

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

In the matter of:

2020 CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION (CRC)
FIRST EIGHT COMMISSIONERS PUBLIC MEETING

621 Capitol Mall, 10th Floor
Sacramento, California 95814

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7, 2020

9:30 A.M.

Reported by:

Troy Ray

APPEARANCESCOMMISSIONERS:

Jane Andersen, Temporary Chair

Trena Turner, Temporary Vice Chair (Remote attendance)

Isra Ahmad (Remote attendance)

Neal Fornaciari

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)

Marian Johnston, Temporary Legal Counsel

Raul Villanueva, Temporary Administrator

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Alejandra Ponce Deleon, Redistricting Alliance

George Santana, Northern California Resident

James Woodson, Black Census and Redistricting Hub

Thomas Wong, Resident of California

Alex Hilke, Montebello, California Resident

Jesus Guzman, Healdsburg, California Resident

APPEARANCES (CONT.)PUBLIC COMMENT:

Minsun Meeker, former Supervisor of Angela Vazquez

Rob Quan

Abe Ali, President, Asian Pacific Americans in Higher Education

Arturo Carmona, La Opinion de la Bahia

Jeffrey Lee

Eliot Enriquez, Board Member, Los Cien

Ahmad Nawabi

Jacqueline Coto, NALEO Educational Fund

Nelly Nieblas, Local Community Organizer, L.A.

Ann Navarro

Christy Lubin, Executive Director, Gratin Day Labor Center, Sonoma County

Tony Winer

Maricela Morales, CAUSE

Marjorie Helm, Petaluma National Association of Social Work

Walter Chip Atkin, Retired Social Worker

Yolanda Latham, Hoopa Valley Tribe

Fayaz Nawabi, DARE

Kimberley Coles, Professor of Clinical Anthropology

Tammy Tran

APPEARANCES (CONT.)PUBLIC COMMENT:

Tammy Kim, Managing Director of Korean American Center,
Korean Community Services, Orange County

Vanessa Hernandez, Hispanas Organized for Political
Equality (HOPE)

Maria Morales

Esperanza Guevara, CHIRLA

Sky Allen, IE United, Inland Empire

Vanessa Acosta, HOPE

Myron Quon

Dyrell Foster, President, Las Positas College, Livermore

Kimberly Fuentes, LULAC

Julia Marks, Attorney, Asian Americans Advancing Justice

Belinda Barragan, HOPE

Yvette Chappell-Ingram, President and CEO of the African
American Board Leadership Institute

Jaype Sanders, Northern California Resident

Timmy Lu, Executive Director, AAPI

Lori Shellenberger, Redistricting Consultant, California
Common Cause

Helen Torres, HOPE

Manju Kulkarni, Executive Director, Asian Pacific Policy
and Planning Council (A3PCON)

Mariko Kahn, Executive Director in Mental Health

APPEARANCES (CONT.)PUBLIC COMMENT:

Armando De La Libertad, Businessman

Tammy Tumbling, Resident, City of Cerritos, California

Stephanie Ramirez, HOPE

Joseph Williams, Elected member, San Bernardino Community
College Board of Trustees

Beatriz Perez, HOPE

Jonathan Paik

Byrd Lochtie, Northern California Resident

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P R O C E E D I N G S

9:30 a.m.

1 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Okay, the time being 9:30 I will
2 call this meeting to order out of recess.

3 Could the secretary please read the roll?

4 MS. PELLMAN: Yes. Commissioner Ahmad?

5 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Here, Commissioner Ahmad.

6 MS. PELLMAN: Commissioner Andersen?

7 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Here.

8 MS. PELLMAN: Commissioner Fornaciari?

9 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Here.

10 MS. PELLMAN: Commissioner Kennedy?

11 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Here.

12 MS. PELLMAN: Commissioner Le Mons?

13 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Here.

14 MS. PELLMAN: Commissioner Sadhwani?

15 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Here.

16 MS. PELLMAN: Commissioner Taylor?

17 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Present.

18 MS. PELLMAN: Commissioner Turner?

19 VICE CHAIR TURNER: Here.

20 CHAIR ANDERSEN: I see we have a quorum. The
21
22

1 first order of business is public comment. Can I have the
2 counsel read the instructions for the people can call in?

3 MS. SAXTON: Yes, Madam Chair.

4 If you'd like to make public comment regarding
5 Agenda Item 5, deliberation and action to select the final
6 six members of the Commission, please call in now by
7 dialing 844-291-5495. In the next few moments we'll begin
8 taking public comment. And again that number is 844-291-
9 5495.

10 After dialing the number you'll speak with an
11 operator. You'll be asked to provide either the access
12 code for the meeting, which is 8121803, or the name of the
13 meeting which is CRC selection meeting. After providing
14 this information the operator will ask you to provide your
15 name. Please note you're not required to provide your
16 actual name. When the operator asks for your name, you may
17 provide a name other than your own.

18 When it's your turn to make public comment, the
19 operator will introduce you by the name you provided.
20 Please be assured our office is not maintaining any list of
21 callers by name. We ask for you to provide some name to
22 enable the operator to manage multiple calls simultaneously
23 and let you know when it's your turn to speak.

