STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CALIFORNIA STATE AUDITOR’S OFFICE (CSA)

2020 CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION (CRC)

In the matter of:

FIRST EIGHT COMMISSIONERS PUBLIC MEETING

621 Capitol Mall, 10th Floor
Sacramento, California 95814

THURSDAY, JULY 23, 2020
9:30 A.M.

Reported by:
Martha Nelson
APPEARANCES

COMMISSIONERS

Jane Anderson, Temporary Chair
Trena Turner, Temporary Vice Chair (Remote attendance)
Isra Ahmad, (Remote attendance)
Neal Fornaciari, (Remote attendance)
J. Ray Kennedy (Remote attendance)
Antonio Le Mons, (Remote attendance)
Sara Sadhwani, (Remote attendance)
Derric H. Taylor, (Remote attendance)

STAFF

Amanda Saxton, Counsel
Shauna Pellman, Secretary, (Remote attendance)

ALSO PRESENT

Karin MacDonald, UC Berkeley School of Law
Jaime Clark, UC Berkeley School of Law
AT&T Operator
ASL Interpreters
APPEARANCES

PUBLIC COMMENT

Daniel Quinzy
Gil Ontai
Sophia Garcia, Dolores Huerta Foundation
Natasha Cougoule
Sean Dugar, Common Cause
Angelo Ancheta, Commissioner, 2010 Citizens Redistricting Commission
Vanessa Green, Alliance San Diego
Jose Garcia, Latino Community Foundation
Alejandra Ponce de Leon, Advancement Project California
Kimberly Fuentes, California League of United Latin American Citizens
Jonathan Mehta Stein, California Common Sense
Esperanza Guevara, Coalition for Human Immigrant Rights
Inez Gonzalez Perezchica, MANA de San Diego
Vanessa Hernandez, Hispanics Organized for Political Equality
Julia Marks, Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Asian Law Caucus
Michele Siqueiros, Campaign for College Opportunity
Carol Moon Goldberg, League of Women Voters for California
Karina Macias, City Council Member, City of Huntington Park
APPEARANCES

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jacqueline Coto, National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials

Cynthia Dai

Miguel Canales, City Council Member, City of Artesia
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INDEX</th>
<th>PAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Call to Order and Roll Call</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Recorded training sessions:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(e) Training Video: “Census Data and the Process of Map-Drawing,” Karin MacDonald and Jaime Clark (Statewide Database, UC Berkeley School of Law) provide training on census data, census geography, and line-drawing/mapping.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Public comment on general matters</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adjournment</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CHAIR ANDERSEN: Good morning. It’s now being shortly after 9:30, I will call the meeting to order.

Secretary, may we have roll call please?

MS. PELLMAN: Yes.

Commissioner Ahmad?

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Here.

MS. PELLMAN: Commissioner Andersen?

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Here.

MS. PELLMAN: Commissioner Fornaciari?

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Here.

MS. PELLMAN: Commissioner Kennedy?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Here.

MS. PELLMAN: Commissioner Le Mons?

COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Here.

MS. PELLMAN: Commissioner Sadhwani?

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Here.

MS. PELLMAN: Commissioner Taylor?

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Present.

MS. PELLMAN: Commissioner Turner?

VICE CHAIR TURNER: Here.

MS. PELLMAN: Thank you.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you.

As today is our final day of this first, our
first, meeting, we have a few administrative things to go
over. And I, the Chair, recognizes our Counsel, Ms.
Saxton.

MS. SAXTON: Good morning, Commissioners. I just
want to circle back with the conversation yesterday about
potentially having a discussion at the end of the meeting
about the training. And I wanted to clarify what is
appropriate to speak about and what is not appropriate to
speak about at this time at this meeting. That
conservation, because this is a training meeting, it’s fine
to talk about what you learned, what was most valuable, and
generally how the training will inform your consideration
of supplemental applications and such.

However, what you cannot do at this meeting is to
make a game plan for what’s going to happen in the next
meeting, reach agreements about how selection will work,
make agreements on how slates will be built or have an
action item to vote on those things or any action item at
all.

I know that it’s been stressed that the deadline
is August 15th to select the final six Commissioners. And
I know people are excited or anxious to get moving. But I
want to assure you that there will be ample time to have a
discussion on those matters, such as reaching agreement
about how you want to make your slates and action items,
voting on those types of things that are appropriate for
the selection meeting, which will run for multiple days.

And, additionally, our staff has been listening
to these meetings and taking note of those items that
people have expressed an interest in that are suitable for
the selection meeting. And there will be an agenda item
put for next time on, specifically, those items that I
mentioned that are not appropriate for this meeting. You
will have opportunity to make those decisions at that time.

If anybody has any questions on that right now,
I’m happy to answer. No? Okay. And, obviously, if
questions come up during that discussion, I’m here to
answer those questions at that time.

Additionally, on a separate issue, I want to
express that we did not invite any of the line drawers to
call in or present in person. And we did that by design.
Most likely, many of those people will bid on any line-
drawing RFPs issued for or by the Commission. And we were
cognizant of sensitivity to fair bidding practices. We did
not want to give any single line drawer any competitive
advantage. But you will have the ability to obtain
presentations from bidders. And if you choose to do that,
you will be able, also, to get several trainings at the
selection meeting on how line are drawn.

Any questions about that? Okay. That’s the end
of my remarks.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you.

So with that, we will proceed with the first order of business today, which is 8(e), another training video. This is one is Census Data and the Process of Map-Drawing, with Karin MacDonald and Jaime Clark from the Statewide Database at UC Berkeley School of Law.

If you would go ahead with the video please?

(Video titled: "Consensus Data and the Process of Map-Drawing" played.)

(Video paused)

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Just for a quick -- that’s in the video itself. That’s not actually asking spots.

(Video resumed)

(Video paused)

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Well, I think we’d like to take our 15-minute break now so we can keep all of the communities of interest portion together. So we need to take our 15-minute break and we’ll resume -- it’s a little bit before 11:00, we’ll resume right about -- right at 11:15.

Thank you.

(Off the record at 10:59 a.m.)

(On the record at 11:15 a.m.)

CHAIR ANDERSEN: I’m going to call this meeting
back in order. And if you could continue? Well, we just
backed up just a little bit so we can start with the
communities of interest in Karin MacDonald’s presentation.

    Thank you.
    (Video resumed)
    (Video paused)

    CHAIR ANDERSEN: The previous group took a break
here. It just happens at a different time with ours
because of our 90 minute criteria for a break for
translators and American Sign Language, so we’ll be
starting right up with this. We’re skipping over their
break at this point.
    (Video resumed)
    (Video paused)

    MS. MACDONALD: Any questions?
    CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you.

    At this time, obviously, the section (e) actually
has two parts. We just completed the first part, which is
Karin MacDonald and the census data. And the second part,
which is the, actually, process of data drawing, we’ll
actually take that up after lunch, since we have about 15
minutes.

    At this point, I’m going to ask Counsel if they
could go ahead and read? We could take public comment only
on the census data portion that we’ve just heard on this --
in this training video.

So if you could please invite the public, Ms. Saxton?

MS. SAXTON: One comment. The slides that are embedded in this presentation are available on our website on the Commissioner page under Meeting Materials.

I will now give the instructions for making public comment at this meeting. These instructions are also available on our website. And I will be reading a shortened version of them before the next public comment period.

To maximize transparency and public participation in our process, and in addition to all public comments we’ve received prior to our meeting, we will also be taking public comment at this time by phone. Please note, comments have a two-minute time limit in order to ensure that all those who wish to comment have that opportunity.

Please also note, general comment is scheduled for agenda item number 9. At this time, your comments are limited to (indiscernible). We’re taking public comment on agenda item number 8, training on census data and the process of map-drawing, at this time.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you.

While we’re waiting for anyone to get in the queue, are there any comments on what we’ve seen so far or
thoughts from any of the Commissioners or any questions that anyone have that they’d like to ask?

MS. SAXTON: Madam Chair, may I -- I’m going to read the number and the access code.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Oh, thank you.

MS. SAXTON: Sure.

To make public comment, please dial 888-668-6984. Excuse me, that’s the incorrect number.

The real number for public comment is 844-291-5495. And the access code is 8121803. That’s 8121803. To make a public comment, please dial, again, 844-291-5495.

And the access code is 8121803.

