent, come on, we got towards that.

But if my colleague Commissioner Fornaciari is,
which he already shook his head yes, I will -- I will
accept the amendment. But I think "in serv" -- yeah.

CHAIR YEE: So "in service of" rather than "ensure"?
COMMISSIONER SINAY: Well, I was waiting to see what
Commissioner Fornaciari said.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fornaciari and then
Commissioner Ahmad.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I'll defer to Commissioner
Ahmed.

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you. I was just going to
say the motion language is not the contract with the
vendor, so they can't use the motion language as we
reached our deliverables or not. I think this is just
getting staff the delegated authority to move through the
process. I'm on the fence about this "ensure", "not
ensure" thing.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Okay. I will move it -- I will
make the amendment "in service of".

CHAIR YEE: And Commissioner Fornaciari, are you
okay with that?

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, I'm fine with that.

CHAIR YEE: Okay.

Commissioner Kennedy?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: I had already raised my hand
and it was just to say I -- someone had mentioned a while
back the phrasing "consistent with", which I think, you
know, to me does what we want it to do. Thank you.

CHAIR YEE: Well, we're at "in service of", unless
Commissioner Sinay wants to change it.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I'm okay either way. I like both -- or the same.

CHAIR YEE: We need you to pick one.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: All right. Well, we can go with "consistent with".

CHAIR YEE: "Consistent with". Okay. And Commissioner Fornaciari, "consistent with"?

Okay.

Director Hernandez?

Let's see, let's hear from Commissioner Ahmad.

And Director Hernandez, if you could read the revised motion.

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Oh, I was just going to ask if Commissioner Sinay can read her fully-revised motion.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: I will go ahead and read what I have. It may or may not be correct, but we'll do our best. Okay. "The motion to delegate to staff the responsibility to place and vet and approve contracts with vendors not to exceed 2.550 million consistent with Commission outreach goals with oversight of the Outreach and Engagement Subcommittee".

CHAIR YEE: Okay. I see heads nodding. Let's go ahead and take public comment on the motion on the floor, not on other item 4 reports.
PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair.

CHAIR YEE: Katy?

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair.

The Commission will now take public comment on item -- on the motion on the floor. To give comment, please call 877-853-5247. Enter the meeting ID number 924 7650 5888 for this meeting.

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.

And at this time we do not have anyone in the queue. I would like to remind those in the queue that star -- please press star 9 to raise your hand indicating you wish to comment. The public comment is for the motion on the floor at this time.

CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Katy.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Um-hum.

CHAIR YEE: And just to confirm, this is a special vote?

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: That is correct.

CHAIR YEE: Thank you. Wait a moment.

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

CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Katy.
Okay. Director Hernandez, let's call the vote.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Once again, the motion is to
delegate to staff the responsibility to place and vet and
approve contracts with vendors, not to exceed 2,550,000,
consistent with the Commission's outreach goals and
oversight of the Outreach and Engagement Subcommittee.

Motion made by Commissioner Sinay, seconded by
Commissioner Fornaciari. We'll begin the vote.

CHAIR YEE: And one typo, responsibility.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Oh. It looks right to me.

Where is spellcheck when you need it?

CHAIR YEE: [Siblity].

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Is that correct? Okay.

Anything else?

CHAIR YEE: Thank you. That's a good word, though,
responsibility (sic), needs to respond.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Commissioner
Fernandez, for that additional edit. Appreciate it.

Okay. We will begin the vote.

We'll begin, Commissioner Ahmad?

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Yes.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Akutagawa?

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yes.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Andersen?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes.
DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Fernandez?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Fornaciari? Wow. Darn.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yes.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: I'm sorry. Yeah. Commissioner Kennedy?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yes.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Le Mons?

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yes.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: COMMISSIONER SADHWANI?

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Sinay?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yes.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Taylor?

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yes.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Toledo?

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Yes.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Turner?

Commissioner Vazquez?

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yes.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: And Commissioner Yee?

CHAIR YEE: Yes.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: The motion passes.

CHAIR YEE: Thank you, everyone.
Thank you outreach and engagement for this big step by -- for your work.

Okay. So wrapping up item 4, we have item 4Q, and the be the report from the line drawer -- line drawing subcommittee, Commissioners Andersen and Sadhwani.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. Thank you, everybody.

Just leading off here, going over the -- what the line drawers have been doing in our community of interest meetings. I believe they've been -- the maps has -- has been pretty well received. A couple of ideas have changes. I just want to, kind of, go over with you.

In the statewide meeting between each presentation -- you know, each input, then the -- you know, the big screen you go back to will be the full state.

If you'll notice about halfway through Zone D, the -- it went from, rather than going back to the full state, it went just back to the zone area itself with a little bit larger. And that was, sort of, the -- that was, kind of, done and then -- then approved by the chairs of that day. Thank you because it gave the whole -- the public and the commission just more an idea focusing on that area, and you could see a bit more of it, like, you know, some feedback on that.

Also, one thing that has -- and I wanted to get into
the -- the major highways. One issue, which, you know, we've been saying, boy, would be nice to be have the highways. The problem is the way the -- it's -- it's all in one layer. It's all the roads, and so what the line drawers are trying to work out is if they can divide a layer in the -- the software that they're using to only show, like, you know, the interstates and the major highways. And they're still working on that. So that's an issue to come -- coming up with, and so I'd like feedback on that.

But then a biggie is coming up in Los Angeles here, and I'm going to sub introduce this, and then Commissioner Sadhwani's going to give us more information on this. Los Angeles -- the -- the county of -- City of Los Angeles, I believe it is, has what's called a neighborhood council's group, and they have actually official neighborhood maps because -- like, you've heard of city -- Studio City, other area like this. Those aren't actually cities, and you know, I'm not from southern California.

AUTOMATED VOICE SYSTEM: Thank you for calling Lorento Urology in Greenburg.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I've worked there a lot.

All right. Whoops. We're good. And --

AUTOMATED VOICE SYSTEM: (Indiscernible) --
COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: So the line drawers would like to show that, but they don't want to promote those neighborhoods as that's the lines, you know, and that's the way they are because some people will say, well, that -- but that's not how I how interpret Studio City. So they'd like some direction from the commission on this topic.

So I might -- Commissioner Sadhwani, if you could add a bit more to that, I see Commissioner Akutagawa has a hand up -- about that, and we can, sort of, any other comments about the line drawing.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah, sure. So it was just brought up, if it's helpful, to have the neighborhood council lines. So for example, we have had calls about Studio City, or if we get call about Woodland Hills, or Boyle Heights, right? Like, these are neighborhoods within the City of Los Angeles.

There are neighborhood councils that have a boundary map. Fredy was helping out and -- to make sure that it's -- I -- this -- these are boundaries that are approved by the city council, but that doesn't mean that -- that someone might have a different boundary for their neighborhood, right?

But is it helpful so that when we have a caller calling in saying, keep Studio City together, or keep the
San -- two city -- you know, two San Fernando Valley neighborhoods together that we have that, both in terms of when we are viewing it during the meeting?

But also, more importantly -- and this was, kind of the key question she was asking is -- you know, on the backend, the mappers are also drawing those COIs so that it goes it in with the COI tool submissions as well, so that every time a caller comes in, we generate a shape file, right, in -- in a map, basically. Do we want to have those lines on there, right?

And I think it -- the real question is, is this helpful for us? Or you know, do we anticipate that this is going to be more problematic? Personally, I think it's helpful, much like our zones, right? I mean, our zones are not -- they are arbitrary when it comes to actual line drawing, but they are helpful just in terms of organizing ourselves and orienting ourselves towards the state.

To me, I would look at the neighborhood councils the same way as it might be helpful just to, kind of, orient ourselves to the different neighborhoods within the City of Los Angeles, but that doesn't necessarily mean that it means anything with comes to actual line drawing, right? This is, kind of, the purpose of -- of getting this -- this COI input.
So I leave that to you, but they are looking for that direction from the commission. And so -- so it would be very helpful to have -- have something to take back with -- to them, so that they know for tomorrow how to proceed.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. And this is a two-pronged approach as Commissioner Sadhwani just said. Visually, it's -- it's really easy, but we don't want to then further promote, and say, and this is how you have defined your neighborhood. And that's the subtle difference here.

And I don't know if we can -- I think visually for tomorrow, it'd be, sort of, beneficial, but beyond that, either do we want to say, and then make that part of the announcement for any time we do zone H. You know, like we do L.A., so people understand. It might elaborate more, and I -- that's, sort of, the base of that discussion.

So I think I saw Commissioner Akutagawa, and then Kennedy, and the Fernandez. Unless -- actually --

CHAIR YEE: It was Akutagawa --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: -- (indiscernible).

CHAIR YEE: -- Fernandez, and Kennedy, yes.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you.

CHAIR YEE: Um-hum. Commissioner Akutagawa.
VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Sure, and thank you. And it looks like Commissioner Fornaciari also wants to say something.

CHAIR YEE: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: So my offices is in the City of L.A., so it's in the Little Tokyo area, which does have a neighborhood council. And I think that -- to what Commissioner Sadhwani was saying, I think that using the neighborhood councils are doing to be helpful. Most people, whether or not they agree with the, quote, unquotes, lines of what would be the neighborhood as defined by the neighborhood council, you know, that's up for debate.

But I think in terms of being to visualize the regions that -- that the callers will be talking about, most people who live in the city that -- that is the City of L.A. that has these neighborhood councils, most people generally are familiar with the neighborhood councils. And -- and I remember that some of the people who did call in refer to the neighborhood councils.

And so I think using it as a guide, and if we are upfront in saying, look, we're just using this for the purposes of visualization, not for the purposes of line drawing or anything else. I think most people will be okay.
I think the only caution that I do want to give to those who are not from region, is that it is not representative of L.A. County, which is much, much larger. It is just specific to the City of Los Angeles. And so that's the only -- the -- the caveat that I would give.

So we'd probably be able to get much better detail for the city, but the county level --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: -- we'd probably have to rely on some of the other maps that the line drawers will be -- you know, will have to show us.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fernandez?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes, I -- I'm just going to go ditto with what Commissioner Akutagawa -- for me that -- I am not familiar with Los Angeles, so it would be helpful. Just listening, I think it was a statewide, and they were talking about some neighborhoods, and I wasn't exactly sure other than what they're showing --

CHAIR YEE: Um-hum.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: -- as, like, this round area. And as long as we have a disclaimer saying that they're not our lines. And I -- I would have to say there will probably be some residents in L.A. that would appreciate that information as well because they can
either agree or disagree, or oh, that's where that are
is.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN:  Um-hum.  Um-hum.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ:  So yes, I would appreciate
that, me personally.  Thank you.