24 After speaking with the operator you'll be placed
25 in a listening room. In this room you will be able to

1 listen to live audio of the meeting. Please mute your
2 computer audio because the online video and audio will be
3 delayed by approximately 60 seconds and feedback issues may
4 occur, making it difficult for anyone to hear your comment.
5 Also, please do not use speakerphone and speak directly
6 into your phone.

7 When you decide that you want to make a comment
8 about an action item on the agenda, press 1 0 and you'll be
9 placed in the queue to make public comment about that
10 action item. After joining the queue to make public
11 comment, you should hear an automatic recording informing
12 you that you've been placed in the queue. When it's your
13 turn the operator will introduce you. At that time please
14 state and spell your name for the transcriptionist. Then,
15 state your comment clearly and concisely. Comments will be
16 limited to two minutes. You will hear a time check when 15
17 seconds in your time remains.

18 After you finish making your comment, we'll move
19 on to the next caller. At that point please hang up your
20 phone. If you'd like to comment on another agenda item at
21 a later time, please call back when we open up public
22 comment for that item and repeat this process.

23 If you are disconnected for any reason, please
24 call back and explain the issue to the operator, then
25 repeat the process, and rejoin the public comment queue by

1 pressing 1 0. These instructions can also be found on our
2 website.

3 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Counsel.

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

6 AT&T OPERATOR: We do. And just a reminder it is
7 pressing 1 then 0 to place yourself into queue.

8 The first line is Alejandra Ponce Deleon. Your
9 line is open.

10 MS. PONCE DELEON: Hi, good morning
11 Commissioners. My name is Alejandra Ponce Deleon with the
12 Advancement Project of California. And I'm calling on
13 behalf of the Redistricting Alliance to urge you to keep
14 Pedro Toledo and one of the candidates from Orange County
15 as part of the nonaffiliated subpool.

16 From a racial equity perspective engagement in
17 our democratic processes always entail greater barriers of
18 participation for people of color. These barriers include
19 economic disparities, lack of information and knowledge
20 about even participating in these processes, inability to
21 speak the language, and all of these accumulate the
22 disempowerment of communities of color.

23 Therefore, we urge you to prioritize selecting
24 candidates that represent these communities of color that
25 continue to be disenfranchised in our democratic processes.

1 Pedro Toledo is the only Latino within the nonaffiliated
2 subpool and given the complexity and diversity of the
3 Latino population there is a need to have a Latino voice
4 within this subpool.

5 Of the two candidates from Orange County, both of
6 them represent communities of color that are critical to
7 include their voices. Linda Akutagawa is representing the
8 East Asian community and it's important. And she has ties
9 with the Hawaiian and Pacific Islander community.

10 The other Victoria Tamoush is Middle Eastern and
11 this is a community that has not been uplifted throughout
12 these hearings and it's a critical community to also have
13 representation.

14 And therefore we urge you to go with racial
15 equity perspective in ensuring that these voices of these
16 communities, both the Latinx and either East Asian or
17 Middle Eastern be represented. Thank you.

18 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Ms. Ponce Deleon.

19 Is there anyone else in the queue?

20 AT&T OPERATOR: Yes. Next we have the line of
21 George Santana, if you would please spell your name for the
22 reporter. Your line is open.

23 MR. SANTANA: G-E-O-R-G-E S-A-N-T-A-N-A.

24 Dear Commissioners, my name is George and I'm a
25 resident of Northern California. I'm calling to let you

1 that I'm disappointed to see that instead of adding more
2 Latinos onto the proposed slate, some are proposing fewer.
3 I'm reaching out today to respectively urge the eight of
4 you, to urge you to select at least four Latinos onto the
5 Commission, and at least one Latino from each of the three
6 political areas to ensure the Latino community is fairly
7 represented on the Commission.

8 As you know, Latinos comprise 40 percent of
9 California's population and it's growing. And if you only
10 select four Latinos, that is only 26 percent
11 representation, which is not enough. Latinos throughout
12 California have been excluded from full civic participation
13 for years. And with the current political climate in the
14 United States, it's important to uplift Latino voices. The
15 Latino community is very diverse in terms of politics,
16 geography, language, immigration status and culture.

17 Please continue to support Mr. Pedro Toledo, the
18 nonpartisan Latino candidate. He is a former chamber of
19 commerce president, a healthcare leader, and has worked
20 hard to give under-served communities a hand up. I know
21 him personally and Mr. Toledo will ensure that all
22 Californians have a fair representation.

23 Thank you very much for your time.

24 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Santana. Do we
25 have anyone else in the queue?

1 AT&T OPERATOR: We do have several more lines in
2 the queue. Next is the line of James Woodson, if you would
3 please spell your name for the reporter. Your line is
4 open.

5 MR. WOODSON: Sure. So, it's J-A-M-E-S W-O-O-D-
6 S-O-N. And I'm calling on behalf of the Black Census and
7 Redistricting Hub, a group of 35 black-led and black-
8 serving organizations across the state.

9 I really want to echo the sentiments of
10 Commissioners Turner and Sadhwani regarding, you know, the
11 potential dismissiveness of voices and stand in solidarity
12 with our Latinx and AAPI brothers and sisters, and in
13 particular our partners of Asian Americans Advancing
14 Justice, the Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights, and the
15 Lao Educational Fund to uplift the important of Latinx and
16 AAPI candidates to fill the NPP seats.