After dialing the number, you will speak to an operator. You will be asked to provide either the access code for the meeting, 8121803, or the name of the meeting, which is the Training Meeting for the First Eight Commissioners. After providing this information the operator will ask you to provide your name. Please note, you’re not required to provide your actual name if you do not wish to. When the operator asks for your name, you may either provide your own name or a name other than your own, such as anonymous. And please spell your name and affiliation.

When it’s your turn to make public comment the operator will introduce you by the name you provided.
Providing a name helps the operator, who’s hosting our public comment process, to ensure that everyone holding for a public comment has a chance to submit their comments. Please be assured that our office is not maintaining any list of callers by name. We’re only asking for some names so the operator can answer multiple calls simultaneously and let you know when it’s your turn to speak.

After providing a name and speaking with the operator, you’ll be placed in a listening room, which is a virtual waiting room, where you will wait until it’s your turn to speak. In this room you will be able to listen to the live audio of the meeting. Please mute your computer or your livestream audio because the online video and the audio will be approximately 60 seconds behind the live audio that you’ll be hearing on the telephone. Please note, if you fail to mute your computer livestream audio, it will be extremely difficult for you to follow the meeting and difficult for anyone to hear your comment due to issues with feedback. Therefore, once you’re waiting in the queue, be alert for when you may be called upon to speak. And please mute the livestream volume.

From the listening room, listen to the meeting and the operator. When you decide that you want to make a comment about the agenda action item -- agenda item currently being discussed, press one, then zero and you
will be placed in the queue to make public comment about this item, agenda item 8.

When joining the queue to make public comment, you should hear an automatic recording informing you that you’ve been placed in the queue. You will not receive any further instruction until the operator brings you in to make your public comment. The operator will open your line and introduce you by the name you provided to the operator. Once again, make sure that you’ve muted any background noise from your computer. We also ask that you do not use a speakerphone but, rather, speak directly into your phone.

After the operator introduces you, please state your name, the name you provided to the operator, and spell your name for the transcriptionist, and then state your comment clearly and concisely. Comments will be limited to two minutes. After you finish making your comment, we will move on to the next caller. At that point, please hang up your phone.

If you’re disconnected for any reason, please call back and explain the issue to the operator, then repeat this process and rejoin the public comment queue by pressing one and then zero.

The process for making a comment will be the same at the beginning each time, beginning by dialing. And, here, I’ll give you the number again, that is
844-291-5495, and the access code is 8121803.

We will now take public comment on this item number 8.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: AT&T Operator, do we happen to have anyone in queue at this time?

AT&T OPERATOR: We do. We have a comment from Gilead Ontai.

Your line is open.

MR. ONTAI: Yes. I’m going to wait until item 9. Thank you.

AT&T OPERATOR: Thank you. No further comments in queue at this time.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you. Any -- we’ll wait for another minute, allowing people time.

Any thoughts or comments from the Commissioners? Or -- we’ve gotten a lot of very good technical information, pretty technical.

I do want to say, for people who are watching this, that are listening, these are training videos that were presented to the Applicant Review Panel. So it’s -- they, obviously, are not talking anything about COVID issues, which we will be dealing with. And when they go -- they’re asking questions, they’re not actually asking us right now, you know, the eight Commissioners, they were asking the Applicant Review Panel, so I hope no one gets
confused about that. And they have a different break schedule, so that’s why we’ve had to adjust a little bit here, and we’re right now in between what was, basically, presented as one presentation to the ARP.

AT&T OPERATOR: We do have a few lines in queue.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, AT&T Operator.

AT&T OPERATOR: We’ll go --

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Go ahead.

AT&T OPERATOR: Sorry, Commissioner. Thank you, Madam Chair. We’ll go to Sophia Garcia.

Your line is open.

MS. GARCIA: Hello. Can you hear me?

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Yes. Thank you. Please offer your comments.

MS. GARCIA: Okay. Yes. Hi. My name is Sophia Garcia, and that’s spelled S-O-P-H-I-A G-A-R-C-I-A. And I am the GIS Analyst for the Dolores Huerta Foundation. And I will be making a comment on behalf of the Foundation. I’m also a member of the Integrated Voter Engagement Redistricting Alliance. And I know members of the Commission have received a letter and, hopefully, reviewed it. But right now I just wanted to make a comment on some of the items that Karin MacDonald from the redistricting -- or Statewide Database uplifted in her presentation.

I know that she said that AB 420 and AB 2172
talks about how California separates their database for incarcerated folks and that it’s not necessarily a requirement for the Commission to use that database that uses incarcerated people’s past residence versus where they are incarcerated.

I want to urge the Commission to really consider using that dataset that the Statewide Database has already cleaned up for us and that it will ensure a more of a fair and accurate count in the redistricting process. She mentioned is specifically for local redistricting. And I just really want to urge the Commission and whoever, the other six members, to really utilize that in the process.

I also want to continue to uplift what she was saying about the importance of communities of interest and, specifically, the qualitative dataset while in the redistricting process.

MS. SAXTON: Fifteen seconds remaining.

MS. GARCIA: And I’m very familiar -- excuse me?

MS. SAXTON: There are 15 seconds remaining.

MS. GARCIA: Oh, thank you. Yes. I just want to, again, highlight and uplift the interest of public input and qualitative information during communities of interest in this process.

So thank you so much. And I will make another comment at the end regarding the six Commissioners. Thank
CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you.

Also, anyone who has comments like this that, actually, are very applicable to the full Board, please feel free to get -- to offer those comments again once the full Commission has been established. Because, again, we are the first eight and our very specific task is to select the next six.

But thank you for the comment.

Do we have any more in the queue right now?

AT&T OPERATOR: We do. We have a comment from Natasha.

Natasha, could you say your last name and spell it please?

MS. COUGOULE: Hi. Can you call hear me? Can you hear me?

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Yes. Please go ahead.

MS. COUGOULE: Hi. My name is -- sorry. My name is Natasha Cougoule, spelled N-A-T-A-S-H-A C-O-U-G-O-U-G-L-E. And before I begin, can I ask, is it appropriate at this time to make a comment on the composition of the final six representatives on the Committee or is that for a later section?

CHAIR ANDERSEN: That is. Thank you for asking.

That is for the later section. This, right now, we’re only
MS. COUGOULE: Okay.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: -- accepting comments on the census data portion. And please call back --

MS. COUGOULE: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: -- in our general section.

MS. COUGOULE: Okay. Thank you.

While I still have you, I would like to support the comments that were made by the previous caller about using the database that’s available on the last location of incarcerated people so that those folks still get representation in their local district.

Thank you.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you.

AT&T OPERATOR: And at this time --

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Do we have --

AT&T OPERATOR: -- there are no further comments in queue.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you. We might wait one more minute.

Any questions or thoughts from anyone? Seeing none, we’ll just wait for the rest of the minute to give people a chance. I know it’s a little tricky trying to call in.

And, again, we will have, after we finish the
videos, there will -- you know, once we hit item 9, that’s the general public comments. So at this time, it is only about the census data and what we’re actually -- the latest video.

AT&T Operator, do we happen to have any other people on the line?

AT&T OPERATOR: No. No other comments in line.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Okay. Thank you.

At this point, since it’s about five minutes until we have our lunch break, I suggest that we go ahead and recess and come back a little bit before 1:00, so we’ll actually start up at one o’clock. I just -- I call the meeting in recess for lunch.

Thank you.

(Off the record at 11:55 a.m.)

(On the record at 1:00 p.m.)

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Everyone’s in the room. It appears we have a quorum. At this time I’d like to call the meeting back to order.

So we’re --

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Yeah. Sorry. We’re just about to start up the -- we’re in section, for all the public who are just joining us, we’re in the last part of our training sessions. We’re in number 8 of the agenda, item (e). It’s a training video. It actually was two parts. It’s the
Census Data and the Process of Map-Drawing. And we’re now just starting on the process of map-drawing with Jaime Clark.

And there will be public comment immediately after this. And that public comment is not the general public comments on general matters. This is -- we’ll have a short public comment period and it’s only on the data census and the process of map-drawing. So there will be a break in between a little bit. And so please, I’ll say that announcement again, but just I know there are many people who -- I hope that there are many people who would like to have public comments on general matters. There will be two distinct public comment periods.

So with that, could you go ahead and we’ll start up the video?

Thank you.

(Video resumed)

(Video paused)

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Great. I think that is the end of the video?

MR. BELNAP: Yes.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: So, well, we certainly have heard a great deal in these last three days. This will bring us to the end of item 8.