CHAIR YEE:  Commissioner Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY:  Thank you, Chair.  I -- I see
great value in having the neighborhood council names as
labels on the map.  I think it --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN:  Um-hum.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY:  -- would help the mappers
zone us in faster.  I am still having problems, and you
know, you all heard me having to guide the mappers to an
area --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN:  Yeah.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY:  -- in San Bernadino County
the other day that they couldn't find.  And -- and
meanwhile, the -- the callers clock was ticking, and I'm
like, this is why the clock shouldn't be ticking if I'm
sitting --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN:  Um-hum.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY:  -- there having to help the
mapper find the location.  I think having the labels is
going to be helpful.  I would say, can we have the labels
without the lines?
Having the labels without the lines would not --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I really don't know.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: -- put us on record as, you know, even having to endorse or disclaim the lines while still having the information that helps us zone in. It would also help us because people, invariably, are talking about neighboring areas, and having those labels on the map is going to help us understand what nearby areas they're talking about.

And I, frankly, don't need the precise lines. If somebody wants to -- and -- and we want people to give us what they see as the outline of their neighborhood or community of interest, I'd rather they tell us what the lines are, but I'm happy to have the labels. Thank you.

CHAIR YEE: And Commissioner Fornaciari, and then I have a comment, and Commissioner Ahmad.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. I -- I guess I look at it a little differently. I mean, I'm looking at the map right now on Google Maps of the -- San Fernando Valley. It says Northridge, but I don't know if Northridge is, you know, two blocks wide or a hundred blocks wide and -- and tall, or anything. So for me, I really want to see the lines.

And -- and it sounds like the neighborhoods in L.A. are -- are, kind of, official or least semi-official. If
you're electing people to represent your neighborhood, then -- the the -- the definition of the neighborhoods sounds to me like it's official. And if it's official, then I don't see why we wouldn't use that as a starting point and offer folks the opportunity to use that as a -- as a basis for starting, and then modify that as -- as, you know, they see fit.

But I would certainly help me to, kind of, understand, you know, what the area they're talking about is. And just to add to that, I don't know if it's possible. If there's a definition of the San Fernando Valley, the San Gabriel Valley, and whatever that other valley was over -- over by --

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Simi.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: No.

CHAIR YEE: Cochran.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: No. Kind of around Chino Hills, and Chino, and there's some other valley.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Oh, Canyon.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I don't --

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Oh yeah, the Canyon.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: The Canyon.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Carbon Canyon and --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes. Yeah.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: -- and like the Coachella
Valley and Yucca Valley.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Pomona Valley.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: It's -- it's Pomona Valley.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Pomona Valley.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Pomona Valley.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Pomona Valley. That's it.

The Pomona Valley.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: It was just like, oh, okay. Yeah. I don't know -- it -- so I don't know if there's any -- any kind of definition of those valleys, but that might be helpful as another layer. Thank you.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. My comment, yeah. I think I'm for lines because, you know, if one of the lines us under -- under dispute, if that's the caller's interest, then they'll mention that, and that'll be part of the testimony.

Meanwhile, you know, we don't ask people to clearly define the whole boundary around what they're talking about, and the line drawers have to digitize something, right? So it -- it's really -- is more efficient if they start with, at least, official neighborhood boundaries, I think.

And you know, makes me, kind of, wonder what exactly are they digitizing. Some of the input we've been getting, some of it is pretty -- pretty vague, you know,
so it'll be interesting to get, you know -- to close the
loop on some of those, and found out what -- what we're
putting down on -- for our data.

Okay. Commissioner Ahmad?

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you, Chair. I think I'm
in agreement with Commissioner Kennedy on this one. From
my understanding, there are lines that have been
designated by many government systems for cities and
counties, but it's neighborhoods and communities of
interest lines that we need from Californians directly,
which should sound familiar because it's exactly verbatim
from our presentation.

And Commissioner Taylor and I actually reached out
to every neighborhood council in Los Angeles during our
outreach phase, and I -- I don't know if I'm comfortable
going with something that may be semi-official, that if I
Google it from my end, and someone else Googles it from
their end, will they find the same results. Whereas, we
know, you know, you can't dispute the lines of a city.
No one can say, hey San Jose starts here. It's -- no,
no, no. It's established where it starts.

So I would be more comfortable with this if, you
know, we can label the general area, then we ask
Californians directly to tell us where those boundaries
are.
And to your point, Commissioner Yee, some of the feedback, the community of interest input that we are getting, has been difficult because we don't have the polygon, right? And those polygons are going to be used as building blocks to build these districts.

And so if we're saying that, you know, these neighborhood lines should be there, we're making an assumption, but this is what someone is telling us is there polygon, which we'll then -- we will use to draw these lines for a district, so I'm -- I'm -- I'm uncomfortable with any lines being on any map except for cities and counties at this point.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Sadhwani?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. Um-hum.

CHAIR YEE: So Commissioner Sadhwani?

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Oh, sorry. So -- so I don't know if it's technologically possible for them to load labels and not the boundaries themselves by tomorrow. My understanding is I think it would be a -- like, a GIS layer, that they would be adding to their map --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Um-hum.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: -- that they would then be able to show us. That map is available, and my understanding -- maybe Fredy, if you want to chime in
here. I know you worked for the City of Los Angeles. I believe these neighborhood councils are considered, like, neighborhood council districts, and -- and there are neighborhood councils, and -- and yes -- and Commissioner Vazquez, of course, you -- you -- you live in the city as well.

So I do believe that they are official boundaries. That -- like I said before, that does not --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Um-hum.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: -- mean that we have to use them for the purposes of our line drawing, but simply in terms of visualization when people call in, do we want to do it?

And so I'm going to -- the website in which that is available is empower L.A. dot org, backslash city, dash map, so empower L.A. dot org, bash -- backslash city, dot map. And so you can see that they -- this is a GIS layer, basically, if you pull up that --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Um-hum.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: -- website in which it shows you on there very -- all of the various neighborhood council districts. I believe that the map that's here --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Um-hum.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: -- is a clickable map. So it would be having these boundaries available visually,
as well as in the development of those COIs. So that if someone calls in and says, keep these two neighborhood council districts together, the line drawers would have access --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Um-hum.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: -- to them. But I certainly hear the concerns. And of course, that's -- that's the point of this conversations. The -- the line drawers want to take the -- the --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Um-hum.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: -- the desires of the commission and they don't want to have -- you know, be making a policy decision such as this.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. And I -- I just want to add onto that, as Commissioner Sadhwani said, this is unusual, which is why we're bringing it up. You always hear about neighborhoods all over the state, and you know, there's a -- a -- next thing you know, you know, they're recalling all sorts of various different things.

L.A. City has -- this is very different. It -- it's very specific. They vote on them. They have -- they have councils that draw these lines, which is why this is -- this is why we're bringing this up.

But we don't want to -- as Commissioner Ahmad was indicating, we don't want to say that, and so therefore
it is. We want to say, this is what we're using, and do you like it? And if we just have the label there, the people won't know. They'll just -- they can assume. Oh, well, what they're saying is exactly what I think. And that's why I thought, you know, if we put the lines on -- also, Commissioner Sadhwani is completely correct. We want to see it tomorrow. It's the full layer. It has to be another label and the picture.

So I just wanted to bring that up. It is a little bit from the City of L.A.

CHAIR YEE: And the head commissioner is Vazquez, Fornaciari, Sinay, and Akutagawa, and then also Director Ceja.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: An additional option, which would broaden out from the City of L.A. would be to use the L.A. Times, Los Angeles City -- Los Angeles metro area boundaries. I can forward around the -- the link on the L.A. Times website, but they went through a similar process. I believe it's inclusive of the neighborhoods -- the designated neighborhoods within the City of L.A., and then also includes unincorporated areas.

They have detailed their process for how they've -- they created their L.A. Times map, which was -- had, you know, a bunch of community input. It -- in some -- I
don't remember, but I believe there were, like, debates about how and why there -- the L.A. Times map deferred from L.A. City's official map. Again, because this is all about political power, about who is in what community.

And so that's an additional option for helping us structure, and I'm not sure -- I am -- I could be swayed either way that -- that using the L.A. Times versus the L.A. City, like, official maps could be more or less problematic, depending on how you approach this work. So it could -- it -- it's an option.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fornaciari.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I'll just pass for now.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: At first, I was yes because I just spoke to the westside council that was -- was -- the westside council is comprised of all the other -- a -- a bunch of neighborhoods. And then I thought, no, wait a second. L.A. City is not the only one who's done these neighborhood councils. We've got them in San Diego, too, as well, and there's over a hundred and one, as well in the City of San Diego.

It may not be as official looking and everything, but there was a time that San Diego unified -- San Diego unified. San Diego Union Tribune had put out the map of
the hundred and one neighborhoods, and I asked somebody about it the other day, and they were like, no, it's just a hundred and twenty-three or something.

And so neighborhood lines are really -- and I remember when were first got all seated, and someone talked about the L.A. Times one. They said that just trying to figure out what was Koreatown was a huge debate, and that you ask a hundred people, and a hundred people tell you something different. So I would rather not confuse people who are calling in and them debate us on these arbitrary -- these lines versus let them tell -- you know.

I -- so I'm -- I'm with Commissioner Ahmad. Kind of, let's use what's already there, and not open a can of worms because we may have to open them in other cities as well.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Akutagawa.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. I will say that I just -- I think I will reconsider what I was going to say. I was going to just say, I think just these are official -- I mean, like -- I mean, these are as official as it can get in some ways.

Yes, you're right. It is up for debate about it, but I think -- I think then, given what's just been said, I think I would just rather go on the side of let's not
use these maps at all, and I would definitely not want to use the L.A. Times one because I think becomes a slippery slope in terms of we're using not even a -- an -- you know, a really -- a government one.

Even though it had community input, I -- I would be pretty uncomfortable with that. But I think if this is the case, then we're better off just, you know, doing what we've been doing and -- and it just means then that, you know, we just use the same maps that we've been using all along.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Commissioner -- and Director Ceja, the Commissioner Le Mons, and they have about five minutes until break. Then Commissioner Fornaciari, then Vazquez. Okay, Director --

DIRECTOR CEJA: I'm going to pass.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Commissioner Le Mons.

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: I just wanted to weigh in on this and say I agree that we should use the same maps that we've been using. I don't know if there is a better way to instruct the caller into the information that they give us because it's really supposed to be the information they're giving us.

And the other thing is, tomorrow is L.A. County, not L.A. City, and L.A. County is huge beyond L.A. City. So I think while the city is neighborhood'ed out in a
particular way, the County, once you get out of L.A. City, looks a little bit -- is -- is -- is not as clean. So I -- I think we end up privileging L.A. City because it's done that work, and it might make it easier for us, but the -- from my perspective, it's really about the person or -- or group -- whoever's calling in to tell us their community of interest.

And I agree that I find it difficult when they don't get specific, and I know we don't have an exchange, which is a little bit difficult because sometimes I want to say, well -- well -- okay, well, where are those boundaries. So I -- that's just, I guess, something we have to figure out how to overcome, and maybe it is, if they are planning -- or -- or if they want us to focus in on a particular swath of area, whether that be a neighborhood, a block, or whatever it is, if they want to be that specific.

A lot of the feedback sounded -- I heard was more about cities as they understand it, like the official city and keeping this city with that city, or -- or keeping groups of cities together, as opposed to how they've been broken up, or -- or talking about how they feel like their city has been cut in half.