17 You know, as black Californians we've certainly
18 had to deal with a lot of pain, and grief, and exhaustion.
19 Historically, we've been under-counted and under-
20 represented, and dealt with decades, in fact centuries, of
21 lifting our voice only to have people ignore that voice.
22 And it took a public health pandemic and the murder of
23 three people, two on camera, for people to finally wake up
24 to hear what we had to say.

25 And so, we're concerned about the arguments and

1 the rhetoric that was used yesterday to suggest that people
2 raising their voice is a sign that they've been heard and
3 will be represented. When, in fact, our history shows that
4 that isn't the case.

5 You all received a lot of public comments and
6 calls, many from the Latinx and AAPI communities. And I
7 would hate knowing that racial minorities have historically
8 been disenfranchised in this country and in this state I'd
9 hate for Latinx and AAPI voices to be dismissed and ignored
10 for the simple fact that they spoke up.

11 We know the systems in this country and in this
12 state that have been set up to protect older, white, male
13 landowners. And the fact is that, you know, while
14 California's made strides to right these wrongs in the last
15 20 to 30 years, we still had to deal with vestiges of that
16 past.

17 MS. PELLMAN: Fifteen seconds.

18 MR. WOODSON: We know that, you know, certain
19 communities are being attacked in the Census right now.
20 And so, it's one thing to say we hear your voices it's
21 another thing to show it. So, we would urge you to put
22 Pedro Toledo --

23 MS. PELLMAN: Time.

24 MR. WOODSON: -- and one of the Orange County
25 applicants on the NPP subpool. Thank you.

1 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Woodson.

2 Next in the queue, please.

3 AT&T OPERATOR: We have the line of Thomas Wong.
4 Please spell your name for the reporter. Your line is
5 open.

6 MR. WONG: Hi, Thomas Wong, T-H-O-M-A-S W-O-N-G.
7 I would like to commend the Commission for taking the time
8 to do this and to take public input, and also your own time
9 and resources to participate in this process, this critical
10 process once a decade to redraw the lines in a fair way,
11 for fair representation for the residents and the
12 communities of California. I know it's an extraordinarily
13 tough job to make sure that a Commission of this size
14 represents all of the diversity of the entire State of
15 California. And that you have tough choices ahead of you
16 and very many good candidates.

17 I'd like to echo my support and my encouragement,
18 along with others who have spoken before to make sure that
19 there is Latino representation in the remaining
20 appointments to the Commission. But also wanted to
21 specifically call out and support Pedro Toledo's and Linda
22 Akutagawa's consideration for being added to the
23 nonpartisan seats for the Commission.

24 Both have very much proven track records of
25 involvement in the community and in state affairs, and

1 local affairs, and make sure they've demonstrated a
2 commitment to fair representation and empowering the
3 community. And I hope that the Commission and the
4 Commissioners, each of you will give due attention to both
5 of their appointments -- or, their consideration. And I
6 hope and wish you all the luck and best wishes as you kind
7 of move forward in this process. Thanks so much.

8 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Wong.

9 Next in the queue, please.

10 AT&T OPERATOR: We have Alex Hilke. Please spell
11 your name for the reporter. Your line is open.

12 MR. HILKE: Hi, my name is Alex Hilke, A-L-E-X H-
13 I-L-K-E. And I'm a resident of Montebello, California.

14 I just wanted to pose a slate to the Commission
15 today. As I've been listening to testimony and feedback
16 over the last four days, I believe the most optimal slate
17 at this moment would be Sinay and Vazquez for the
18 Democrats, Fernandez and Gallegos for the Republicans, and
19 Akutagawa and Morgan for the independents.

20 I know Commissioner Le Mons had some concerns
21 about negative feedback for Applicant Gallegos, but this
22 slate would serve to be reflective of the Latino community,
23 the Asian community, and also balance regional
24 considerations that I've heard from several Commissioners
25 over the last few days.

1 I thank you for your time. Thank you.

2 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Hilke.

3 Next in the queue, please.

4 AT&T OPERATOR: Yeah, Jesus Guzman, please spell
5 your name for the reporter. Your line is open.

6 MR. GUZMAN: Hi, my name is Jesus Guzman. That's
7 spelled J-E-S-U-S G-U-Z-M-A-N.

8 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Please go ahead.

9 MR. GUZMAN: Hi, good morning Commissioners and
10 thank you for convening us this morning. I will be brief.
11 I want to just share a few words in urging the Commission
12 to support the appointment of Mr. Pedro Toledo. I'm a
13 resident here of Healdsburg, in Sonoma County. I've had
14 the pleasure of working with Mr. Toledo for a number of
15 years and have seen in action his leadership, and his
16 advocacy for our entire community in terms of making sure
17 that the healthcare is more than just -- that it's a
18 service that's provided for everybody in the community.

19 He's often approached issues through an equity
20 lens and has fought to make sure that we have an inclusive
21 community here in Sonoma County. So, I have no doubt that
22 his service will continue to make sure that that's
23 something that's afforded to the rest of Californians, as
24 well.