We will be taking some public input on this,
public comments, just on this particularly map-drawing item. And we can, indeed, invite the public.

Now I turn this over to our counsel and where she can give the instructions.

And while we’re waiting to see if people want to call in, only on this particular item, this is -- we’re not getting to the public comments on general matters. That will proceed after we complete/conclude item 8, which we’ve not done yet.

And in the meantime, we’ll invite the public. And while we’re waiting for public, we can go ahead and sort of discuss anything we’d like about, basically, all the material we’ve seen in the last three days.

So at this point, if you could -- I’m going to recognize Ms. Saxton.

MS. SAXTON: If you would like to make public comment regarding agenda item number 8(e), Census Data and the Process of Map-Drawing, please call in now by dialing 844-291-5495. In the next few moments we’ll begin taking public comment. And that number, again, is 844-291-5495. After dialing the number, you will speak to an operator. You will be asked to provide either the access code for the meeting, which is 8121803, that’s 8121803, or the name of the meeting, which is Training Meeting for First Eight Commissioners.
After providing this information, the operator will ask you to provide your name. Please note that you’re not required to provide your actually name. When the operator asks for your name, you may provide a name other than your own. When it’s your turn to make public comment the moderator will introduce you by the name you provided to the operator.

After speaking in the operator, you will be placed in a listening room. In this room you will be able to listen to live audio of the meeting. You should mute your computer audio because the online video and audio will be delayed by approximately 60 seconds.

When you decide that you want to make a comment about item 8(e) on the agenda, press one zero and you’ll be placed in the queue to make public comment about that action item. After joining the queue to make public comment, you should hear an automatic recording informing you that you’ve been placed in the queue. When it is your turn the operator will introduce you. State your comment clearly and concisely. Comments will be limited to two minutes. After you finish making your comment we will move on to the next caller. At that point, please hang up your phone.

If you would like to comment during the general matters public comment period, which is agenda number 9,
please call back when we open up public comment for that item and repeat this process.

If you are disconnected for any reason, please call back and explain the issue to the operator, then repeat this process and rejoin the public comment queue by pressing one zero.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you.

At this time, we’ll invite the public to call in.

And, AT&T Operator, if -- I’ll just ask you, do we happen to have any comments at this time?

AT&T OPERATOR: We do.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Ah. Could you please invite them?

AT&T OPERATOR: Very good.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you.

AT&T OPERATOR: Our first comment comes from Angelo Ancheta.

Your line is open.

MR. ANCHETA: Good afternoon, Commissioners. I did want to raise a point related to the presentation by Ms. MacDonald and Ms. Clark.

Just as a historical point, there is an important distinction between the Statewide Database’s role and the role of the line-drawing consultants. And if you look back at the 2010 cycle, that might look a little bit blurred
because, as Ms. Clark and Ms. MacDonald, of course, are part of the Statewide Database staff, but the Commission chose to take their consulting firm, whose name is Q2, letter Q, number 2, and they were our line-drawing consultant as well. So that certainly doesn’t have to be the case in any redistricting situation but it was the case in our cycle.

And so what you got today was, certainly, a presentation by Ms. MacDonald on some of the core data issues. Ms. Clark was presenting sort of examples of what a line-drawing consultant will typically do. But if you look back at what we did, that might be a little bit blurred if you look it at some of the transcripts because they were wearing two different hats. But I just wanted to point that out to you as you’re moving forward.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you for that comment.

Before we invite the next person, I do want to say, we do have a two-minute limit and -- (clears throat) excuse me -- you will be prompted at 15 seconds. So I don’t want that to disturb you, it’s just to give you a time frame.

So do we happen to have any more people in the queue?

AT&T OPERATOR: We do. We’ll go to the line of Sophia Garcia.
Please go ahead.

MS. GARCIA:  Yes. Hello. This is Sophia Garcia from the Dolores Huerta Foundation. I just want to say, again, that I am a GIS analyst and pretty fluent with the GIS build. And I want to thank Jaime for her presentation. And I just want to reiterate a couple of things that she said about the importance that, for whoever, whichever consultant you pick, that it will be, again, the human who’s doing the line drawing itself and not necessarily the software, specifically on the point of communities of interest.

And I just really want to reiterate, again, that the demographer has the ability to create communities of interest from public testimony, and even from the public testimony of folks who do not give you a specific geographic boundary from the get-go.

And I just want to, again, just reiterate the importance of the accessibility of the demographer and that the Commission has the ability to create and make public multiple drafts. An in terms of accessibility for maps, there’s a lot of different platforms. And I just want the Commission to keep that in mind, that while a lot of people have access to online maps and online dashboards, that the importance of, when you’re in public meetings throughout the state, posters and, also, multiple drafts that the
Again, Jaime said that it is a tedious process to take into account communities of interest that are going to come, I’m sure, from across the state. But I just, again, want to reiterate that the demographer has the ability. And it’s the job of the Commission to assign the demographer to make multiple drafts. And then when those multiple drafts are given to you, I would urge you all to make that --

MS. SAXTON: Fifteen seconds.

MS. GARCIA: -- public so that we can make comment on those throughout the process.

So thank you again. And thank you, Jaime, and the Statewide Redistricting Database for these two presentations.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you.

Do we have any additional public comments in the queue?

AT&T OPERATOR: Thank you. No one else is in queue. But if may, I’ll remind callers, they may press one zero if they wish to make a comment on this topic.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you.

While we wait for a few more people to call in, would any -- any of the Commissioner have anything they’d like to add or say at this point? As I’ve said, I know
we’ve had a lot of material to go over, and so the -- is there any kind of reflection or anything like that? Do we have people that have any comments that they’d like to add at this time?

Okay, not seeing not any, we’ll wait a little bit.

AT&T OPERATOR: We do have a comment in queue.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you very much. Please go ahead.

AT&T OPERATOR: We’ll go to Vanessa Green.

Your line is open.

MS. GREEN: Thank you. I just want to say, thank you for the presentation. I’m not a Commissioner but I learn so much every time.

My name is Vanessa Green and I’m the Census Redistricting Fellow at Alliance San Diego, a community of paramount organization, working to ensure all residents can reach their full potential in an environment of safety, harmony, equality, and justice. We are also part of the Integrated Voter Engagement Redistricting Alliance.

San Diego’s elected leaders at every level play a huge role in opportunity, regulation, support, and resource distribution to ensure residents can access the California dream. How they’re elected begins with the process you have been selected to lead. While you are tasked with
selecting the next group of Commissioners, diversity is an important part of that decision. Do not forget the geographical --

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Excuse me.

MS. GREEN: -- diversity and (indiscernible).

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Excuse me.

MS. GREEN: Go ahead.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: We are, at this point -- is this comment directed at the process of mapmaking or is this for the just general Commission?

MS. GREEN: General Commission.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Okay. Thank you.

MS. GREEN: Am I in the wrong spot?

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Yes. Exactly.

MS. GREEN: Am I at the wrong spot?

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Yes. If you could call in, in not much longer, we will be opening it up for item number 9, which is public comment on the general matters. And we'd invite you to come --

MS. GREEN: Oh. Okay.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: -- at that time.

MS. GREEN: Thank you.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Great. Thank you.

MS. GREEN: I’m so sorry for that.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: No. Thank you. Quite all
right.

    AT&T OPERATOR: Thank you, Madam Chair. No further comments in queue at this time.

    CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you. Well, I think we might, in case someone calls in, we’ll wait a little bit, but we’re sort of rapidly bringing this one, this item, to a conclusion. And I think maybe I’ll see, do we have any ideas or opinions or feedback from anything that we got over the three days? Does anyone, any Commissioner, like to add a comment or what they felt they might have learned or over the course of -- and it can be any topic that we’ve gone over in these last three days?

    The Chair recognizes Commissioner Sadhwani.

    COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes. Thank you.

    You know, I recognize that most of these were actually recordings. But I did want to thank all of the presenters, even though they weren’t necessarily all hear, you know, for having taken that time back in the fall to work with the Applicant Review Panel. I think these were, just as reflection, that these were extraordinarily helpful.