So I haven't really heard very specific neighborhood testimony actually. So I don't know if that'll look very
different tomorrow because we are talking about L.A. This will be a learning experience, at least for me, in terms of how the feedback comes in tomorrow.

But I -- I do want to support the idea that we not start to narrow -- I -- I -- I -- I don't disagree that it make it a better understanding, but I think the cons to it are -- are -- are more than I think the benefit actually. And we should err on the side of being open and letting the caller narrow it to whatever degree that they're comfortable narrowing it.


COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. I just want to echo some of Commissioner Le Mons comments. You know, I -- I -- I seem to recall that we had at least a few callers talking about San Fernando Valley, and they were just naming off names of neighborhoods that they wanted to have together, and -- and so you know, if we don't have an interaction that asks them to be more specific in defining what that means, then we continue to have mushy maps.

And so you know, if we want, you know, actionable maps, we either need to use the neighborhoods as they're defined or ask the person to be, you know, more specific in some way. So -- and -- and I think we need to do
that, or -- or try to do that, you know, in other
examples to, but I -- I just to be more -- to have more
effective maps for us to use down the road, I think we
need to -- to interact in some way and get some clarity.

CHAIR YEE: And Commissioners Vazquez, and then
Hernandez, and then Sadhwani, but we'll have to take a
break somewhere in there.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: I -- I hear all of the
reservation and am -- am pretty moved by them in terms
of, you know, potentially privileging communities that
are much more well defined currently, particularly in the
City of L.A.

That being said, I am thinking about those folks for
whom this is, sort of, like their entry -- their -- this
is -- entry -- we're trying to think of, like, entry
level civic engagement, and when you're working with
someone who is new to a process, in many ways, you get
more engagement by giving them something to react to even
if it's oh, God, no. That is totally wrong. That is not
my community. Let me tell you, like, where those
boundaries are.

And I -- I know -- and I say this because even with
our zone outreach, even though we've said a million times
that they're just to structure outreach, we -- I actually
think we continue to get feedback on these maps because
it's something for people to react to.

And I think we've also heard from other community advocates that, you know, issued draft maps earlier because we just -- we're going to keep giving you squishy feedback until we have something to respond to, reflect on, and go, actually no. It makes sense here, not here.

And so for me, in terms of, like -- I think a tool for us increase the kind of engagement and the kind of specificity that we want and need to draw these maps, we may have to put something out there for people to tear down in some ways rather than leaving an open canvas.

That's really difficult for -- for me. I'm even just thinking for me. Like, if someone gave me a blank map of L.A., it would take me really long time and probably too much brain power to -- to draw my own map, but if, you know, I have a -- a map of Mount Washington, and I could, sort of, play around the edges of being like actually, you know, it should be cut up this way.

So for me, I think where I would ultimately land is leaning more toward to the side of giving people things to reflect and respond to as a way to solicit more feedback. Yeah. That's where I'm at.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Thank you. We need to go to break. So after break, we'll start with Commissioner Fornaciari, and Sadhwani, and others. So let's come back
at 3:37.

(Whereupon, a recess was held)

Thank you. Welcome back. We continue with agenda item 4Q, discussion of our line drawing subcommittee's question of how to present neighborhoods in our community of interest input map.

Let me note that also still on our agenda is -- are items under number 5, Public Input Design Committee, which I believe has a substantial discussion, and then two contracts for the Legal Affairs Committee, which we will be seeking approval on. So we have at least that still on the agenda. We'll see how far we can get.

So we're continuing with 4Q, and I believe Commissioners Fernandez and Sadhwani were next, and then there others, but I'm sorry. I didn't note who was after that. Commissioner Kennedy and then Le Mons. Okay.

So Commissioner Fernandez?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. I agree with what Commissioner Vazquez said. I can't remember exactly what she said, but I liked what she said. It's been twenty minutes. And for me personally, I know that it's -- wouldn't be a district map, or an official map, or lines, or whatever. It would just help me in terms of trying to figure out what area they're talking about.

And then the other comment wanted to make, I think a
few of you said -- were questioning whether you could ask
follow-up questions, and I know when I did -- when I
chaired it on Monday, I talked with Karin, and she said
that she would send me something through chat if she
needed a follow-up on any of the speakers. And I did not
see anything from her, so I assume that it -- I did not
need a follow-up question from them.

So maybe that's something we need to solidify, so
that, in the future, we do have, like, the few extra
seconds that we can ask them follow-up if we need to
figure out what their communities of interest are. Thank
you.

CHAIR YEE: And Commissioner Sadhwani, Kennedy, Le
Mons, and Akutagawa.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Sure. So two pieces. So
first, I -- I -- my original comment was that I was going
to talk about some of the inputs that we've received.

So for example, on June 10th, we had a caller who
called in and said to keep the west side neighborhood
council together grouped with Brentwood, Pacific
Palisades, and Santa Monica.

So from a mapping standpoint, for the mappers, when
they go back in to draw that COI, they're not going to
have that layer for the west side neighborhood council.
Then they would have to go and look that up. So I think
that this is the kind of issue that we have, and like, when we're -- if we get a caller like that, do we want to have the ability to add that layer in, right, so that it's preloaded so that we can look and see where the west side neighborhood council is?

During the break, I did just let Karin know that we're, kind of, headed in the direction of not using the neighborhood council maps, and she said that's fine. It's completely the prerogative of the commission, but then, kind of, to Commissioner Fernandez's point, please direct the chairs to ask follow-up questions of the exact boundaries, because from the perspective of the meeting, what we'll often see is, you know, Jaime, or whoever the mapper is, will -- will look in on an area and kind of, just zoom in.

But happening on the backend, they are mapping those COIs so that we have them as a map file in a GIS file to put them, eventually, into Airtable so that we have -- so that everything has a polygon.

So in order to do that, if the assumption from -- so if a caller calls in and talks about Studio City, if we're not making an assumption that it's the neighborhood council, then she's asking that the chair please follow up and say, tell me more specifically what you're boundaries for Studio City are because it is a...
neighborhood otherwise.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Commissioner Kennedy?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. Just quickly in response to that, and I did get some notes from Karin, but by the time I got them, Katy had already gone on to the next caller, you know. So if we're going to go with that, then we need to discuss with our support team, and make sure that part of the script is, Chair, are there any follow-up questions because otherwise, you know, we're -- we're moving through these things as fast as we can, basically.

So what I wanted to say in terms of this conversation is in my conception of this, and I've tried to make this clear in the past, what I personally am looking for at this point in the process is something very subjective. I'm looking to listen to people tell me about their neighborhood or their community of interest. How they see it, you know.

Something to react to, I understand that that's going to solicit or elicit, you know, maybe stronger responses, but to me, that's what the mapping phase is all about, is eliciting a response to something concrete that's on the table. And what I'm looking for now is that subjective part that's tell me about your neighborhood.
And actually, I think staff, I guess, came up with this. This whole idea of, you know, tell me about your neighborhood or community of interest as if you were describing it to a visitor. You know, that's a really -- to me, that's a really great way of helping people understand what it is that we're looking at this -- looking for at this point, not, you know -- not so much something very objective, like react to this map. Thank you.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioners Le Mons, and then Akutagawa, and the Andersen.

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: I was thinking the exact same thing as Commissioner Kennedy is -- and that's what I wanted to get some clarification on because that's what I was thinking. Where we are in the process. We're getting the subjective information, and I found what people were sharing -- I wasn't so focused on the map, quite frankly, even when the people are talking. I mean, I can see it, but I'm listening to what they're saying about what's important to them and why.

And to me, that's what I thought this particular stage of the process was all about because the highly motivated individuals who are already in this process who are jumping in early, they are reacting to something. And we can hear that when they call in and say, this
was -- district was such-and-such, and they made a mistake ten years ago. They are reacting.

And so I think we're getting the mix of commentary from the callers based upon where they are in relation to the process and what they want to share with us. So I didn't think that we were trying to narrow them to the very specific lines. I thought that was going to be the next phase, and they're actually reacting to the maps, and said oh, you -- no, you need to move it here. You need to move it there, that that's coming.

And so I agree with Commissioner Vazquez and others who make the point that people need something to react to. I absolutely agree with that, but we didn't start that way. We didn't start with the current map, and put it up, and say react to the map. This is how they drew it in 2010. We're here to draw it with all the changes and make it different, so let's zero in on your section of the -- of the state and see what you want changed.

We didn't -- we're not approaching it that way. So just putting up a neighborhood, I don't know how that really gives anybody anything to necessarily specifically react to. It might help up wrap our brain around what they're talking about. And again, I'll just say for me personally, I haven't been so much focused on block-by-block what they're talking about, more on the anecdotal
information that they're sharing.

So when we start doing that, we have the transcripts of these callers. We have our memories. Not that we're going to be able to depend that for hundreds and hundreds of people, but we were there. We felt it. We knew what the -- the Coachella Valley group had been very clear. So when we get to that part, I'm going to be like, oh, no, no, no. I remember them saying, you know, that kind of thing.

So I -- I don't think that we're not trying to accomplish the same goals. We may be looking at it from different perspectives, so -- and again, I'm not saying I'm right that that's the process that we're in, but that's just been how I've been approaching it.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Commissioners Akutagawa, and then Andersen.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. I wanted to say that when I was hearing most of the previous callers, they weren't getting specific. Partly because in some cases, I think I agree with Commissioner Le Mons said. I think at this stage for a lot of people, if we're asking them to tell us about their communities of interest, it may be just a generality.

So hearing how some of these speakers, you know, talked about we're in the high desert versus low desert.
Some were very specific more by the freeways that bordered their particular area.

Like, for example, those who were calling from, like, the Chino Hills area, they were talking about specific freeways in the area. Those in, you know, like, the Calabasas when we were doing more of the statewide, people were saying, you know, keep Calabasas with the Simi Valley. And then when we were doing the further northern areas where they were talking about Placer and Eldorado should be kept together, they weren't super specific because I think they -- they were thinking in broader terms.

And as this conversation's been going on, I was just thinking that about that, too. I don't know -- I think now I'm even more convinced that I think the maps that we have will be good enough. I think, maybe, the maps is more for our reference more so than the callers reference because I think most people, I expect, will be similar to the previous callers that we've had.

Somebody's going to call in about the San Gabriel Valley, and they're going to say the San Gabriel Valley, you know, is going to include X-Y-Z communities, some of which is going to sound like it overlaps with some of the communities that people were just calling about yesterday because the -- kind of, the definition is what is --
constitutes the San Gabriel Valley is expanding because of -- and again, this depends on who's calling from which community, but if it's the Asian American community, that -- that kind of definition of the San Gabriel Valley is expanding because as the community so does the definition of what is the San Gabriel Valley.

And so I -- I guess -- I think I would still continue now. I think I'm even more convinced that I think we're better off just continuing to use the maps that we're doing rather than to try to use some of these other maps. Again, it's more for our benefit than -- than I think this -- the callers, and to ask them to be very specific, I think, some may, some may not.

You know, and I think, you know, are we going to turn people off if we're asking them to do that just yet, when we're not even there yet?

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Commissioner Andersen, and the I have a comment.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you for this -- all this conversation. I think we're going around. I keep on telling -- that I don't -- I wish we would not divorce the two.