25 And so, I would urge you to support Mr. Toledo.

1 As somebody who's been a former chamber of commerce
2 president, a healthcare leader and worked hard to give
3 under-served communities a hand up. So, again, I want to
4 thank you for your time and wish you luck in your future
5 deliberations.

6 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Guzman.

7 Next in the queue, please.

8 AT&T OPERATOR: We have the line of Minsun
9 Meeker. If you would, please spell your name for the court
10 reporter. Please go ahead.

11 MS. MEEKER: Hello, this is Minsun Meeker. It's
12 M-I-N-S-U-N. The last name is Meeker, M-E-E-K-E-R.

13 Good morning, Commissioners. I'm calling to
14 support Angela Vazquez's candidacy for the Citizen's
15 Redistricting Commission. I heard some concern with Ms.
16 Vazquez that the Commission may lack a particular expertise
17 and necessary to serve as a potential counterbalance, the
18 legal counsel that the Commission may hire.

19 I was Angela's supervisor when we worked together
20 at the National Center for Youth Law, a national legal
21 advocacy organization. And I wanted to assure you of
22 Angela's expertise in policy and legal analysis, and her
23 ability to interpret and apply the law. Angela has spent
24 nearly a decade of her career working with lawyers within
25 the legally driven world of the foster care system. She

1 has more than once been the sole voice speaking truth to
2 power, holding school and child welfare leaders accountable
3 to legal violations of foster youth education rights, such
4 as the right to remain enrolled in their school if their
5 foster home changes.

6 She's highly skilled in policy analysis, digging
7 deeply into the state's Education and Welfare and
8 Institutions Codes to ensure she understands the legal
9 context at play when advocating for policy change on behalf
10 of children from marginalized communities.

11 Her skills in policy analysis and development has
12 meant that Angela has helped author legislation alongside
13 lawyers, including AB 1164 which ultimately ensured greater
14 access to early learning opportunities for young children
15 in foster care, and SB 233 which clarified exceptions to
16 the Federal Education Rights and Privacy Act to ensure
17 foster parents have the necessary information to support
18 foster youth in school.

19 One of the Commissioners said in a prior
20 discussion that lawyers have a certain way of thinking that
21 would be an asset to the Commission in working with its
22 hired counsel. I agree that deep critical analysis of
23 existing policy is a relevant and essential skill for the
24 Commission and I believe that Ms. Vazquez -- with Ms.
25 Vazquez you will be gaining the expertise and the way of

1 thinking you desire. Thank you.

2 MS. PELLMAN: Fifteen seconds.

3 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you very much, Ms. Meeker.

4 Next in the queue, please.

5 AT&T OPERATOR: It's the line of Rob Quan.

6 Please spell your name for the reporter. Your line is
7 open.

8 MR. QUAN: Okay, R-O-B Q-U-A-N. I just had a few
9 brief comments. I thought it was interesting, especially
10 after all the discussion about process that towards the end
11 of yesterday's meeting Mr. Le Mons, you know, revealed that
12 he had engaged in serial meetings with three of the other
13 Commissioners that brings it to a total of four, half of
14 the Commission. I don't know that much about Bagley-Keene,
15 but under the Brown Act that would be a little suspect.

16 I looked at the rules and regulations and it's
17 kind of running right up to that line because five people
18 would constitute a quorum. So, I just wanted to flag that
19 because, you know, if we're talking about process and
20 having everything aboveboard, let's see that.

21 You know, I know you all have a tough day today,
22 so I'd just say that I hope you, you know, find a way to
23 get four Latinos on this Commission. There's some things
24 that you just can't make up for in perspective. And I've
25 heard a few white people on this Commission go on and on

1 about diversity, and talk about nooks and crannies of the
2 state. And, frankly, I just -- it's not really sitting
3 well as far as what this Commission is, you know, seeking
4 to pursue. And, you know, the concerns about geography,
5 and resumes, like you should really be thinking about who
6 these people are, what perspectives they have, and what
7 they bring to the table and all of those intangibles.

8 I'll end on a positive note. I really do
9 appreciate that this Commission has made an effort to, you
10 know, improve things along the way and make these meetings
11 accessible. I'll note that your hold music, your standby
12 music is amazing. Maybe that doesn't go to the Commission
13 and somebody in the Auditor's Office --

14 MS. PELLMAN: Fifteen seconds.

15 MR. QUON: -- but it's the best standby music of
16 any governmental body out there. So, thank you.

17 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Quan.

18 Next in the queue, please.

19 AT&T OPERATOR: Next we have the line of Abe Ali.
20 Please spell your name for the reporter. And now, your
21 line is open for us.

22 MR. ALI: Hello, my name is Abe Ali, spelled
23 A-B-E A-L-I. I represent the Asian Pacific Americans in
24 Higher Education. I'm the president of that association.
25 I also am a resident of Bakersfield, California. And I

1 speak on behalf of Linda Akutagawa. She is an excellent
2 candidate that I believe will be a great nonpartisan
3 participant in your process.

4 I applaud the Commission's intent to include, to
5 be inclusive of shaping California's future. This starts
6 with working and involving fair representation with all
7 ethnic communities and sharing the values of -- that should
8 be represented on the Commission.

9 Linda Akutagawa is that person. She's an ideal
10 candidate that can work and toggle between private
11 businesses, where she has collected several amounts of
12 resources to be allocated to nonprofits throughout the
13 nation, but in particular California.