    I think we ended up hearing some version of kind of similar ideas that were embedded within the California Constitution multiple times. I think it was particularly helpful, you know, receiving some of the feedback from the
2010 Commission, some of the lessons learned that were brought up, not only by the former Commissioners but, also, I think, particularly, Professor Levitt’s legal orientation was extraordinarily helpful. And, in particularly, he had mentioned that we continue to reflect on the need to kind put the VRA (phonetic) at the front and center of our lines when we’re -- when we begin our process, that we can always -- and I think even seeing Miss -- I know her name is Jaime, I forgot her last name, the last presentation that we saw, actually seeing the mapping software in action, I mean, I think what we’re seeing if we put that VRA, you know, just as a reflection, using this VRA components kind of first and foremost, there’s a lot of opportunity, right, with the software to play with them and stay neat so that first and primary goal of equal proportions within the district. So I though that was extraordinarily helpful.

The VRA provisions, of course, as were laid out are somewhat complex. I do think having additional, you know, legal understanding of the VRA and understanding of the law will be extraordinarily important for all of us, the legal counsel that we choose, for the next six Commissioners that we choose, et cetera.

So I think those are some of my reflections. But I did want to just thank all of those presenters, even
though they weren’t here today or over these three days, as well as the State Auditor’s Office for putting this all together. It was extraordinarily helpful.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Okay. Thank you, Commissioner Sadhwani.

Any other comments from Commissioners?

Not having any volunteers yet, I would then say, I also thought it was very helpful, the material we went over. I actually -- yes, they were presented before and I did, as an applicant, listen to quite a bit of that, but I found it much more helpful this time around. It sort of seemed to put a lot of things in place with more time to reflect.

And I really, particularly, liked Professor Levitt, his comments about it’s like driving because the amount of details we need to reflect on and that all of us need to come together to look at, it seems a bit daunting at times. But when you look at it as in terms of driving, if you go back to think, when you first started to learn to drive was this -- I also had to learn how to shift -- each task, it’s you focus in on that task. But as you did for a bit you see it’s easy to do all of them.

And I was struck by that, this time going through this material, how it makes sense. It sort of becomes, of course, you would look to the communities of interest, the
cities, all of this, basically, at that same time. And it became not as daunting a task but -- and I agree. I thought, well, we definitely need, you know, things, looking at our group that we have so far, that adding, you know, more information in this area or that area is very important, but it’s also, it’s just sort of the ability that individuals have to step back and sympathize and be able to come up with a creative way that could be something off the wall because I think that might be needed, particularly our COVID. You know, like they’re, you know, giving a lot of information on how to get information.

You know, I feel that one characteristic I would be looking for is creativity and being able to think outside the box in terms of, well, you know, here we are on a Zoom call and this had complications. What other ways we can approach, once we put the whole panel together, what other ways can we approach the public?

And I also thought, looking at the six, their synthesis. So as opposed to looking at each individual, I feel I will really be looking at a group of six and sitting with a group of eight, so it becomes a viable group of 14, I found it was just very helpful.

So unless -- I don’t know what else to say.

The Chair recognizes Commissioner Ahmad.

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Hi. I just also wanted to
reiterate that I was very appreciative of all the
presenters who took time. Thanks for all -- for these
presentations.

I think what was helpful for me, particularly,
was hearing from different folks who touched the
redistricting process on different days and what skills
that they found would be necessary in Commissioners to
have. I know we have a very difficult task ahead for this
particular portion of our job. And I’m looking forward to
taking on that comment.

So thank you to all the presenters and I found
the trainings very helpful.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you.

Any other comments from the Commissioners?

Oh, Commissioner Fornaciari?

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. Thank you.

Just adding on to what’s already been said, I
don’t want to repeat what’s been said because I agree with
it all, I just want to take one moment to thank
Commissioner Andersen for stepping in and being the Chair.
It’s an extremely difficult position to be in because you
have to be focused on not only running the meeting but,
also, what’s going on in the meeting. And it makes it even
more challenging to try to learn Bagley-Keene at the same
time. So thank you so much for your hard work in taking on
this challenge. I really appreciate it and I know it’s been tough.

And I also want to thank -- also echo the thanks for everyone from the Auditor’s Office and all the folks, you know, the A.D. folks and the interpreters and everyone who helped us put on this first meeting, so thank you.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thanks for that and I totally second and third and fourth, I think, the help from all our staff here. I don’t know if you can see, because you’re not in the room, but there are always six or, sometimes, eight people here in the background doing different things. And it takes a lot to put this on which I, really, I think we all appreciate. Thank you very much.

Any other comments from the other Commissioners? Thoughts at this time?

Do we have any other -- AT&T Operator, do we happen to have any other public comments in queue?

AT&T OPERATOR: Not other comments in queue at this time.

MS. PELLMAN: Madam Chair, it might be a good time to take our 15-minute break, slightly ahead of schedule.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Well, I was just going to say, at this point let’s go ahead and take our 15-minute break for our interpreters and our American Sign Language people.
Also, thank you very much. It’s a great deal of work. And I hope you all will pronounce our names and spell our names for everyone.

And then we will -- so it’s 2:15. We’ll come back and dive into our next order of business at 2:30. So we’ll put the -- we’re on -- the meeting is on recess for now.

Thank you.

(Off the record at 2:15 p.m.)

(On the record at 2:30 p.m.)

CHAIR ANDERSEN: I believe we have a quorum so at this point I’d like to reopen the meeting. And next order of business is, indeed, the number 9, public comment on general matters.

At this point, I’m going to turn it over to our Counsel, Ms. Saxton, who will give the instructions on the public calling in.

MS. SAXTON: If you’d like to make public comment regarding agenda number 9, public comment on general matters, please call 844-291-5495, that’s 844-291-5495.

In the next few moments we’ll begin taking public comment. After dialing the number, you will speak to an operator. You will be asked to provide either the access code for the meeting, which is 8121803, or the name of the meeting, which is Training Meeting for the First Eight
Commissioners.

After providing this information the operator will ask you to provide your name. Please note, you are not required to provide your actual name. When the operator asks for your name, you may provide a name other than your own. When it’s your turn to make public comment the moderator will introduce you by the name you provided to the operator.

After speaking with the operator, you will be placed in a listening room. In this room you will be able to listen to live audio of the meeting. You should mute your computer audio because the online video and audio will be delayed by approximately 60 seconds. When you decide that you want to make a comment, press one zero and you’ll be placed in the queue to make public comment about item number 9, public comment on general matters. After joining the queue to make public comment, you should hear an automatic recording informing you that you’ve been placed in the queue.

When it’s your turn the moderator will introduce you. State your comment clearly and concisely. Comments will be limited to two minutes. After you finish making your comment, we will move on to the next caller. At that point, please hang up your phone. If you are disconnected for any reason, please call back and explain the issue to
the operator, then repeat this process and rejoin the
public comment queue by pressing one zero.

    Please note, the first eight Commissioners may
neither discuss nor take action on any matter raised during
this public comment period that is not included on this
agenda, except to briefly respond to statements made or
questions posed, request clarification, or decide whether
to place the matter on the agenda for a future meeting.

    CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you.
    And with that, I invite the public to call in
with your public comments. And there is a two-minute
restriction. You will be notified with a 15-second
reminder. But if you have many items, you can certainly
call back, it’s just that way we can give everyone a chance
to speak, but you may certainly call back in to speak more.
Thank you very much and we hope to hear from you.

    AT&T Operator, do we happen to have anyone on the
line at this time?

    AT&T OPERATOR: We do. We have several in queue.
And as a reminder, if you’re on the audio bridge,
you may press one, then zero to queue up. And before you
make your comment, please do state and spell your name.
We’ll go first to the line of Angelo Ancheta.

    Please go ahead.

    MR. ANCHETA: Well, good afternoon, again,
Commissioners.

As I mentioned yesterday, I was the Chair at the conclusion of our Commission’s term. And I did post some comments and some documents, which are now available on the website, so I would refer you to those comments.

I did want to highlight a couple of things that I think are important for your next set of meetings.

One is that the CRC Handbook, which was on the home page but I think the home page has been revised recently, some of the documents over there are either missing or you have to sort of dig for them, but I would recommend that you take a look at the handbook which is a compilation of some of the processes and recommendations that we put together several years ago after our work in 2011 and 2012. There is a section dealing with the selection of the remaining six. I’d recommend you to read some of that. You’re not obligated, obviously, to follow any of those recommendations but we certainly would like you to take a look at it.

The other issue I wanted to raise has to do with the RFP for the line-drawing consultant and, I think by extension, the recently released position announcements for the Executive Director and two of the major staff positions. We had a great concern when that was released in late June. And Vice Chair Ancheta and I sent a letter
to the State Auditor opposing the release of the RFP. And we recommended that it be withdrawn. The letter itself is part of the attachment that I included in my comments.