What they say, and what they're talking about, and how heartfelt it is does not have to be completely separated from what the -- the actual location of it.
Now, it usually helps most people to say, you know, this is about it, and -- and really get passionate, and then get into the, okay, now, so where actually is it?

You know, if -- if you -- actually, right. If you lead with, where it is, duh, duh, duh, da, duh, it often throws them, and then they don't get into the passion of it. But the idea that we're going to do this detail next time around, I don't -- we're not going to have time for that. This is -- this is the lot of time where the people can tell us passionately about their community, and then we can ask them in terms of the idea of follow up. Now, could you give us a little bit more information about that?

So then we can take it down, and they don't have to come back because a lot of people will be upset as we go back around and say, well, you weren't paying attention to me at all in the first place. And I -- I'd like us to, kind of, consider these -- I don't want us to think that it's one or the other. These are connected.

And you know, if -- so the idea of a bit more communication as, you know, the follow-up questions, we've all seen how that would be really helpful, and we get the public to be much more engaging rather than the very, sort of, cold early issue was time. But -- because from the line-drawing perspective, they're actually
asking -- the line drawers are saying, well, you know, so 
this is the way we could do Los Angeles. They're 
actually, kind of, thinking, as we start looking on, 
again, the more populated areas, how do we want to handle 
neighborhoods in all the different big cities?

And so we just haven't brought this to your 
attention yet because we haven't had, you know, the -- 
some time for it. You know, I -- since we are adjusting 
things as we go, an idea would be try it one way or 
other, and then differently the next time is something I 
would recommend because, you know, a lot of people, they 
are assuming when they say, hey, well, Chino Hills and 
those areas. Those are very well defined. They are 
cities. Those are counties.

Most people in -- you know, in the cities 
themselves, they have an idea where their neighborhood 
is. So once they, sort of, tell us this, I think it's up 
to us to, maybe, go with more prodding. And the idea 
with the maps of -- in L.A., the city -- I know the 
county doesn't have it -- but would give that prodding, 
and it's one particular set.

Commissioner Sadhwani, I'd like to have her 
elaborate on this a bit because we've been working with 
the line drawers and communicating with them about this.

CHAIR YEE: Go ahead, Commissioner Sadhwani.
COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah. I mean, I think the key piece here is, what is the instruction to the line drawers? So people have three minutes, right? So the difference, for example, in some of the thing that we have heard about San Gabriel, if we hear them say to Commissioner Andersen's point, San Gabriel Valley includes Monterey Park and Alhambra.

Those are cities separate from the City of Los Angeles, but if we have someone calling about San Fernando Valley and say keep these parts of the San Fernando Valley together, Van Nuys, Sherman Oaks, and Studio City. The mapper isn't going to know what to -- polygon to draw because those are neighborhoods inside of the City of Los Angeles.

So if we're going -- if we don't want to use the neighborhood councils, that's fine. But then we need to give greater instruction to the mappers of what is the polygon going to be that they draw that then later gets input into the Airtable, so that we can go back and see it.

We have this whole data management system set up. And if we don't want to use neighborhood councils, that's fine. But then there has to be some response to the callers to say, when say you say Sherman Oaks, what does that include, so that they know what to draw. Otherwise,
we're leaving it to their subjectivity, to the mappers
subjectivity to draw that out.

And to me, that's worse, right, because some of the
mappers are not from California. So what is that going
to look like? So I -- you know, to me, like, I think we
can say, upfront, for the purposes of understanding the
City of Los Angeles, we will be using neighborhood
council districts. If you do -- if you disagree with
those districts, please be very specific about how you
disagree with them so that we can capture it.

But if we don't use them, then we're leaving a lot
open to interpretation by the mappers themselves, and I
think that should be just as worrisome. So you know, I
don't really have any skin in the game here, but I think
if -- ultimately, what the line drawers are asking for is
clear direction.

CHAIR YEE: Yeah. I have comment, and Commissioner
Le Mons, and Commissioner Ahmad.

Yeah, you know, I'm wondering if we might actually
might have -- if it would be helpful if the line drawing
subcommittee brings in some of the line drawers at a
future meeting, and we can have some back and forth, and
actually look some sample input and sample maps because
in the abstract, we have idea what -- like you say, we
have no idea what the mapper is imagining or putting down
based on, you know, references that don't involve actual political boundaries.

So yeah. I mean, I think I -- talking in the abstract is kind of impossible without knowing how they actually go about this, and seeing some samples of what actually go digitized based on what kind of testimony, you know. And then we can -- then every -- we'd have a much more concrete sense of how the process works and how we might need to adjust it.

Okay. Commissioner Le Mons, and then Ahmad, and then Andersen.

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Well, thanks -- thanks Commissioner Sadhwani for that perspective. I had no -- that is very worrisome to, quite frankly.

The idea that the -- if the mapper's objective behind the scenes is to capture -- and I'm not acting like I'm surprised at that, but to capture what the caller is saying, and they then --may not -- I'm biased because I know L.A. So when you say Studio City, Sherman, I knew exactly what you're talk -- you know, in my head, I see it very easily. But it had never occurred to me that the mapper may have no idea what that means. So I think as a tool to getting to being able to capture what's being said, that's critical.

It brings up another issue to me is the time
allotment. If that is really the goal, I think three minutes is grossly under budgeted for what we need in many cases, not all. I mean, some people, depending on how broadly they're speaking about their interests, but in some case, it -- I could see in many cases that that back and forth, which we really have not been doing, where -- how do we make sure there's equity and parity in time for individuals to share their community of interest?

So we have a model that I think is a little bit -- makes us vulnerable to getting the kind of quality information that we are seeking to get. So I stand by what I said earlier from my perception, but I do take in the additional information you just provided. That seems very critical. So we may really need to look at what we're doing here in a lot of ways.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Commissioner Ahmad, Andersen, Kennedy, and Vazquez.

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: And Taylor.

CHAIR YEE: And Taylor.

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Yeah. Thank you, Chair. And thank you Commissioner Sadhwani for bringing that up, and I totally understand what you're saying that the ultimate goal of the line drawers is to get polygons that then we can call up like we learned in our training to start
looking at how to do we minimize the division of these communities of interest.

Where I didn't know, and maybe I need some clarity on this. My understanding was that if clear polygon information is not received by the caller, the mapper is not creating a polygon for that input, correct? Or are they filling -- finishing the shape on there, based off of their on judgment. I'm not sure about that. That part kind of raised some red flags in my mind.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I be -- this is really a question for them because I'm not sure how they're handling that, but you know, I believe that they are doing their best to finish that off. And I guess this -- that begs the question, right?

Like, so in the instance of the San Fernando Valley, for example, right --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Um-hum.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: -- if someone calls in and says keep Studio City, and -- what did I say before? I don't -- Van Nuys, and Sherman Oaks together, is that complete? If we're using the neighborhood city councils as our --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Um--hum.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: -- baseline, we can say --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Um-hum.
COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: -- we can say, yes, it is complete because they're going to go and pull those three neighborhood councils and make a polygon out of them.

If we're saying no, that those are not neighborhood -- the -- we're not using neighborhood councils as our baseline, then perhaps that's not complete, and that's why she had said in -- during the break, please ask the Chair for the follow-up information then on well, what is --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Uh-huh.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: -- the boundary of those three neighborhoods according to that caller? And that's where it starts getting into more issues around, like, okay, well, what does that mean in terms of those three minutes?

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Yeah. And the -- I did receive pings from Karin during my turn to get additional clarity from callers.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Um-hum.

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: But where it gets messing is, I heard the caller clearly on what mountain range they said, but then the line drawers may not have heard it, or someone else might not have heard. So up to the discretion of the Chair at that point also becomes a little uncertain in terms of what we are documenting and
if we're documenting in a systematic way.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioners Andersen, Kennedy, Vazquez, Taylor.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. These are all very good questions. And a little bit, we'd -- next week, the line drawers are going to be presenting to us, and we can certainly have -- elaborate more on exactly what they're doing. It doesn't help for tomorrow.

But one thing that I believe Commissioner Kennedy might be about to elaborate on, and if so, please nod and I'll stop, but the idea of before their time starts, locate their area on the map, in which case I might go to Commissioner Kennedy, and I'll stop right there. I can wrap up later.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair, and thank you Commissioner Andersen. Yes, I do continue to believe that we're going to be better served by starting the clock for the sharing of the subjective story, you know, anecdotal information that we're looking for from the callers after their area is clearly identified and located on the map.

And I would even say that that would be the point where the mappers could, themselves, ask the caller to provide any further detail that they need to determine
what area that they want to talk about. Then when it's
time to talk about it, that's the three minutes, and the
mappers don't get involved. The caller is talking to us.

Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Vazquez.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yeah. I think this goes back
to a little bit of the core debate about some of these
meetings about the art and the science, right? That,
like, part of why we really want to continue to have
open, public meetings where we hear from folks, and you
know, we had this whole talk about being able to see
folks if we can is I agree we really want that
subjective, qualitative data.

And that's actually -- I've not been taking a lot of
notes because what I've been trying to do is just listen
for impressions and themes around certain areas. And
that being said, I also feel like we do to -- I've heard
Commissioner Andersen in particular talk about, like, we
do need both. And our initial maps need that more
quantitative, hard, specific data because, in many ways
then, I think what we'll find, especially for some of
these communities of interest that are very big, like,
keep Van Nuys and Sherman Oaks together. I think we'll
be hard pressed to do that on a broad level across the
state to keep these, like, big regions together.
I think we'll -- by having so much broad not-super-specific data at the front end, we set ourselves up to having to make decisions in an interim step, like for our draft maps, that force us to cut up communities in ways that, maybe, aren't particularly informed, right?

We don't -- we won't have the information to go well if you did have to break up -- you know, draw a line, where it be? And we're -- we would, sort of, in some ways, maybe go -- going blind into that first round of decisions, which, again, we can do, but I'm not sure, like -- I think we're also then, maybe, kicking the can down the road in terms of when those decisions have to be made and setting ourselves up to not make the best use of this time now.

Like, we've had a debate about whether we were even ready to start receiving public input, and we made the decision as a group to push forward, and I feel like we won't be using the best -- making the best use of this time now to get specific, and setting ourselves to just get a deluge of this is so wrong. This is so off base, which will just complicate our efforts to revise the draft maps and also compact the time that we have to do that in. So yeah.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Commissioner Taylor, and then let's try to land the plane here. Also, I believe the
Public Input Design Committee, I think some of these issues actually overlap with -- probably overlap with some of things you'll be discussing as well. So this is probably not the last shot at this topic. So --but for now, Commissioner Taylor.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: All right. So you know, again, looking for a little bit of direction for tomorrow. I think I would have to agree with Sara and Angela in that, I think we're set up right now where we're working off of defined definitions and not necessarily a blank slate. So I think for efficiency's sake, we need the neighborhoods to be present.