14 She has been a great asset to all three, private
15 sector businesses, nonprofits, and higher education.
16 There's no other person that I would look to, to be fairly
17 representing our Asian Pacific American community.

18 As you know, diversity and cultural
19 identification has been an issue in the Asian community and
20 --

21 MS. PELLMAN: Fifteen seconds.

22 MR. ALI: -- Linda has -- Linda has participated
23 greatly in learning about resource distribution and
24 cultural identification that's collected through Census,
25 and she has learned a lot --

1 MS. PELLMAN: Five.

2 MR. ALI: -- and participated in our
3 (indiscernible) -- so, thank you and appreciate your
4 consideration.

5 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Ali.

6 Next in the queue, please.

7 AT&T OPERATOR: We have the line of Arturo
8 Carmona. Please spell your name for the reporter. Your
9 line is open.

10 MR. CARMONA: Hi, my name is Arturo Carmona, A-R-
11 T-U-R-O, the last name C-A-R-M-O-N-A.

12 And I am calling on behalf of La Opinion, La
13 Opinion de la Bahia, and the Latino Media Collaborative,
14 representing 32 media outlets that help keep the millions
15 of Latinos informed with high quality news and journalism.
16 As a collective of outlets that value independent and
17 unbiased journalism, we are calling to remind the
18 Commission of the commitment they made to the public to
19 address the complete lack of Latinix representation on the
20 body and to uplift Pedro Toledo, a Latinix candidate who
21 represents 40 percent of California's population, as well
22 as one-fourth of registered no party preference Latinix
23 voters in this space.

24 We also join in support of the previously made
25 request that at least four Latino representatives be

1 integrated into the Commission.

2 I also wanted to personally thank the Commission
3 for this opportunity and for taking this important issue
4 on, and the issue of ensuring full representation. Our
5 outlets have made editorial positions on this very
6 important issue for our state. And we stand in unison in
7 making this request.

8 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Carmona.

9 Next in the queue, please.

10 AT&T OPERATOR: We'll go to the line of Jeffrey
11 Lee. If you would please spell your name for the reporter.
12 Your line is open.

13 MR. LEE: J-E-F-F-R-E-Y L-E-E. And happy -- you
14 know, good morning and happy Friday. You know, I'm calling
15 to just really express my appreciation for all the
16 Commissioners' public service in prior roles, and all the
17 things that you've done, you know, leading up to this time.

18 Commissioner Kennedy, I'd like to say I really
19 admire your international experience. I'm from an
20 immigrant family and a student of international relations.
21 I really appreciated your work on democratic elections.
22 And in my humble opinion, I think you're a good fit for the
23 role.

24 I'm also struck by Debra Gish's public comment
25 about you. And just for the record Ms. Gish said that, you

1 know, Commissioner Kennedy really cares about everyone,
2 especially marginalized members of society, women,
3 minorities, differently abled, indigenous, LGBTQ. He wants
4 everyone to enjoy fair access in a timely manner. He goes
5 out of his way to ensure systems and procedures are in
6 place to accomplish this.

7 You know, so just frankly, you know, this process
8 has been really hard to follow sometimes, right. And I
9 trust and acknowledge that you will support Commissioner
10 Sadhwani and Commissioner Turner's slate. As far as I'm
11 able to follow those haven't changed. It's a strong slate.
12 And it addresses the lack of Latino participation, as well
13 as a very diverse API population and community in the
14 inclusion of Peter Toledo -- I mean Pedro Toledo and Linda
15 Akutagawa.

16 This slate is kind of far from yours, sir. So,
17 it's a coalition slate, it really is. Your two minority
18 women colleague slate will ensure that marginalized women
19 and minorities, LGBTQ have access to a seat at the table.

20 MS. PELLMAN: Fifteen seconds.

21 MR. LEE: This is backed by your public comment
22 and the comments of the communities over the past three
23 days. So, based on your background, I'm very hopeful that
24 you will agree and I have to believe that you will
25 demonstrate this with your vote. Thank you, Commissioner

1 Kennedy.

2 MS. PELLMAN: Time.

3 MR. LEE: Thank you to the rest of the
4 Commission.

5 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Lee.

6 Next in the queue, please.

7 AT&T OPERATOR: We'll go to the line of Eliot
8 Enriquez. Please spell your name for the reporter. Your
9 line is open.

10 MR. ENRIQUEZ: E-L-I-O-T E-N-R-I-Q-U-E-Z. Good
11 morning Commissioners. Once again, my name is Eliot
12 Enriquez and I am a board member for Los Cien, a Latino-
13 based advocacy group that works to build bridges amongst
14 all races in our community.

15 And I also would like to remind the Commission of
16 its commitment to have four Latinos joined the Commission
17 in this next round.

18 I also would like everyone -- remind everyone to
19 know that Latinos do comprise 40 percent of California's
20 population and it's growing. And if you only select four
21 Latinos that is only 26 percent of the representation,
22 which is clearly not enough for representation of the
23 Latinx community that have been historically
24 underrepresented and forgotten in California.