Even though it was released with the best of intentions and trying to speed the process along, we felt that it was inappropriate for the Auditor to release that RFP without having sufficient oversight and guidance by the full Commission. And, again, you know, you’re not yet the full Commission. And I think you should be looking at dealing with this issue as soon as the full Commissioner is seated.

MS. PELLMAN: This is -- Madam Secretary --
MR. ANCHETA: I still think that that --
MS. PELLMAN: -- you have 15 seconds remaining.
MR. ANCHETA: Okay. We don’t think that that RFP should be -- we realize -- we feel that they should be withdrawn. And that if it is not withdrawn (indiscernible) that the full Commission should simply start from scratch and issue a new RFP. And we did poll all of the former Commissioners on this and among those who did respond --

MS. PELLMAN: That is two minutes.
MR. ANCHETA: -- (indiscernible) -- oh, (indiscernible).

So thank you.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you.
Just on a quick comment on that, that is a matter for the full Commission. And I appreciate that. It was also definitely informed to us is that an option that the full Commission could take if they’d like to take. It is by no means mandatory. So we appreciate that but please submit that for the full Commission.

Do we have another item on the line -- or people?

AT&T OPERATOR: We do have another comment. It comes from Jose Garcia.

Your line is open.

MR. GARCIA: Hi. Hello?

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Hello. Please go ahead.

MR. GARCIA: Oh. Good morning, Commissioners, or good afternoon now. I’m calling in today on behalf of the Latino Community Foundation because we feel the complete lack of Latino Commissioners on this panel right now is incredibly concerning.

In California, Latinos make up 40 percent of our population. And for this Commission to be fair and racially equitable there would need to be a total of six Latino Commissioners approved onto the panel, which is also the exact number of vacant seats left to fill the Commission.

I respectfully urge the eight of you to keep this fact in mind when selecting future applicants. Latinos are
needed at tables of power, like this one, to voice the concerns and needs of the largest ethnic group in the state. And by approving five Latino applicants onto the -- or at least five Latino applicants onto the Commission, you’ll be sending a statement to our state that racial equity is a necessary and important ideal we should continue striving for.

Thank you for your time. That’s my entire mission -- message. Looking forward to the work of this Commission.

Thank you.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you.

Are there any additional comments on this call?

AT&T OPERATOR: There are several more in queue.

Um-hmm. We’ll go next to Gil Ontai.

Please spell your name.


CHAIR ANDERSEN: Please go ahead.

MR. ONTAI: Am I on?

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Yes, you are. Please go ahead.

Mr. ONTAI: Good afternoon, Commissioners, and congratulations. I’m Gil Ontai, the last rotating Vice Chair of the 2010 Commission.

So just to emphasize Commissioner Angelo Ancheta’s comment, please consider the State Auditor’s
opening remarks to exercise your option to void the
Statement Auditor’s RFP and to pursue your own course of
action.

So thank you very much for your public service
and in, especially, this crucial startup phase, and for
your next ten years. God bless.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you very much.

Are there additional comments, people in the
queue?

AT&T OPERATOR: Yes, there are. I’ll next to
Sophia Garcia.

Your line is open.

MS. GARCIA: Hello everybody. Again, my name is
Sophia Garcia. I’m the GIS Analyst for the Dolores Huerta
Foundation, and also a member of the Integrated Voter
Engagement Redistricting Alliance.

And, again, I know the Alliance sent you all a
letter to review. And I would just like to uplift some of
the concerns. I also want to give a little bit of
background.

The Foundation’s mission is to inspire and
organize communities empowered to pursue social justice.
And we are -- we have 20 chapters throughout the San
Joaquin and Antelope Valley.

We understand the Redistricting Commission was
established to ensure fair representation in our elected bodies. And we realize how important these decisions are for the lasting impact on people’s lives and for fair math for our low-income communities of color.

It is of critical importance in today’s world to erase the racial and economic inequalities that exist. So we join our fellow Alliance members to begin a partnership with the Commission. And we look forward, specifically, in participating in the San Joaquin Valley during the public meetings next year.

In order for the Commission to reflect the state’s diversity, we recommend that the remaining six Commissioners fill the racial, ethnic, geographic, and socioeconomic gap identified in the letter that the Alliance sent.

And I’d also just like to uplift three specific concerns.

One, similar to the person who spoke earlier, based on data from the U.S. Census Bureau, Latinx Californians comprise approximately 40 percent of the state’s population. And currently there are no Latinx representation for the six Commissioners.

We also want to uplift that, according to the Census Bureau, the median household income in California is a little over $71,000. And there’s currently no
representation for that economic bracket. So we would really like for the first Commissioners to really consider that, to look for someone who has an income below the $75,000 bracket.

We also echo the recommendations that came earlier --

MS. PELLMAN: This is Madam Secretary.
MS. GARCIA: -- and urge the Commissioners --
MS. PELLMAN: You have 15 second remaining.
MS. GARCIA: -- okay, urge the Commissioners to remove the RFP for the demographer to give the full Commission the opportunity to decide for yourselves what is needed in a demographer. And we would like for the full Commission to establish that process with the demographer that they choose to hire.

Thank you so much and I’m done with my comment.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you very much and we appreciate that.

Could -- and the next caller?

AT&T OPERATOR: We do have one last caller in queue. If there are additional comments, you may also press one zero.

We’ll go to Alejandra Ponce de Leon.

Please go ahead.

MS. PONCE DE LEON: Good afternoon,
Commissioners. My name is Alejandra Ponce de Leon. I am a Policy and Research Analyst with Advancement Project California. We are a racial justice organization with expertise in research, advocacy, and policy. Our purpose is to transform public systems and shift public investments to create a more racially-equitable California.

Congratulations on your selection to be the first eight members of the 2020 Citizens Redistricting Commission. Thank you for your thoughtfulness throughout these last three days of training and affirmations to uphold your role with the utmost integrity and commitment to ensure that the Commission as a whole is reflective of California’s diverse population.

On behalf of a diverse coalition of 15 statewide and regional organizations committed to racial and economic equity, and you’ve heard of them already, we want to elevate critical steps for you to intently consider in helping form your decision for the final six members.

As you have acknowledged, the current composition of the Commission is supposed to reflect California’s diversity. And in order to have the Commission reflect our state’s population, we recommend that you strive for as much proportional racial ethnic representation as possible and prioritize that next in East and Southeast Asian candidates in your selection. We also recommend that we
ensure more populous areas of our state are adequately represented.

With this in mind, we recommend that you select candidates from the Bay Area, Inland Empire, Los Angeles County, the Central Valley, Orange County, and San Diego County, prioritizing those areas that currently lack representation on the Commission, and that you strongly consider more diverse socioeconomic representation and include candidates with household incomes below $75,000. We strongly believe that prioritizing these steps will ensure a more diverse and representative Commission. And we are committed to working in partnership with you to engage low-income communities and community of color across the state to participate in the redistricting process.

Thank you for your time.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you very much.

Any additional public comments? Anyone in the queue?

AT&T OPERATOR: Yes, there are several additional lines in queue. We’ll go to Kimberly Fuentes.

Please go ahead.

MS. FUENTES: Hello everyone. My name is Kimberly Fuentes. I am the Policy and Communications Director of the oldest Latino civil rights organization, the California League of United Latin American Citizens.
Latinx are the largest ethnic group, accounting for about 40 percent of the nearly 40 million California residents. And you have the critical responsibility in selecting the remaining six. As a state organization, we urge you to perform your responsibility by selecting up to five Latinx for the remaining seats. In making your selection you should also consider the partisan diversity of the Latino community and choose at least five -- at least one Latino in each of the partisan affiliation groups. There are several qualified Latinx in the applicant pool. Without our presence the Commission will be failing in its duty to reflect the state’s ethnic diversity in meeting statutory regulations.

Therefore, we urge the current eight Commissioners to select Latinos and maintain our diversity at the state on drawing the line.

Thank you.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you very much for that comment.

Next in the queue please.

AT&T OPERATOR: That comes from Jonathan Mehta Stein.

Please go ahead.

MR. MEHTA STEIN: Good afternoon. I’m Jonathan Mehta Stein, Executive Director with California Common
Cause. I provided public comment on Tuesday about the critical importance of Latinx representation on the Commission. I want to reiterate that the Latinx community in California must see itself in and trust in the work of this Commission.