There's over eighty-eight neighborhoods that consists of Los Angeles. I would challenge a mapper or even some of us to just, off the top of their head, define where Village Green is, where Winnetka is, where University Park is. If you're not familiar to that area, it'd be hard enough for some of those -- some of us that live here. Are we talking about the University Park over by USC, or we talking about the one the valley?

So these things are hard enough to define as it is. So I think for efficiency, we have to use it. I think our remedy is to have some sort of disclaimer. I know we're putting a lot on Katy, but a disclaimer that these now are not our district lines. If you have a question
as to the definition of this neighborhood, then please state that in your testimony.

And then also from conditioning, some people almost view these as cities -- incorporated cities, so that when they're talking about them, it's almost a given that you know where -- because we've been using it, Studio City, Sherman Oaks, and Van Nuys are. It's almost given that you -- and you don't. You don't realize that they're a part of Los Angeles that has been segmented. Thank you.

CHAIR YEE: Thank you.

I think, actually, Director Hernandez, you had a thought for us, or? Director Hernandez, did you have a --

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Yes.

CHAIR YEE: All right.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: I just wanted to point out just two things. One, we are making -- we, I say the staff is making adjustments and working with the line drawers and also the videographers to adjust as we go. As far as giving additional time to communicate if there's additional information needed, we've given a couple of seconds after the caller concludes the three minutes to see if anything is coming in to adjust and ask for additional questions. That being said, we don't know -- at times, we don't what the actual caller is going to
talk about. They don't provide much detail as we would like them to do so. And so when we do get the information, it may not start off with the map. Katy will try to get that in there to ask them to provide the map. And they just go right into their narrative. So those are some of the challenges we're trying to cut off and make sure that we're able to provide the maps.

But those are the two things that I wanted to share.

CHAIR YEE: So right now, I believe we were told that the clock starts when they start talking. So we've had a suggestion that the clock should start when the map is in place. I don't know how to go forward with that. But that's been voiced.

Commissioner Le Mons?

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yeah. I'd like to make a motion that the call begin with basically what Commissioner Kennedy said, that the call begins with the caller establishing what area they are talking about. And then, want -- and actually, I was thinking the same thing Commissioner Kennedy is, why isn't the line drawer at that point, like, getting that part kind of situated? Like, if we could have that done distinctly, right? And then once that is established -- and if it's broad, they may be talking about, you know, something broad, that's fine. We don't have to narrow them to -- like, force
them to get into a neighborhood. But we're trying to get as close to understanding the boundaries that they're talking about. So the map drawer could get them in that point, right?

And then, once that piece has been established, then they move to -- oh this, I made a motion, so we won't have all this language in there. Basically, the motion will just be -- I forgot that I was making a motion. I'd like to make a motion that the caller establish, with the support of the line drawer, the area that they want to discuss. Once that has been established, the caller will then have three minutes to tell us why is it -- you know, why they're calling and why this area is important to them.

And then, what we're going to have to gauge -- and if the other commissioner wants to do this as a pilot to see how it works, because to Commissioner Andersen's point, we're still trying to kind of find our way, in terms of timing, we still give everybody three minutes to talk. But we establish that framework that we need to, kind of, wrap our heads around the context of what's being discussed with us, so.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: So Commissioner Le Mons, is it fair to say, then, the motion is that the three minutes begins once the area has been located by the line
drawers?

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yes. Yes.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Okay.

CHAIR YEE: Okay, a motion has been made. Is there a second?

Commissioner Andersen is that a second? Yes? Okay. Can you -- we hear you?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Sorry. I second that motion.

CHAIR YEE: Thank you.

Discussion? Commissioner Ahmad?

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Awesome solution for the time being. Great idea. I love it.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Andersen?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. I would also -- we will get -- Commissioner Sadhwani will get back to line drawers tonight just to give them -- it's not to the point of exact, okay, now, which line and which -- you know, not that level. So in terms of everyone has considered, you know, oh, god, how much time is this going to take? It is the overall area, because many of them, of the people who give their testimony, mention streets and things like that, do not expect the line drawers to actually draw all those lines, but will see the area. And then they, at the backend, can pick that
up. And remember, because they're not actually putting it on the COI Tool right now. But they're collecting all the information.

So I think this is going to be, you know, certainly enough direction. And then, once we take care of this, I have a quick summary that I think would wrap everything up.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fornaciari?

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, I would just -- I support the idea. I just would offer that we would ask the Chair to be responsible for focusing the person on zooming in on their area first, because there have been some callers who just started talking about their input, and in, either never got to a map or didn't, or got to the map at the end. So we just want to make sure that, you know, we're as fair with the three minutes for everybody as we can -- can be.

And I just wanted to ask, so we're not suddenly -- we're not all -- make to the question of neighborhoods that we were -- at this point, it sounds like we're not going to implement anything new in terms of the -- where there are neighborhood -- official neighborhoods. But we'll continue to display only at the level of incorporated cities and no further?

Okay, Commissioner Le Mons and Andersen?
COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Actually, if we need to follow that in there -- I mean, I think it should open to get in neighborhood if we need to. And that will be the map that'll allow you to do that, right? I don't think they can get neighborhood on the other one. So it's whatever tools they have at their disposal to get to what the person is telling us is their area, understanding that they are mapping this behind the scenes separate and apart.

So these are to me just tools, right? Is that right Commissioner Sadhwani? Yeah. So we would give them the open space to use the tools that they need to establish the location that the caller is establishing.

CHAIR YEE: But if I understand the discussion earlier, I mean, if somebody says Sherman Oaks, the question is whether the mapper would display a map that has the official LA City boundaries for the neighborhood of Sherman Oaks, or not, right? Isn't that still an open question?

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Well, they would in what I'm suggesting, they would. And the person might say, well, no, it's -- I'm talking about these streets and these streets. So it's just to help them, because you -- because if you don't have the ability to get that granular, right? How are you -- how's the person going
to be able to say whether you're right or wrong, right?

So yeah, that's my thought.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Okay. Let's see.

Commissioner Akutagawa?

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. I would agree with

what Commissioner Le Mons is proposing. And I think if

with this proposal to enable the caller to specify what

area of the map you want. You don't have to worry about

these other neighborhood maps.

If they say it's Studio City, and then, the map --

whoever's doing the map will have to say, okay, how

specific do you want me to get? And that person will

have to say, you know, either street boundaries or just

freeways, whatever it is that they want to say. I think

then it's defined by them. And then, we don't run into

these other issues that we're talking about earlier

about, well, what if this is not what they agree with is

the neighborhood?

They'll just -- we'll just have to have then, the

caller define it, which is what we say we want them to do

also. And the degree to which they want to talk about

their specific communities of interest. It's up to them

if they want to keep it broad, or if they really want to

hone in on a very particular area that they think is

important to them.
But in that context, they could say it connects to these places. And then, it's up to the mapper to, you know, to see how they'll be able to show that. But I think -- I like this option. I think it's one that we could test out and see how it works. And it may -- it may satisfy all of the concerns that we've expressed previous to this.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Any other discussion? Okay, why don't we go to public comment.

Katy, if we could have the short form and public comment on the motion on the floor.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair.

The Commission will now take public comment on the motion on the floor. To give comment, please call (877) 853-5247, and enter the meeting ID number of 92476505888 for this meeting. Once you have dialed in, please press star 9 to enter the comment queue. The full call and instructions are read at the beginning of the meeting and are provided on the livestream landing page.

We do have a raised hand at this time.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Before we take that call, can we also make it a comment on any item under -- any of the subcommittee reports under item 4?

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes.

CHAIR YEE: Since we are now at the end of that?
PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes. So public comment will be for the agenda on the floor and agenda -- or I'm sorry, the motion on the floor and agenda item number 4, subcommittee reports. Correct?

CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Katy, correct.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Perfect.

CHAIR YEE: And we'll take that call, then.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes. And go ahead. The floor is yours.

MR. MENDOZA: Good afternoon, commissioners. My name is John Mendoza. I live out here in the City of Pomona, which is in close proximity to Chino Hills, San Bernardino, Montara. There's a lot of these other cities that I think you're having a very interesting conversation about public input.

I had a public input that I gave on to the (audio interference) Redistricting Commission the other night. And the first thing they asked me was, what was my ZIP code? I gave them my ZIP code. And they brought that -- that area into a map. And then from there when I was giving my public testimony, they gave a precinct number so for us. And they focused in narrowly on the area I was talking about and some of the bordering that was having to do with the supervisor -- supervisor of district 1.
So I just wanted to share my -- share my thoughts and so forth. And thank you very much. Have a good day.

CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Mr. Mendoza.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

And our next caller is caller 2829. Go ahead.

MS. WESTA-LUSK: Yes. This is Renee Westa-Lusk. I fully support Commissioner Le Mons' motion. I saw two instances during the statewide meetings, one where it had to do with the Lake Isabella area, where the map wasn't focused on the area the speaker called in about. And then, a second one was the San Bernardino County, where a person was from Upland. And they didn't get the map focused on Upland. Matter of fact, they just showed all of the norther part of San Bernardino County. So you absolutely need to locate the area where the person's from.

And then that said, I have a question about the libraries under the Materials Committee. They mentioned that it -- I believe, the paper COI is going to be sent to all the libraries. Will there be follow up with each library? And are you going to send, like, to a major county library and expect them to distribute to the branches, or will you mail the COI paper tools to all the branch libraries in the State of California?

And then, I have a question regarding the public
access to the COI material that Marian Johnston
brought -- brought up, do you have a time date when
Airtable will make the data from the COI --

AUTOMATED VOICE SYSTEM: Thirty seconds.

MS. WESTA-LUSK: -- all the COI Tool collections
available to the public? Do you have like a ballpark
figure when that might happen? Thank you.

CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Ms. Westa-Lusk.

Let's see, the Materials Committee, could you
respond briefly to the caller concerning the libraries
and distribution of the paper COI Tool, Commissioner
Fornaciari?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I think that the library, that
would be Outreach efforts, in terms of getting that
information to the libraries, right?

CHAIR YEE: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. We're working with
staff right now to come up with an efficient and
effective way of doing it, because if we just sent it to
all libraries, not all libraries will necessarily put
them out or even share them. So we will, as we create
the process, we will make sure to report back out to the
public.

CHAIR YEE: Thank you.

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: And there's an -- there's
just to say, we want to have an engagement portion with this, right? It's just not mail them out in the dark. You know, we want to have the library be prepared and understand how it -- how to effectively use the tool.

CHAIR YEE: Very good. And then, the timeline for the Airtable, I believe that's still basically open, right? Can anyone give more specifics than that?

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Yeah, I can ask team if that's accurate. But I believe we're inching closer. It's still dependent on that contracting process being in place, because we can't punch in our credit card and click buy.

CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Commissioner Ahmad.

Okay. Any more callers, Katy?

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair, we do have one more caller with their hand raised.

CHAIR YEE: Very good.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Go ahead. The floor is yours.

MS. BEST: Good afternoon, commissioners. My name is Ayana Best. And I'm calling on behalf of the California Black Census and Redistricting Hub, a coalition of thirty black-lead and black certain organizations across the State of California. As always, we want to thank you for your hard work and your
dedication to ensuring a transparent and meaningful and
authentic public participation process for members of the
public.