25 The Latino community is also very diverse in

1 terms of its politics, geography, language, immigration
2 status and culture. And that's why I would like for you to
3 please support Mr. Pedro Toledo, who is a nonpartisan
4 Latino candidate. He used to be the president of the
5 Hispanic Chamber of Commerce in Sonoma County. He
6 continues to be one of the most prominent healthcare
7 leaders in the entire State of California. And he's been
8 working most of his entire professional life to give
9 underserved communities a hand up and a fair shot at living
10 the California dream.

11 I have known and worked with Pedro for the past
12 ten years. It has been an honor. And I really hope that
13 you will give him an opportunity and also to ensure that
14 California has fair representation amongst the Commission.
15 Thank you for your time.

16 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Enriquez.

17 Next in the queue, please.

18 AT&T OPERATOR: Yes, Ahmad Nawabi. Please spell
19 your name for the reporter. And your line is now open.

20 MR. NAWABI: Hello, my name is Ahmad Nawabi. The
21 spelling of my name, A-H-M-A-D, the last name Nawabi, N-A-
22 W-A-B-I.

23 I want to thank the Commission for taking my
24 call. And I wanted to echo the sentiments of the other
25 callers in making sure that we get Mr. Toledo into NPP

1 (indiscernible).

2 In addition to that, I'd also like to voice my
3 concern that we're not getting enough votes for Victoria
4 Tamoush who's the only Middle Eastern candidate standing
5 before us. So, I would like to voice my support of her and
6 Mr. Toledo. (Indiscernable) Thank you.

7 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Nawabi.

8 Next in the queue, please.

9 AT&T OPERATOR: We have Jacqueline Coto. Please
10 spell your name for the reporter. Your line is now open.

11 MS. COTO: Hi, good morning. My name is
12 Jacqueline Coto, C-O-T-O, from the National Association of
13 Latino Elected and Appointed Official, NALEO Educational
14 Fund.

15 I would like to acknowledge that you have come a
16 long way. And as Commissioners, you have obviously been
17 facing a very difficult challenge balancing geographic
18 diversity between two very different parts of the state.

19 We wanted to remind you how much you have
20 accomplished and should be proud of. At many earlier steps
21 of the CRC process, time and time again it fails to provide
22 representation for the Latino community from the
23 application process straight through to the bingo balls.

24 However, the eight of you have stood up together
25 as a group to right that wrong consistently, including a

1 minimum of four Latinos on the Commission when selecting
2 the slate to ensure that the Latino community is
3 represented in each of the partisan pools.

4 We are confident that the remaining Latino
5 candidates in each pool will all make an excellent
6 Commissioner, not only for the 40 percent of the
7 Californians who are Latino, but also for everyone who
8 lives in the state.

9 So, you face tough tradeoffs in balancing
10 geographic diversity and other considerations and we do not
11 envy you for that work. However, in addressing those
12 challenges we urge you not to trade one problem for another
13 and sacrifice your hard work to date to bring needed racial
14 and ethnic diversity to the Commission. Thank you.

15 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Ms. Coto.

16 Next in the queue, please.

17 AT&T OPERATOR: Certainly. And just a reminder,
18 for any late joiners it is pressing 1, followed by 0 to
19 place yourself into queue.

20 Next we have the line of Nelly Nieblas. Please
21 spell your name for the reporter. Your line is open.

22 MS. NIEBLAS: Nelly Nieblas, N-E-L-L-Y, Nieblas
23 is N-I-E-B-L-A-S. And I am a local community organizer in
24 the southeast area of Los Angeles and I am pushing for
25 support for Linda Akutagawa, and for a slate that includes

1 Pedro Toledo. We need a diverse -- we need a diverse group
2 to reflect the diversity that California itself entails.
3 And I appreciate your time and consideration when it comes
4 to this decision. Thank you.

5 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Ms. Nieblas.

6 Next in the queue, please.

7 AT&T OPERATOR: We'll go to the line of Ann
8 Navarro. Please spell your name for the reporter. Your
9 line is open.

10 MS. NAVARRO: Hi. A-N-N N-A-V-A-R-R-O. I'm
11 calling to support the slate that includes three Latinos in
12 the Republican and Democrat categories, two API in the
13 Republican and no party preference. This would make a good
14 coalition slate and I believe that at least six of you can
15 get behind. Thank you.

16 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Ms. Navarro.

17 Next in the queue, please.

18 AT&T OPERATOR: The line of Christy Lubin.
19 Please spell your name for the reporter. Your line is
20 open.

21 MS. LUBIN: Yes, my name -- my spelling is C-H-R-
22 I-S-T-Y L-U-B-I-N. And I'm Christy Lubin and I am the
23 Executive Director of the Graton Day Labor Center located
24 in Sonoma County.

25 Our organization organizes with day laborers and

1 domestic workers in the North Bay Region to build power and
2 lift labor standards, as well as workplace safety
3 standards. And we -- I, personally have had the honor of
4 working in the community with Mr. Pedro Toledo for the past
5 15 years and I have seen him as he -- everywhere you go,
6 you see Mr. Toledo, for years, when it comes -- anything
7 that has to do with advocating for low wage workers, for
8 the immigrant community, he is always at the table.

9 So, I want to say that I'm disappointed to see
10 that instead of adding more Latinos onto the proposed
11 slate, some are proposing fewer.