Today, I would also like to speak to the issue of the RFP of the line-drawing consultants, also known as a demographer. The Auditor’s Office, in a well-intentioned effort to assist this Commission, we feel prematurely drafted and posted the RFP for the line-drawing consultant. In a letter dated June 20th a broad set of stakeholders echoed the concerns of the former Commission, your predecessors, and asked the Auditor to withdraw the RFP.

What you are looking for in a line-drawing consultant is up to you and will shape how much the redistricting process operates. How many public hearings will you want the line-drawing consultant to be at? And how many languages should they be able to offer services? These are questions for you to decide before an RFP is posted.

We encourage you to agendize this topic for your August 4th meeting so you can discuss the situation and potentially instruct the Auditor to pull that RFP. Even if you don’t make that choice, though, having the conversation in that meeting will mean you are primed for action once
the entire Commission is seated.

We note that you have been given months of extra
time to do your work compared to your predecessors. And we
think developing your own RFP would be a good use of that
extra time.

The Auditor’s Office, in another attempt to be
helpful and to be supportive, has issued job listings for
the future Executive Director, General Counsel, and
Communications Director. We’d like to suggest that this is
also similarly troubling and that you should use the extra
time allowed to you to draft these job postings yourself,
or at least review them before they go public, so you can
secure staff that meet your needs. Again, we suggest that
you agendize these topics for your August 4th meeting.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you very much.

The next person in the question.

AT&T OPERATOR: Thank you. That is Esperanza
Guevara.

Please do spell your name before your comment.

MS. GUEVARA: Hi. Good afternoon. It’s

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Please go ahead.

MS. GUEVARA: Okay. My name is Esperanza and I’m
here on behalf of the Coalition for Human Immigrant Rights,
a community-based organization founded in 1986 to advance and protect the civil rights of immigrants (indiscernible).

As our partners have already been uplifting that the current selection of Commissioners fails to reflect California’s diversity by many different measures, we find it critical, in particular, to address the complete lack of Latinx representation on the Commission. The importance of ensuring our community is represented on the Commission can’t be understated.

In addition to making up over 40 percent of the state of California, the Latinx community is critical to our economy. We contribute $83 billion in taxes and have $92 billion in spending power. Latinx-owned businesses contribute 650,000 jobs to California and bring approximately $100 billion to the economy annually. These contributions must be given consideration by this Commission.

As the Commissioners work to select candidates, we truly ask that you consider Latinx candidates from all party affiliations that will best be able to uplift communities most marginalized from our democracy, especially immigrants, and candidates that can intentionally include marginalized communities in the redistricting process. We believe using this selection criteria will result in district lines that truly represent
and reflect the people of California.

    CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you for your comments.

    Next person in the queue.

    AT&T OPERATOR: That is Inez Gonzalez.

    Your line is open.

    MS. GONZALEZ: Hello. My name is Inez Gonzalez Perezchica. I’m the Executive Director for MANA de San Diego, representing over 400 women and allies in San Diego County. Congratulations on being selected to the Commission and thank you for your service.

    Latinos in the U.S. have a history of being underrepresented in boards and commissions, entities that make decisions that impact Latinos directly. You have an immediate and important task ahead, which is to select the rest of the Commissioners that will be representing all Californians. It is important that residents of California trust they are fairly represented by this Commission. As a San Diegan and a Latina, I’m urging you to select up to five Latinos for the remaining seats.

    I’m also asking you to keep gender equity in mind, as well as regional representation.

    From my understanding is that San Diego is not represented in the Commission. Being the important border region that it is, I hope you will add a San Diegan.

    Finally, I’d like to highlight that you have a
great candidate in Patricia (indiscernible), a long-time MANNA de San Diego member and community leader. She has an (indiscernible) in training and experience. She will make a great Commissioner.

Thank you and good luck.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you.

Next person in the queue.

AT&T OPERATOR: And that’s Vanessa Hernandez.

Your line is open.

MS. HERNANDEZ: Thank you. My name is Vanessa Hernandez. I am the Policy Director for HOPE, which stands for Hispanas Organized for Political Equality. We are a nonprofit/nonpartisan organization committed to ensuring the political and economic parity for Latinas through leadership, advocacy, and education to benefit all communities and the status of women.

We are concerned that, to date, there is no Latinos represented in the eight sitting Commissioners, despite the fact that Latinos are the largest ethnic group in California, accounting for nearly 40 percent of the state’s 40 million residents. Not only does this mean that the largest Latino population of any state is completely neglected in this sitting body, it also highlights that an important voice is missing from the discussions of Latina. We strongly believe that the absence of a Latina
perspective will negatively impact the purpose of the CRC and be detrimental in fulfilling it’s (indiscernible) to better represent the diversity of the back state (phonetic) for the next decade.

HOPE urges you all, the eight sitting members of the CCRC, to prioritize equity in representation by considering and selecting, at minimum, three Latinas to serve as part of your entity.

Thank you.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you and thank you for your letter.

Next person in the queue.

AT&T OPERATOR: That comment comes from Julia Marks.

Your line is open. Please go ahead.


First of all, congratulations on becoming members of the CRC. And thank you for your commitment to California’s democracy.

We just wanted to reiterate the importance of having a Commission that reflects the incredible racial and
ethnic diversity of California. The current lack of representation of Latinx communities is deeply concerning and cannot stand.

We would also note that no East Asian, Southeast Asian, or Pacific Islander Commissioners have been seated. We appreciate your awareness of these issues and gaps and we urge you to select Commissioners who will make the CRC representative of the state.

We also wanted to reiterate earlier concerns raised about the posting of the RFP for the line-drawing consultant and other key job postings before the full Commission has been seated. We do appreciate that the State Auditor is trying to get things up and running but we believe there are significant benefits to the Commission leading this part of the process.

The CRC has much to gain by collectively considering the roles and responsibilities of the line drawer and other key positions, and by determining the criteria for selecting those candidates, as partners organizations who have previously submitted letters on these issues.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you very much. I’d like to say at this time, we are going to go right into the next person, but the people calling in from
the San Diego area, there’s been some sort of a glitch. Do not worry. We will stay here until that glitch gets taken care of.

So may we have the next caller on the line?

AT&T OPERATOR: Certainly. That is Michele Siqueiros.

Please go ahead.

MS. SIQUEIROS: Hi. My name is Michele Siqueiros. I’m President of the Campaign for College Opportunity, an organization dedicated to advancing college access and opportunity for Californians and closing racial ethnic gaps in higher education.

First, let me start by thanking you for serving on this voluntary and important public Commission. As a fellow public servant, I understand the importance of your work and the amount of time and dedication you’ve committed to give the State of California. Thank you for that.

As previous public comment has already been shared, I just want to reiterate, the lack of Latino representation on this Commission is absolutely unacceptable in a state that is 40 percent Latinx, especially as redistricting will determine the future political representation for all of California residents.

I urge you to select a minimum of five more Latino members to your Commission. Anything less would be
inadequate. Latinos are a critical population of our state. The future of California is bound to our political empowerment to not exclude our voices, our experiences, or our community from this body.

Thank you.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you.

Next in the queue please.

AT&T OPERATOR: That is the line of Carol Moon Goldberg.

Your line is open.

MS. MOON GOLDBERG: Thank you. My name is Carol Moon Goldberg. I am President of the League of Women Voters of California speaking for the room (phonetic). As an organization, we followed the first Redistricting Commission very closely. And we are honored to be able to do that again. Congratulations on your selection to being part of the second California Citizens Redistricting Commission. We appreciate your sharing your skills, talent, and time to support democracy in California.

We support the statements made earlier about reconsidering the RFP for a line drawer and the other jobs that were recently posted.

We also agree with statements about ensuring that the selection process for the final six Commissioners leads to a Commission that is representative of California in its
depth and breadth.

We do have a few suggestions about your structure and process as you go about the work of selecting the remaining Commissioners. These suggestions are based on observations of the prior Commission’s work, as well as the work of the Auditor’s Office that has led to your selection.

First of all, remember, you are an independent body. The well-intentioned work done by the Auditor is in support of your Commission but you are charged with making your own decisions. You should question assumptions or recommendations, including recommendations to follow the example of the prior Commission. You have already shown this independence in your discussions over the last few days and we encourage you to continue. Make decisions based on the rules of your Commission in 2020 and 2021.