We are calling today to ask the commissioners for a
clarity around the Commission weighing on COI testimony
from various sources. No doubt the Commission is, and
will receive public testimony from communities of
interest that may conflict or overlap with each other.
Ultimately, where there's overlapping or conflicting --
conflicting testimony, the Commission will have to
determine which testimony will be considered in their
final line-drawing process, and which is not.

Our question is, is the Commission planning to
outline the criteria, and will -- it will use to assess
and weigh COI testimony and service of line drawing? Is
there a particular process you will use to work with the
line drawers to resolve conflicting COIs? If so for the
sake of transparency, it would be helpful to provide some
clarity on when and where the Commission will decide on
these issues, for the public to weigh in, if they wish
to.

In addition in the spirit of transparency, we also
ask that the Commission move with urgency to publicly
share the COI map and narratives and testimony it is
receiving through the public through the COI Tool. In
addition --

AUTOMATED VOICE SYSTEM: Thirty seconds.

MS. BEST: Thank you. Again, thank you for your hard work and dedication and we'll look forward to your comment on this.

CHAIR YEE: Thank you so much. It certainly is our intention to have that COI data made public as soon as possible. And we feel the pain as much as anyone that that is not in place yet, so. We've been trying to expedite that. In terms of discussions of our weighing of COI input, that is a huge question that will no doubt absorb us in future meetings. We will certainly be applying our six statutory criteria as best we can. And then, how to weigh conflicting COI input, for instance, that will be a discussion that will open fully for us at some point, I'm sure.

Okay. Any other calls?

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And that was our last caller, Chair.

CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Katy.

Director Hernandez, if we could go to the vote?

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Let's make sure we have the motion correct. I've been known to make errors. The motion is that the three minutes begin once the caller establishes the area they want to discuss, with the
assistance of the Chair and/or line drawers.

Is that correct, Commissioner Le Mons?

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Partially.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Okay.

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: I'll repeat it. That's an aspect of it. Give me one second here. I actually wrote it down.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Okay.

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Okay. So the motion is, a caller will be allowed to establish their area of interest with the line drawer prior to offering their verbal testimony. The three minutes will begin once the area has been established. And the final part was that the Chair will facilitate the caller in this process, if needed.

Commissioner Andersen, you okay with that?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. I think we could, sort of, condense it a little bit, similar to what Alvaro was kind of saying. But were we also putting in that that we are going to be using the neighborhood maps with discussion --

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Oh, yeah.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: -- with follow-up discussion?

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Well, the tool -- well, it
was the tools in general, so neighborhood maps in this
case. But it may be a different tool somewhere else. So
that's I said with the line drawer. And that's sort of
implied --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay.

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: -- to me what --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay.

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: -- tools they use, if
everybody's okay with that. Gives it a little --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. Then that, then I
understand the clarification versus from what Alvaro had
written. And I like it.

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Thank you.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: I've copied and pasted from the
email received. I don't believe there are any additional
changes there, Commissioner Le Mons?

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: No, no additional changes.

CHAIR YEE: And Commissioner Andersen, all good?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes. Sorry, I was trying to
find the unmute.

CHAIR YEE: All good. Thank you.

Let's have the vote.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: All right. And it is p.m., not
a.m. We'll begin the vote now.

Commissioner Ahmad?
COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Yes.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Akutagawa?

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yes.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Andersen?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Fernandez?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Fornaciari?

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yes.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Kennedy?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yes.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Le Mons?

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yes.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Sadhwani?

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Sinay?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yes.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Taylor?

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yes.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Toledo?

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Yes.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Turner?

Commissioner Vasquez?

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yes.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Yee?
CHAIR YEE: Yes.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: The motion passes.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Commissioner Le Mons and everyone for that good discussion.

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Thank you, Commissioner Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Commissioner -- yeah.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you. And just to wrap up, everyone’s been calling in asking about, you know, how are we going to see how are we going to see this COI information? So I just want to give you a little preview here. I’m going to share the screen. And I think you can still hear me when I -- I just got to find share screen. Not here. Not share. Oh. No, that's not it. Trying to find my share-screen button now. There we go.

Okay. This is from the line drawers. Oh, there we go. In terms of what Pinmap (sic), right, this is just a rough picture of approximately what might end up either on our website. All of these dots -- I'd back it out just a little bit. You can see little black dots on that, so I backed that out a little bit, these are the 170-community of input's points that we were -- had. We were just putting out an initial preliminary. The line drawers have been playing with this. So this is about a
third of the COIs that we have to date.

The problem is, this is -- these are just the shapefiles, so it was located. And we had a little tiny Airtable display. And it's only about seven actual information were put into the Airtable that we actually could say, hey, and let's go over here and click on that and you can go to it. So next week the line drawers are going to be doing the presentation of this -- and let's see if I can go to that one. Here is -- this is more what it looks like, you know, down in LA.

And again, these are just for all the public's -- you know, saying, hey, are we really getting any of these in? Yes, we are. We don't have the information all the way. And this is what we did back quite some time ago. The line drawers are playing with how they can do this. And as soon as, you know, Commissioner Le Mons very graciously said, as soon as we get that Airtable contract signed and ongoing, and then, the information goes through to the line drawers, this will then be populated. And you should be able to go over here and click on one and actually go to more of the information about that community of interest.

So this is what we're working on behind the scenes. This is for commissioners' perspective, as well as all the public. You know, yes, we are getting COI input.
And we are going to be, as soon as that Airtable and our data management system is all set up and starts working, it's going to be -- we'll see it. And again, the one time, if you did turn in when we first did that little presentation, this was actually more -- it was KML files, as opposed to shapefiles, which basically is like Google Earth. So it looked better. And you could really see things. It would -- might look a bit more like this. The line drawers are playing with that. And we will see this next week.

CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Commissioner. We look forward to that.

And that's a good segue to agenda item number 5A. Public Input Design Committee, Commissioners Ahmad and Fornaciari, and the time is yours.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Well, let's see. We've talked about a lot of this stuff that, you know, was on our plate to talk about already. Just kind of a preview of where we headed, our next -- we haven't had a meeting since our last business meeting. And we don't have one scheduled until July 6th. On July 6th, we were going to, you know, review the feedback from the zone-specific meetings and provide recommendations for changes. We were going to review a proposal for a transition to hybrids/live meetings.
And then also in an answer to a question that a caller at the beginning asked, so with regard to group-specific public input. So we had discussed potentially having some group-specific meetings. But we haven't made a final decision on that. The committee was going to look at that on the 6th and bring our thoughts forward to the full Commission in the subsequent meeting. But the callers question was specific to an upcoming meeting.

Linda?

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: I had some clarification. He sent an email, because he's -- to both Commissioner Sadhwani and I, because he's from the Zone J. What he asked actually, or what he clarified is, that there's a group of people, and he just asked if instead of individually having each person sign up for an appointment block, could they just say, we have this X number of people who would like to give testimony, can they all be put into the same block, essentially.

Commissioner Sadhwani, did I interpret that request correctly, based on what you wrote?

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I mean, I think so. I mean, it seems like that would be reasonable. And certainly, we'd let them know that of course we need to maintain and uphold the fairness and equity that we've established in this process for individual callers. So it does sound
like it's a matter of grouping them together. So I think if there's a way that we can figure that out, that would be great. I think a lot of it will depend on how many slots are filled moving forward.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: So I -- Anthony has chimed in on this. I think it is sub -- was it in a subcommittee meeting or with the entire Commission? You know, I -- and correct me if I'm wrong here, right, I mean, so the idea would be we -- or the advice would be not to set aside a specific number of places for a group, but allow the group to sign up. And I think what the question is if the group all signs up, you know, in the same block of time, can they all go in a row? Is that what he's asking for?

CHAIR YEE: You're on mute, Commissioner Sadhwani.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Commissioner Akutagawa?

CHAIR YEE: Or Commissioner -- yeah.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Actually, the response that I gave is that -- just for clarification, I asked, I said, I told -- I wrote back, I said, I think what I'm hearing or reading is that you just want to know if your group, the individuals who would like to give testimony, if they can all be -- instead of individually signing up for appointments, can they just, you know, be added to a appointment block? But their delivery of their testimony
would be contingent upon them calling in just like
everybody else. And then, they would be put in the order
based on when they all come -- call in.

It sounded like it was more of a logistical question
of, instead of each individual person signing up, can
they just send a list of names. And then, they just be
added to that block, if there is the appropriate number
of openings? But then on the day of when it's time to
give testimony, just like everybody else they would just
have to all call in. And then, they would be put in the
order in which they would be called in. They wouldn't be
given priority order over anybody else who may have
called in ahead of them.

MR. PANE: If I could just maybe just jump in here
real fast?

CHAIR YEE: Sure.

MR. PANE: Maybe this is a clarification point. You
know, maybe we can work out with Commissioner Fornaciari
as part of the July 6th -- I don't know if that time line
is still okay -- that could be inclusive of this possible
ask. Initial thoughts are -- and the Commissioner --
Commissioner Fornaciari mentioned this early on -- we
want to make sure that we're fair and equitable to
everybody. Everyone has the same opportunity to sign in.

Again, what we're trying to do is allow for maximum
participation from folks. And if they can have
appointment times, I realize there is some flexibility, I
think, inherent in the system of if you sign up for a
particular appointment times and depending upon -- and
this would be in coordination with Katy -- you know,
being able to find out if it's this caller, then the next
caller, then the next caller. There may be a way to do
it, but there may not be.

I will say, another option, I'm not sure this is
relevant here, but you certainly could have one person
speak for the three minutes and be a representative for a
hundred people. And that doesn't mean a hundred people
go in line. It means one person is speaking for a
hundred people. That's also an option as well. But I'm
not sure if that addresses the question.

So if we could, maybe there's a way to work this out
so that we can work out the details in anticipation for
the 6th.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Commissioners Sinay, Fernandez,
and Sadhwani -- and I should mention it would be
advantageous if we can wrap things up by 5:07 today. Not
a hard, hard deadline but would be helpful.

So Commissioner Sinay?

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Pass.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fernandez.
COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I kind of understand what they are asking for but I also feel, to be equitable, they would each need -- my opinion, they would each need to sign up separately. They would have a caller ID number, and then maybe they could forward all the different caller ID numbers, and we could work with that. We have seen in the last couple of meetings that even if they signed up for the second block or third block, some of them still call in a different block time. So I think they should all sign up separately, and then give us those numbers, and then we can work with that. I think.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Sadhwani?

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Pass. I agree.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Does PIDC need any action?

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay, well that's the current policy that --

CHAIR YEE: Yeah.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: -- that we have right now. So --

CHAIR YEE: Right. Right.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: -- that doesn't change. So we'll see. I mean, a lot of the stuff -- again, a lot of the stuff we were going to talk about is already come up. We're not going to have a meeting for a couple of
weeks. If there's something, you know, especially the chairs of the prior meetings, I mean, if they have some observations or anything they want to share or you know, maybe some direction for the staff. Commissioner Sadhwani earlier made a comment that the meetings seem kind of long. So I'm going to actually turn it over to Commissioner Sadhwani to let her comment on that further.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes. I do think that the days are very long. And I -- because we're not filling those days at this point in time, I would strongly encourage the subcommittee and staff to consider shortening the time of our meetings. Even if we met, like, two hours in the morning and two hours in the evening and operate a waitlist. So if we -- you know, if our outreach and the media buys and everything have a huge impact and we can operate a waitlist, if more people want to register, then we can extend our time, right, if need be, for the future. But you know, we're taking up full days and we don't have the callers, quite frankly. Right?