12 I'm reaching out to respectfully urge the eight
13 of you to -- the eight of you to urge -- to select at least
14 four Latinos onto the Commission and at least one Latino
15 from each of the three political areas to ensure the Latino
16 community is fairly represented on the Commission.

17 As you know, Latinos comprise 40 percent of
18 California's population, as they do Sonoma County's
19 population, and it is only growing. Latinos in my area and
20 throughout the state have been excluded from full civic
21 participation for years. And with the current political
22 climate and with the COVID crisis that we are facing now,
23 it is important to uplift Latino voices now more than ever.

24 The Latino community is very diverse in terms of
25 politics, geography, language, immigration status and

1 culture.

2 So, please continue to support Mr. Pedro Toledo,
3 the nonpartisan Latino candidate. He is a former chamber
4 of commerce president, a healthcare leader --

5 MS. PELLMAN: Fifteen seconds.

6 MS. LUBIN: -- and he has worked with an vast
7 groups in many forums to give underserved communities a
8 hand up. I know him personally and know that he will give
9 all of --

10 MS. PELLMAN: Time.

11 MS. LUBIN: -- California fair representation.

12 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Ms. Lubin.

13 Next in the queue, please.

14 AT&T OPERATOR: We'll go to the line of Tony
15 Winer. Please spell your name for the reporter. Your line
16 is open.

17 MR. WINER: Hi, my name's Tony Winer, T-O-N-Y W-
18 I-N-E-R. I've listened to the vast majority of the
19 meetings over the past few days and I just wanted to bring
20 something to your attention.

21 I've heard lots of discussion around
22 representation culturally, geographically,
23 socioeconomically, and lots of callers calling in to urge
24 you to prioritize those representations, which is
25 outstanding. But you've also seemed to self-impose a

1 secondary priority of adding someone to the committee with
2 a law degree that I just can't quite wrap my head around.

3 And the main difference between the two slates
4 proposed yesterday, as far as I understand them, is that
5 part of you picks this person with a law degree that people
6 are not calling in and asking for.

7 So, I'd just urge you to discuss amongst
8 yourselves the real need for someone with a legal degree
9 when you will be provided with legal staff to ask questions
10 to. And you heard from the woman from the League of Woman
11 Voters, who just talked about crafting this process. It
12 was designed to increase representation, not to hire an
13 attorney who would sit on the committee.

14 Specifically, Michael Gennaco, who's the
15 Democratic lawyer that seems to end up on a lot of slates,
16 as far as I can tell has not received a single public
17 comment for public support. I went through everything I
18 could find this morning and I wasn't able to find anything.

19 And so, that sort of brings me to my second
20 point. I just wanted to echo some of the other public
21 comments that you have received around Angela Vasquez. She
22 brings more than youth to the committee that you guys have
23 recognized. She also has years of experience engaging in
24 California's communities, and engaging at a community
25 level, and has direct experience working through legal

1 frameworks and understands how to apply the law to help
2 every-day Californians.

3 So, I'd just ask if you go back and rearrange
4 your slates --

5 MS. PELLMAN: Fifteen seconds.

6 MR. WINER: -- that you keep Angela Vazquez on
7 the slate and really hear the support that she's received
8 over the past few days. Thank you.

9 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Winer.

10 Next on the queue, please.

11 AT&T OPERATOR: We have Maricela Morales. Please
12 spell your name for the reporter. Your line is open.

13 MS. MORALES: Hello, good morning. Maricela, M-
14 A-R-I-C-E-L-A, last name Morales, M-O-R-A-L-E-S.

15 I'm cofounder and Executive Director of the
16 Central Coast Alliance United for a Sustainable Economy, or
17 CAUSE. We are based in Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties
18 and work with partners throughout the Central Coast area,
19 which we consider to be Santa Cruz in the north and Ventura
20 County in the south.

21 This go around we were not successful in having a
22 Central Coast-based Commissioner, which even more important
23 though that I'm calling to lift up is the absolute absence
24 of Latinx representation, and that that should be the
25 number one priority.

1 As it's been said, in listening to prior comments
2 that California's 40 percent Latino. But as we all know,
3 the state is not homogenous. And that 40 percent jumps up
4 to 85 percent in a county like Imperial County. And in
5 fact, in most counties of California that are under a
6 million in population, the population of that county is 50
7 percent or more Latino.

8 So, in terms of the non-metro urban areas, the
9 absence of Latino representation just further
10 disenfranchises and underrepresents the smaller counties of
11 the state.

12 I want to lift up Pedro Toledo to be included,
13 along with three other Latinos. And I want to raise the
14 alarm that --

15 MS. PELLMAN: Fifteen seconds.

16 MS. MORALES: -- should there not be -- should
17 there not be adequate representation this Commission will
18 begin under the cloud of political apartheid,
19 discrimination, or at best implicit bias against Latinx
20 residents of California.

21 MS. PELLMAN: Time.

22 MS. MORALES: Thank you.

23 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Ms. Morales.

24 Next in the queue, please.

25 AT&T OPERATOR: We'll go to the line of Marjorie

1 Helm. Please spell your name for the reporter. Your line
2 is open.

3 MS. HELM: Good morning, this is Marjorie Helm.
4 M-A-R-J-O-R-I-E H-E-L-M. And I'm a clinical social worker
5 and co-chair of the Petaluma National Association of Social
6 Work unit. And I want to thank you for your incredibly
7 hard work to ensure representation throughout the state.