In terms of making decisions, you really need to decide how to make decisions. So ask yourselves, do you want to use voting? And if so, what percent of the Commission needs to agree with a final decision? Are there any other requirements for a final decision or is it better to use a discussion-consensus model? And, if so, what constitutes consensus? Is a single Commissioner allowed to stop a decision? These are things to consider as you move forward.
MS. PELLMAN: And you have 15 seconds remaining.

MS. MOON GOLDBERG: And, finally, remember that
the criteria you are to use for selecting the remaining
Commissioners will be described to you. And before you
proceed to an actual consideration, make sure that you all
understand and agree on what the criteria mean and how you
intend to apply them.

Thanks very much for your service. We look
forward to working with you in the future.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you.

Next person in the queue.

AT&T OPERATOR: Thank you. And that is from
Karina Macias.

Please state your name.

MS. MACIAS: Yes. Hi. Good afternoon. My name
is Karina Macias. I am a City Council Member for the City
of Huntington Park.

And, first, I want to, you know, thank the
Commissioners for their service and congratulate them on
the position that they have. However, you do have a big
responsibility in your hands.

As many of you know, the southeast cities have
always been given the short end of services. And
ourselves, as local officials, have to try, you know, have
to fight twice as hard for services when we have a big
population, not only of Latinos, but we also have a low-income population. And it has been mentioned from previous callers and public comment, you know, to please consider equity in your Commission. Please consider Latinos and Latinas and reflect the diversity of our state.

Not only do you have that big responsibility, but the drawing of redistricting will really affect, obviously, the representation on a higher level, on a federal level. And, you know, we really would like to see that diversity being reflected for the betterment of our community.

So thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to provide comment.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you.

Next person in the queue.

AT&T OPERATOR: Thank you. And that will come from Natasha Cougoule.

Please go ahead. Natasha, you may be on mute.

MS. COUGOULE: Hello? Can you hear me?

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Yes, we can. Yes, we can hear you. Please proceed.


I want to echo the congratulations and thanks to our Commissioners for being on this critical panel. And also echo the comments urging you to choose Latinos and
Latinas to fill the next six seats.

I am affiliated with the Latino Community Foundation. I’m a member of the Latino Giving Circle in San Francisco. And I understand how important it is for us to have representation on this Committee.

Latinos make up nearly 40 percent of the state’s population but so far the selection process has resulted in an unacceptable absence of any Latinos on the Commission. You have a critical responsibility to select the remaining six Commissioners. And under California Law, you must choose them to ensure the Commissioners reflect diversity, including but not limited to racial, ethnic, geographic, and gender diversity.

We also have to think of the children. We have 54 percent of school children identifying as Latino in the state. And their future depends on the selections of this Committee. It’s urgent and necessary that you choose at least five Latinos to fill the Committee for the remainder of the seats.

Thank you.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you.

Next in the queue.

AT&T OPERATOR: Thank you. That will be Jacqueline Coto.

Please go ahead.
MS. COTO: Hello. Hi. Am I online?

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Yes, you are. Please go ahead.

MS. COTO: Hi. My name is Jacqueline Coto. Good afternoon. I’m calling on behalf of the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials, (indiscernible) education (indiscernible).

I would like to briefly reiterate the concern of the lack of Latino representation that has been voice throughout public comment. And given the absence of Latinos so far on the Commission, I urge you to fulfill your responsibility by selecting up to five Latinos for the remaining seats, and at least one in each of the partisan affiliation groups.

The Commission will draw lines that will determine and shape California’s congressional and legislative districts for the next decade. And without a strong Latino presence the Commission will simply fail to reflect the state’s ethnicity, diversity, and the statutory requirements. It is imperative that the Commission fully reflects the diversity of the state’s Latino population.

I appreciate your consideration and trust that you will exercise the core democratic principles that all people deserve a fair representation by prioritizing the selection of Latino representation in the final pool.

Again, thank you for your public service. We
truly look forward to working in partnership with you in the future.

Thank you.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you.

Next in the queue.

AT&T OPERATOR: Thank you, Madam Chair. At this time there are no further comments in queue.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: All right. We will wait. As I said, there have been some problems with people calling in from the San Diego area, so we will wait for a few minutes.

We appreciate the comments so far. And also appreciate all the -- we have received many, many letters. And believe me that all of the -- all of those have gone to all of us, the eight. We have read them and are deeply considering everything.

At this time, I don’t know if any Commissioner has something they’d like to say about what we’ve heard or a comment or, again, under the criteria that we can and cannot discuss or mention? Any comments or thoughts? Not at this time?

Oh, sorry. Yes. The Chair recognizes Commissioner Sadhwani.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah. I think I’ve enjoyed hearing all of these public comments thus far. And, you know, we’ll wait and, hopefully, some more come
I think just to reiterate that on Monday, in the opening of our session, you know, Commissioner Le Mons had brought to us, had brought in our opening comments, his concern for diversity. And I think just as a reminder, you know, I’m sure that the court record will reflect, that we did all kind of commit to acknowledging the absence, the current absence, of Latinos on this Commission.

And so I just wanted to reflect on that and, you know, ensure that they’re, for the public who are actually are listening, that that is something that we have already discussed, as well, and that we welcome additional comments.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Commissioner Sadhwani.

Any other comments from the Commissioners?

I would like to reiterate, I do also deeply appreciate all the groups who are saying that they are planning on working with the Commission when the full Commission is established. And please do so because, regardless of what the Commission looks like, we can’t do this work and represent your communities unless you do give us information when the full Committee is formed. So please do stay involved.

And when we reach out to your areas, or before we
reach out to your areas, please reach out to us, you know, because we want to hear your input, particularly when we’re considering issues such as the communities of interest. I’m, you know, basically, really asking to please stay involved, regardless of what the group ends up looking like for whatever reasons. We are deftly listening to what you’re saying and appreciate all your comments.

MS. SAXTON: Madam Chair?

AT&T Operator --

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Oh. Yes?

MS. SAXTON: -- are you there?

AT&T OPERATOR: Yes. I’ll remind everyone to get into the queue for comments. You will press one, then zero on the telephone keypad.

MS. SAXTON: We are told, Madam Operator, that there is a person in queue who cannot hear the meeting. Will you please provide the instructions from your end?

AT&T OPERATOR: Okay. Are they trying to speak at this time or they just can’t hear the conference at all?

MS. SAXTON: They can’t get through.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Do they need to dial in order to --

AT&T OPERATOR: Oh. Okay. They’re trying to -- are they -- if they want to get into the queue, they will need to press one, then zero on the telephone keypad.
MS. SAXTON: We’re going to go and check to see the status of that caller.

AT&T OPERATOR: Do you know the parties name?

MS. SAXTON: I do not at this time but we will --

AT&T OPERATOR: Okay.

MS. SAXTON: -- obtain it if we can.

AT&T OPERATOR: Thank you.

MS. SAXTON: Thank you.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Okay. Please bear with us. We definitely want to hear from all the public members, particularly those who are trying.

AT&T OPERATOR: Thank you. I do have someone in the queue. That is Cynthia Dai. We can open her line.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you.

AT&T OPERATOR: Thank you.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Please go ahead.

AT&T OPERATOR: Please go ahead, Ms. Dai.

MS. DAI: Dai. Thank you. Hi guys. Just a couple of quick comments to follow up on the comments I shared with you on Tuesday.

One of the comments the Auditor’s staff made to our Commission when looking at how we ranked against the four diversity criteria was that we, like you, were also not as diverse from a socioeconomic standpoint. And they pointed out that that’s to be expected given the
requirements for the Commission, that we would be tilted to the higher end of the socioeconomic scale. And I know that there has been some concern about getting some diversity there. It is harder to get.

And I will just remind you, as I did on Tuesday, when you kind of take your own inventory of the first eight, you may find that while you may be on that higher end of the scale -- end of that scale today, that you were not always that way and that some of you may actually be able to represent the experience of someone who has experienced life from the lower income side of things.

And the other comment I wanted to make is that it’s important for you to agendize the RFP so you can discuss this out at the first date, rather than waiting for the full Commission to be seated, because the deadline is currently slated to happen on August 17th, which is only a couple of days after all 14 of you will be officially in office. And responding to these RFPs is an incredible amount of work and quite daunting. So it would be helpful, I’m sure, for anyone who is --

MS. PELLMAN: You have 15 seconds remaining.

MS. DAI: -- preparing today to know if their bids are actually going to opened or if you are going to change the criteria. So I would urge the first eight of you to actually take some action on that.
Thank you.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you.

I might say --

AT&T OPERATOR: We did have a Miguel Canales in the queue but that line has disconnected.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Okay.