So I think we need to reassess what we're -- what our plan is moving forward, because I don't think this is an effective use of time. And certainly, like, especially for many of us who are working other jobs, could be using that time in other activities.
COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. Yeah, we'll definitely take a look at that. I think it's a good idea.

Commissioner Fernandez?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yeah. And something else that hopefully we can look at is, I guess I didn't realize when we initially approved the whole appointment system, was that block four would have no appointments. I -- my opinion is that we should have appointments in all of the blocks to try to accommodate people that maybe can only make it for the last block, or for the fourth or fifth block, so that they at least know that they'll have a chance to talk. Because right now, that fourth and fifth block is just completely open. So maybe spreading those out and maybe just having like an open time at each block at the end, maybe the last ten minutes are for those that don't have appointments. So anyway, just so we can look at that.

And back to Commissioner Sadhwani's point, so if we wait until July 6th to make that appointment -- or to make that decision, we're already two weeks out, right? So it's -- I almost feel like if we want to make that decision, maybe we make it now because now, you know, we're two weeks out right now, versus the 6th is another couple of weeks so it's pushing it further out. So just
throwing that out there. Thank you.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Sinay then Vazquez.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I agree that we should make the decision sooner rather than later, especially because two weeks from now, a month from now, we may be getting more people. But you know, I'm concerned about the week of 4th of July week because a lot of people are traveling and we have some of the -- some of the hard to reach zones. And so I would like us to think through now what our time -- what are -- how to reduce the number of hours that we're waiting.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Vazquez?

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yeah. I continue to be an advocate of trying to push us later after business hours. I absolutely agree, we could shorten the meeting. And I also think we could sort of direct -- if we're looking for more like a four or six-hour community input meeting, especially now as we're still trying to get people to actually come, I'd really, really advocate for us to consider going later in the evening after business hours. Continue to feel like having our input meetings during banking hours is just not as accessible as we had hoped. So continue to urge us to think about both shortening and also going into the evenings.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: So on that topic, we've --
I mean, is there --

Director Hernandez, we've agendized out at this point the 9th, I believe?

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: I know the 6th --

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Is --

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: -- for sure. I believe the 9th is --

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: The 9th is --

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Is it agendized?

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: -- two weeks from now.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Yeah, that might be going out today. We have agendized the 8th --

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: But we only have a meeting on the 9th, but --

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: We have agendized on the 8th, which is Zone J. We do not -- we do not have July 10th, would be the next meeting that we would have to agendize. That is not currently agendized.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: So July 10th is a Saturday. And then we would -- then we've got F on the 12th. And then H on the 15th.

So -- oh, sorry, Commissioner Yee, go ahead.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Ahmad then Sinay.

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: I just had a clarifying question on that. I'm all for shortening the meetings at
this point. This just speaks to how, you know, we came up with a plan, we tried it out, it might not be working right now, so we can change it. And then we can always extend it if people, for some reason, are wanting to join us at our meetings.

But my question right now, though, is because the agendas have been posted two weeks out, are we not allowed to shorten those meetings that we have already agendized, or is that something that we can still do at this point?

CHAIR YEE: Um-hum.

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: I think that's a question for Anthony.

MR. PANE: So Commissioner, when you say shorten, I'm not -- what exactly do you mean by that?

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: So for example, tomorrow the meeting runs from 10 to 6, I believe. Are we allowed to say that now it's from 10 to 3? This is just an example. I know we're not changing anything, but just as an example.

MR. PANE: I would recommend not doing that inside the fourteen-day window --

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Okay.

MR. PANE: -- for -- and so to your point about shortening it, if each meeting is "or upon conclusion of
business" so --

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Right.

MR. PANE: -- you do have that, that's always an option in every one of the meetings. And so in some respects, it doesn't really matter as much from a length of time perspective to shorten it for something that's already advertised inside the --

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Right.

MR. PANE: -- fourteen-day window.

To Commissioner Sadhwani's point, if we want to separate them, you know, have shorter bunches in -- you know, one in the morning and one in the evening, something along those lines, then, yes, that does require separate agendizing. But if we're talking about the same block of time and we want to shorten that in some way, I would recommend at least for -- to achieve that goal, for something that's already posted, we do have the "or upon conclusion of business."

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Okay. So I guess my question is more for after fourteen days, are we still interested in shortening the meeting time frame? And if we are, I would propose that we just hand that responsibility off to Alvaro and the team to work within the time frames that we've already established as a commission. That we want to hold these meetings and then have them shorten it
with respect to, you know, evening times, et cetera. That's just a potential solution to move us forward.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Vazquez?

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yeah, I just --

CHAIR YEE: Then Turner.

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: I disagree. Well, the "upon conclusion of business" piece feels in some ways less community access friendly than noticing a shortened or different timed agenda.

It feels -- it does not feel great to me when we say, like, we're -- you know, we're going to host a public input meeting from 10 to 6, and we cut out at 5 because, you know, no one is there and we've concluded business, as opposed to actually, you know, we're going to try to compact all of these meetings -- all of the input today from 2 to 6 and give people, if not fourteen days, at least ten-days' notice that we're compact -- we're going to achieve business in this window.

So I don't have a particular proposal. But I just, I don't love the "upon conclusion of business" as, like, our way to shorten existing noticed meetings. I don't like that.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioners Taylor, Sinay, and Ahmad.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Thank you. I've never been a -- for lack of a better term, a fan of the "upon
conclusion of business" for our public input meetings.

So I think we should be explicit as to when we will and won't be there.

And then, number 2, as we consider the constriction of the times, at least for the time being, I'd just like what -- I would like us all to be mindful that this is supposed to be the people's process, in the hands of the people, and that we don't want to -- we don't want to reduce access. We want to -- and even, you know, later on down the road, from a legal standpoint, we want to be able to exhibit access, and that people were available to provide that input. That is the purpose of why we're here. And we want to ensure that we maintain that purpose. Thank you.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Sinay then Ahmad.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: That was really well said, Commissioner Taylor. I mean, I'm struggling because for instance, on Monday, I think we have five people who have RSVPed. And if we know that there is five, and they're all between the hours of -- I don't know what our time is, but it's between a certain number of hours, can we start later?

But I really appreciate also what Commissioner Taylor is saying. And on that note, I want to really appreciate Commissioner Le Mons last night just trying to
find ways to keep us open and engaged as long as possible so that people could call in versus just ending it when we didn't have people in line. Because I'm a believer that more people are going to call in later versus earlier.

And that's why I keep trying to figure out how could we start later if we don't have the -- if we don't have people in line -- if we have -- if we don't have people signed up, can we start later?

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Ahmad?

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Pass.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Commissioner Le Mons?

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: This just reignited my question around the appointments. And I think the explanation I was given earlier was that the line drawers needed time to prepare maps and things in order to be prepared for the people who had appointments. I think I heard that correctly.

And I'm wondering if we're opening up, in some ways, the accessibility. Because I know it was for them to be prepared to be able to go to a particular place on the map.

But since we've -- the motion that passed just a little while ago, it gives them added time to establish the geography that the caller is referencing. I'm
wondering, can we take appointments longer than we are currently taking them? So I don't know if that's opened up that opportunity or not.

Because I think the problem with having appointments, while we understand that you can -- anyone can call in at any time, if we don't have people making appointments, I think we're fooling ourselves to just think that, oh, we're going to have this rash of callers in that space that no one -- that's not been what we've seen so far. As we get further into the process, that may -- that probably will change, of course. But for right now, that's not the reality.

Right?

And then we have people with appointments who call in different time blocks, which is fine, but we then have all this empty space. And so I think the truncating of the meeting suggest in that -- Commissioner Sadhwani suggested, I totally support, at least in these beginning weeks and months, maybe the next month or so. And then we expand as necessary.

Now, the question becomes -- Commissioner Vazquez dropped the ten-days. We always act like that's not an option for whatever reason. I know this is music to Commissioner Kennedy's ears. But we at least have that latitude if we wanted to leverage it.
So I suggest we try to extend appointments longer if possible, meaning giving people an opportunity to get in to appointments. Don't cut it off as early as we do. And then secondly, using the ten-day option to revise where we can. I don't know how it shakes out with the calendar, but those are my thoughts.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. A lot of different suggestions. I'm not quite sure how to move forward.

Director Hernandez, have you heard enough in a coherent fashion to shape further plans?

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Yes and no. I've heard also what Chief Counsel has suggested. I've also heard the Commissioners and their desire to be more efficient with our time. And so moving forward, our staff will look at how to try to become more efficient with the time blocks. Again, the appointment system that we created was to allow people to call in during those times.

Now, do we truncate that? Do we adjust that and make it just less blocks and maybe break them down to smaller blocks even?

But I do think that if we're going to adjust the time frame, we're going to limit the number of people that will have appointments. And so with that said, that is something that we could explore and adjust to if that is the direction of the commission.
CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Sinay? You're muted, Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: And I just said the best stuff ever. No.

How do we -- is it possible, probably not right this moment, but to do maybe shorter -- okay -- expand the number of time groups we have as people sign up and they get filled? And I know that there's an issue of accessibility and where they want their time, but -- so that's just one thought.

The other one that I -- you know, I feel like we're in the weeds, kind of, on process versus discussing demand.

How do we increase demand? We have some meetings right now that -- you know, we're already invested in the ones that are scheduled. What are we -- what are we going to do right now for tomorrow and the next -- and the ones in the next two weeks? And that we haven't discussed.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioners Kennedy then Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. My suggestion was going to be since we've had the schedule out for some time with not only dates but times through the 12th of July, that we go with what we've announced through the 12th of July. What we have from staff in the
form of Director Hernandez' table is a proposal; that proposal can be modified.

So that would begin with the communities of interest input meeting on the 15th. And that, you know, staff take what we have said this afternoon as guidance and come back to us with another proposal that would go into place beginning with the meeting on the 15th. Thank you.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fernandez?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I was using the wrong one. I agree with Commissioner Kennedy. The only thing is if we do wait for the information from our Executive Director, it's going to take us beyond the two weeks because our next meeting is not until -- when's our next meeting? Oh, you can come back next week. Can you come back next week? Okay, never mind. He said he can come back next week, so we're good to go.

I just wanted to remind everyone that the prior Commission had three-hour meetings. So -- and yes, of course, they went over sometimes. But our meetings are eight hours.

It does include a lunch break, but that's just something also to think about, Executive Director Hernandez, as you go forward. Thanks.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Sadhwani?

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I think three hours sounds
perfect, right? Two ninety-minute blocks, maybe with a fifteen-minute break in between.