MS. SAXTON: We are currently retrieving more contact information for the individual who is having trouble getting through.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Okay. Thank you very much.

So is there anyone in the queue at this time?

AT&T OPERATOR: We have no one in the queue at this time.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Okay. One thing I might say, just a comment, I’ve heard from legal counsel, and I believe you probably want to know if a Commissioner has said anything, our task is limited to selecting the next six. We cannot actually agendize doing anything with that RFP. It’s an option for the full Commission to consider.

So, you know, we all appreciate that information. It’s something that we’ll definitely be considering individually but it is not an item that we can agendize because that’s not our charge at this time.

So if there’s any sort of other discussion right now, we’re -- we know that people are trying to get in and
there’s been a glitch, so we would like to give them every opportunity.

AT&T OPERATOR: I will just remind everyone again, if you’d like to get into the queue on the phone, to press one, then zero on the telephone keypad, again, that is one, then zero.

MS. SAXTON: The caller that had difficulty getting in has been provided instructions and is expected to call.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you very much, Counsel.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Well, there’s been a great deal of information. And I know we’ll receive more information. There’s a great deal for all of us to consider. We certainly have a lot of homework to do ahead of us.

I, for one, am actually, once I get home, looking forward to a little relax, a little contemplation, and then getting to work because I think it’s going to be very exciting. And for all the remaining applicants in the pool, I know I will be looking at each and every one of you. It’s a great consideration because this is a very serious matter to which we’ve been charged and we’re -- we were all qualified. And it’s a very great task that we’re honored to be charged with.

And I’ll also say at this time, since we’re sort of probably wrapping up soon, thank you very much to
everyone who’s been involved.

To all our Commission, the Commissioners, thank you very much for bearing with me through learning the Chair-ship.

And there is literally a village. I appreciate all our technical staff working with us.

And I know everyone at home, it’s almost like, oh, I’m at a home but, no. Having to -- breaking away and putting -- keeping everyone away from you while you’re doing that is also very difficult.

So we’re all putting our time and our efforts into this and a great deal of thanks to our State Auditor and all the support staff that have been helping through all this. Thank you very much.

AT&T Operator, do we happen to have anyone on the line?

AT&T OPERATOR: We have no one in the queue but I’ll remind everyone, if you’d like to get into the queue to press one, then zero. Thank you.

We do have someone in the queue. We’ll go to Counsel Miguel Canales.

The line is open. Please go ahead.

MR. CANALES: Thank you very much for being patient with this technology. I appreciate that.

First of all, congratulations to the
Commissioners on your selection to the Committee. The next step in completing the body of the Commission membership is important for all of California.

As stated, my name is Miguel Canales and I am one of the Council Members in the City of Artesia, located in Southeast Los Angeles, about 30 miles from Downtown L.A. I’m one of 21 electeds in the southeast area that has signed on to a letter from our region advocating for representation and a voice from our 17 cities. We are doing our part in our region in working with our community to make sure that our residents are counted in the 2020 census, despite the fear tactics from our federal administration.

I ask you to choose Latinas to be part of the Committee [sic] to provide us with a voice throughout California in the redistricting process.

And we also ask our region to not get forgotten. We represent Artesia, Bell, Bell Gardens, Bellflower, Cerritos, Commerce, Cudahy, Downey, Hawaiian Gardens, Lakewood, Lynwood, Maywood, Ontario (phonetic), Norwalk, Paramount, Pico Rivera, and South Gate, and they need a voice that knows our region in the Redistricting Committee. So we ask that you strongly consider that.

Thank you for your time.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you for your call.
Do we happen to have anyone else in the queue at this time?

AT&T OPERATOR: We have no one in the queue at this time.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you. We’ll wait a few more minutes.

AT&T OPERATOR: Thank you. And as a reminder, if you would like to get into the queue, you will press one, then zero on your telephone keypad.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: We’ll wait at least, at least, another minute.

AT&T OPERATOR: And as a reminder, if you are using a speaker phone, you may want to pick up the handset before pressing the one, then zero.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: I think I’ll call the meeting to be just, you know, at ease for a few minutes. We’ll give people a little time and we’ll reread the instructions because, as I said, there was an issue down in San Diego, we’re not exactly sure what happened there, just to give people a chance since we’re still scheduled, and then we’ll come back. So just be at ease for a few minutes.

AT&T OPERATOR: We did have an additional person join the conference on the phone.

(Pause)

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you very much, AT&T
Operator.

Let’s go ahead and bring the meeting back to order for our caller.

Please let them on the line.

AT&T OPERATOR: Thank you. A reminder, if you’d like to get into the queue, you may press one, then zero on the telephone keypad.

Okay, we go to Vanessa Green.

Ms. Green, your line is open.

MS. GREEN: Thank you so much for being patient with me. As a person with a different ability, I appreciate the interpreter and the closed captioning because I don’t hear that well, so thank you for that.

I called earlier and I called at the wrong time. My name is Vanessa Green. I’m the Census Redistricting Fellow at Alliance San Diego, a community-empowerment organization working to ensure all residents can reach their full potential in an environment of safety, harmony, equity, and justice. We are also a part of the Integrated Voter Engagement Redistricting Alliance.

San Diego’s elected leaders at every level play a huge role in opportunity, regulation, support, and resource distribution to ensure residents can access the California dream. How they are elected begins with the process you have been selected to lead.
While you are tasked with selecting the next group of Commissioners, diversity is an important part of that decision. Do not forget that geographic diversity and representation is equally important to this process. It is vital that the San Diego region have representation on this Commission.

San Diego has become more prominent in California’s profile, especially when it comes to its economy, education, politics, (indiscernible) and innovation. In order to have credibility for residents and ensure input in the decision-making process, we strongly advocate that you select someone from San Diego to join this Commission.

And we agree with all the other callers who were saying that we need to have representation of our Black-backed community so that the beautiful diversity of San Diego and California, the state of California, is represented.

San Diego is not like Los Angeles or Orange County. San Diego is not like Riverside or San Bernardino County. San Diego deserves to have representation on this Commission and this Commission absolutely needs a representative from San Diego to have a fair and representative redistricting process.

I hope you will seriously consider these facts in
making the decision regarding the selection of the final member to the panel. And thank you so much for allowing me to come on while you took a break, et cetera. I appreciate it.

Thank you.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you for the call.

Do we have -- AT&T Operator, do we have anyone else in the queue?

AT&T OPERATOR: Let me check again.

If you would like to enter the queue, please press one, then zero at this time, again, that is one, then zero.

I have no one in the queue.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you. We’ll wait a couple of minutes. Everyone be at ease while we’re waiting.

MS. SAXTON: Madam Chair, if I may? That call was the caller that we had been waiting for who couldn’t get in.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Okay. Well, with the -- I bring the meeting back. Since that was the caller that we had been hearing from and was waiting on, do we happen to have anymore callers in the queue at this time?

AT&T OPERATOR: We have no additional callers in the phone queue.

CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you very much.
Given that we have been waiting for a while and we know we had an issue, the one that we did know about it has now been able to contact us, I believe that’s the only one that we actually knew about, so I believe we’ve done a very good faith effort of waiting and giving everyone a chance who wanted to speak at this time.

Are there any additional comments or thoughts from any of the Commissioners?

Seeing no jumping and screaming and waving of hands, I will call this meeting adjourned. Thank you very much.

(Thereupon, the First Eight Commissioners meeting adjourned at 3:26 p.m.)
CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

I do hereby certify that the testimony in the foregoing hearing was taken at the time and place therein stated; that the testimony of said witnesses were reported by me, a certified electronic court reporter and a disinterested person, and was under my supervision thereafter transcribed into typewriting.

And I further certify that I am not of counsel or attorney for either or any of the parties to said hearing nor in any way interested in the outcome of the cause named in said caption.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 7th day of November, 2020.

MARTHA L. NELSON, CERT**367
CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIBER

I do hereby certify that the testimony in the foregoing hearing was taken at the time and place therein stated; that the testimony of said witnesses were transcribed by me, a certified transcriber and a disinterested person, and was under my supervision thereafter transcribed into typewriting.

And I further certify that I am not of counsel or attorney for either or any of the parties to said hearing nor in any way interested in the outcome of the cause named in said caption.

I certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript, to the best of my ability, from the electronic sound recording of the proceedings in the above-entitled matter.

MARTHA L. NELSON, CERT**367

November 7, 2020