Right? So three hours and fifteen minutes. That sounds like a very good amount of time. Maybe we can switch them up between days and evenings. And then, like, as I said before, if we're seeing demand increase, let's increase the meetings, right? And that's -- I don't have a problem with that. But you know, when we're sitting around without callers, I don't know who that serves.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Commissioner Kennedy then Andersen.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yes, they -- the "or upon conclusion of business" can work in the other direction, also. It can mean that, as the 2010 Commission did, we stay later than the announced hours. Thank you.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Andersen?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: One thing I -- in terms of -- you know, here's another one for the staff. Why do we have, like, the end -- you know, Commissioner Vazquez keeps on mentioning, which I think she's correct, later hours?

So why don't we actually have one of those assignment blocks be that later hour? You know, and maybe either take a time off in the middle, because I
always keep on thinking, well, after 5 we get more calls in, and it's -- we're gone. And we wouldn't necessarily know, unless they get back to us. So you know, do we want to make -- if we were doing to a shifting to a four-hour -- my only issue with that is, though, I think we pay -- it's all the same costs.

I think that's correct, right? I'm getting probably a nod on that one.

But you know, have them go, like, you know, 4 to 8 like our meetings. You have some be the day, but some -- then really switch to the evening. As opposed to like, we go 10, 6, 12, 8, you know, go, you know, 10, 2, 4, 8. Something like that.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Director Hernandez?

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: I just wanted to remind the Commission that this is only the fourth COI input meeting, and the Commission had decided to wait until the fourth meeting to really do an analysis and evaluate where we were. So this conversation is very timely, first of all, and I think there is room for adjustments moving forward.

I am concerned with trying to adjust anything thereafter. If we make any changes thereafter, you know, the fourteen days, we won't be able to make adjustments at that point. And we're -- again, I'm thinking of the
appointment system, how we do that. Some of these logistical issues that we were talking about earlier today, making sure that that's also part of the considerations that staff are going to make in accommodating a different time schedule and moving forward.

Now, again, this is going to be through July. And then when we come into August, we're looking at a whole different type of input meeting because it will be in-person as well as in virtual world. So there will be some additional logistics and dynamics that we'll have to adjust to at that point as well. So I just want to uplift those two things to you.

CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Director Hernandez. Okay. To wrap up this item, I'm wondering, do we need anything further? Director Hernandez, you've heard all the input and considerations, and as you direct staff, I guess we'll be working with you to guide those.

Any further thoughts for Dr. Hernandez?

Let's see. Commissioner Akutagawa, you're pointing to someone; I'm not seeing who.

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Vazquez has a comment.

CHAIR YEE: Ah, there we go. Commissioner Vazquez?

COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yeah, I am just -- I'd like
the commission to -- I understand and I'm hearing an
anticipation of like, external logistical factors being
weighed with consideration to timing of these meetings.
And I just really want to uplift that I personally
believe that we, the commission, should bend to fit
community need, and not feel so overburdened by external
factors that I think are problems for us to solve and not
avoid solving.

So I'm just thinking, again, especially in terms of
thinking about, you know, future in-person meetings,
like, I don't actually think space availability is going
to be such a huge burden to overcome in terms of like,
deciding on times for community. Like, people have
evening community meetings all the time. There will be
evening community space that is open later. We just have
to think a little bit creative.

So I just -- I want to continue to urge us to bend
to meet community need, and not -- and meet some of these
challenges with a willingness to be creative, and not
take certain things as given, and that we can't adjust
our thinking or our practices or our administrative
decisions to get around them. That's all. Thank you.

CHAIR YEE: Thank you. Let's see. Commissioner
Akutagawa, before you speak I'd like to check with Chief
Counsel Pane concerning the litigation contracts. We had
scheduled to propose and seek approval for those today. Is that still a priority for us or do you think we could postpone it?

MR. PANE: I would probably defer to the Legal Affairs Committee, but I do think it's something that does not necessarily need to be approved today.

CHAIR YEE: Okay, very good. Commissioner Akutagawa, and Katy, in a moment, we'll open up for open comment on item 5, and then closing public comment.

Commissioner Akutagawa?

VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you, Chair Yee. Just quick clarification. So if -- it sounds like we're going to agree to shorten our meetings.

I think based on what Commissioner Vazquez also said, I just want to ask, are we going to entertain or are we willing to add additional meetings for sure? I know that that came up, but I think I'm just trying to understand, you know, impacts to our schedule, which is fine if we're talking about shorter time frames. I think I just want to walk away from here with being prepared to also think that we're going to have -- we're going to be adding some additional dates to accommodate, you know, more -- more time for people if we're going to shorten our meetings.

CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fernandez?
COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I don't know -- was that Commissioner Vazquez that had said additional meetings? I can't remember. But I thought it was more of -- the way, I guess, I interpreted it was, you know, right now we have this eight-hour block. Maybe we do two four-hour blocks, and it's two different zones. That's how I saw it in terms of increasing the number of meetings, not necessarily dates because -- well, I mean, we could do that. It's just going to be a little bit more challenging because our schedule, as you've seen, is very full. And it'll -- I.

And as we move forward, as Executive Director Hernandez mentioned in the beginning, when we start looking at August, some of those meetings potentially might change to make them back-to-back meetings because it might be more efficient. If you're traveling to an area and the two meetings are close to each other, then it makes sense to have them back-to-back versus a day in between.

So it looks like there might be some other changes coming our way. But I was hoping we weren't going to necessarily increase the number of days. But of course, that's up for deliberation.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. We are up against the required break. Let's think. I guess we'll just have to go ahead
and take that break and come back. Okay. It's 5:07;
we'll come back at 5:22.

Thank you, and welcome back. Just a few more items;
this should wrap up fairly quickly.

Public Input Design, was that all for your report?

Very good.

So we'll go to 5-B, Legal Affairs Committee. And so
today we had posted -- proposed two contracts for our
litigation counsel, Gibson Dunn and Strumwasser-Woocher.
And we're going to postpone seeking approval on this till
the 30th.

So please in the meantime, take a look at those.

Commissioner Toledo and Chief Counsel and staff have
worked very hard on those. Please note that both
contracts will give us and our Chief Counsel full
discretion on assigning matters to one or the other or
both of the firms as we deem fit and appropriate.

For contract purposes, we are required to put down
dollar amounts, and we've decided to divide those amounts
seventy percent for Strumwasser-Woocher and thirty
percent for Gibson Dunn. That does not lock us in to
actually spending those monies in that proportion. That
is our initial division of the budget item.

There is also a designation of Strumwasser-Woocher
as the primary litigation counsel based on the greater
proportion of the contract. However, it's still going to be entirely up to us how the work is assigned to one, the other, or both. So.

Chief Counsel, anything else to highlight just in preview of what we'll bring forth on the 30th?

MR. PANÉ: No, Chair. I think that captures -- actually, the just -- the updates changes. And thank you, Commissioner Fornaciari, it is now David Becker and not Mr. Levitt. So.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. Let's think. Anything else for Legal Affairs Committee?

Commissioner Sadhwani? Commissioner Toledo's on the road right now.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I think I mentioned under VRA, but appropriate to mention here too, that on June 30th, in addition to finalizing the contracts, the Strumwasser, Woocher, Becker team will be with us for the full commission meeting. They're going to do a short presentation just on general litigation risks.

When we interviewed all of the candidates, we asked a question around what are the ways in which we might get sued? And the responses were tremendous. So we wanted to provide an opportunity to have that discussion with the full commission, as well as have an initial opportunity for everyone to meet the team, as well as
Californians to meet the team.

We will be paying hourly, so please be sure to have your questions ready for them. We probably won't have the full team come on a regular basis, for that reason I would imagine, so you know, definitely, if you have questions or thoughts that you want to raise at this point in time, please, please have them ready.

CHAIR YEE: And preceding that meeting on the 30th, the Legal Affairs Committee will be meeting with Strumwasser Woocher and the line drawers. That'll be the first time we all get together. And we're going to take a shot at our initial discussions of our VRA strategy going forward. And that meeting is open.

Okay. Before we take comment on item 5, let's see, line drawer, you've already told us you're going to do the Pin map presentation next time. So that's covered.

Item 6, I believe we have no closed session items for today.

Item 7, will we -- and I'm anticipating these so I can perhaps call for public comment on all of them together. Item 7, discussion of future meeting dates and agenda items. Do we need to do that today? I think we're all set for now, correct? I'm not seeing --

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Can I just ask -- so coming out of the input design meeting, did we give staff
clarity of what kind of change we want? Was that clear?
It wasn't clear for me. That's why I was just -- Alvaro,
are you going to take our input and run with it and --

CHAIR YEE: Director Hernandez, you can speak to --

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Uh-huh, three-
hour (indiscernible).

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Yeah.

CHAIR YEE: What did you catch?

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Yeah.

CHAIR YEE: Three or not?

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: That's what we're going to do.

Definitely. No, we will take back your recommendations
and look to shorten them, change them, and agendize them
appropriately. We'll have more information at the next
meeting for you to look at what has changed and so forth.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Thank you.

CHAIR YEE: If there's no other discussion of future
meeting dates and agenda items, can we take public
comment for agenda items 5, 7, and 8?

Katy or Kristian?

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair, one moment.

CHAIR YEE: Sure.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: My mouth is just not
agreeing with me, but I can read the instructions whether
I can do that or not.
The Commission will now take public comment on --

CHAIR YEE: I'm sorry, items 5 and 8, since there was no 6 or 7.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes. The Commission will now take public comment on items 5 and 8. To give comment, please call 877-853-5247 and enter the meeting ID number, 92476505888.

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

We do have a caller with their hand raised. I would like to remind those that have called in and have been waiting in the queue to please press star 9 to raise your hand indicating you wish to comment.

At this time we will -- the caller 6337, go ahead.

The floor is yours.

ROSALIND GOLD: Yes. Good afternoon, Commissioners. This is Rosalind Gold with the NALEO Educational Fund. Thank you so much for the discussion regarding the design and scheduling of community of interest public input meetings. We would just like to encourage the Commission to consider seriously about retaining meetings in as much of the evening hours, after close of business, as possible, because those are the times that we have found
that many community members are most likely to attend.

We know that some questions have been raised about the ability to get community locations or locations where these meetings can be held once we start to have in-person meetings. I -- I would just note our experience from the last cycle is that there were -- that they -- there was an ability to find those locations. There were often meetings that started at 5 and went till 9 or 10 in the evening because demand just increased.

And that would be the final thing I would note, is that we really do expect as word gets out, as the outreach of the Commission and its staff continues, you will be seeing greater participation in the meetings.

Thank you so much.

CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Ms. Gold.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. I would like to give the other caller one more chance to please press star 9 to raise your hand indicating you wish to comment. Please press star 9 to raise your hand indicating you wish to comment.

With that Chair, we do not have any other raised hands.

CHAIR YEE: Wait just a moment.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Um-hum.

CHAIR YEE: Okay. If there are no further callers
and no further matters of business, this meeting is adjourned.

(Whereupon, the Public Meeting meeting adjourned at 6:08 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.

COURTNEY L. FUTER, CDLT-261

August 16, 2022
DATE