8 I'm calling to let you know that I'm also
9 disappointed to see that instead of adding more Latinos
10 onto the proposed slate you -- some are proposing fewer.
11 I'm reaching out today to respectfully urge that you select
12 at least four Latinos to join the Commission and at least
13 one Latino for each of the three political areas to ensure
14 that the Latinx community is fairly represented on the
15 Commission.

16 As you know and as people are saying very
17 consistently, Latinos comprise 40 percent of California's
18 population and the community is growing rapidly. If you
19 only select four Latinos, it only provides 26 percent
20 representation, which isn't enough. Latinos throughout
21 California have been excluded for years from full civic
22 participation. In the current political climate and with
23 the COVID crisis, it's critical to lift and amplify Latinix
24 voices.

25 The Latino community is very diverse in terms of

1 politics, geography, language, immigration status and
2 culture. Please continue to support Mr. Pedro Toledo, the
3 nonpartisan Latino candidate. He's a former chamber of
4 commerce president, a healthcare leader, and has worked
5 hard to give underserved communities a voice and a hand up.
6 I know Mr. Toledo personally --

7 MS. PELLMAN: Fifteen seconds.

8 MS. HELM: -- and he will ensure all Californians
9 have fair representation. Thank you for your efforts.

10 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Ms. Helm.

11 Next in the queue, please.

12 AT&T OPERATOR: We'll go to the line of Walter
13 Atkin. Please spell your name for the reporter. Your line
14 is open.

15 MR. ATKIN: I go by Walter Chip Atkin. It's W-A-
16 L-T-E-R C-H-I-P A-T-K-I-N.

17 And I'm calling for support Pedro Toledo for the
18 nonpartisan spot. I'm a retired social worker, retired
19 chair of the SEIU Clinical Committee. I know Pedro because
20 we live in the same town and he's the CEO of the health
21 clinic. And he's somebody that's known for supporting
22 underserved and underrepresented people, and being an
23 advocate for them.

24 And I agree with the other commenters that since
25 Latinos represents 40 percent of the population, they

1 should have at least four Latinos on the Commission. That
2 would still be underrepresented for their proportion of the
3 population, but it would be much improved.

4 And Pedro is the kind of advocate that you need
5 to find a system that's going to be representative of all
6 people. So, thank you for your time.

7 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you for that comment.

8 Next in the queue, please.

9 AT&T OPERATOR: We go to the line of Yolanda
10 Latham. Your line is open. Please spell your name for the
11 court reporter.

12 MS. LATHAM: Good morning, Commissioners. My
13 name is Yolanda Latham. Yolanda, Y-O-L-A-N-D-A, Latham, L-
14 A-T-H-A-M.

15 I am Native American, a member of the Hoopa
16 Valley Tribe and I live in Humboldt County. I live on a
17 reservation with 3,000 other residents. I called yesterday
18 and I'm following your deliberations. I want to once again
19 give my enthusiastic support for Pedro Toledo. And I want
20 to provide more explanation as to why I support him.

21 Communities of color across California have for
22 too long been excluded and our voices have been silenced.
23 This is especially true for Native Americans, black and
24 Latino communities. And, unfortunately, I see this
25 happening again with the Latino and Native American

1 communities. We need more people of color to serve in
2 these positions from all political backgrounds.

3 You can't fix the absence of Native Americans on
4 the Commission, but you can ensure that Latinos receive
5 fair and adequate representation on the Commission to
6 preserve the integrity of the redistricting process.

7 One thing you may not know about Mr. Toledo is
8 that while he identifies as Mexican American, during his
9 legal education he also studied tribal law and served as
10 Vice President of the Native American Law Student
11 Association. He also has had strong ties to the Native
12 American community across the country that stemmed back to
13 when he lived in the Native American dorm at Stanford
14 University.

15 As a former CEO of the Native American Health
16 Clinic, I wanted to share additional insights.
17 Approximately 40 percent of people in Mendocino, Humboldt,
18 Del Norte, and other rural communities across Northern
19 California get their medical care at a Community Health
20 Clinic. In my community, everyone gets their care at the
21 tribal clinic. Over the years WIC has worked with the
22 Rural Roundtable --

23 MS. PELLMAN: Fifteen seconds.

24 MS. LATHAN: -- and Pedro has collaborated with
25 rural clinic leadership from all over the state, and

1 particularly across the North Coast. These clinics serve
2 some of the hardest to reach people, Native American,
3 agricultural workers, the rural poor, and we work with him
4 to design strategies --

5 MS. PELLMAN: Time.

6 MS. LATHAM: -- to engage these populations and
7 get them care. Pedro doesn't just have deep respect and
8 appreciation for the people from different backgrounds, he
9 has dedicated his career to serving people of different
10 backgrounds. For all those reasons I raise my voice, my
11 strongest support for Mr. Pedro Toledo to serve on the
12 Commission. Thank you.

13 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Ms. Latham.

14 Next in the queue, please.

15 AT&T OPERATOR: We have the line of Fayaz Nawabi.
16 Please spell your name for the reporter. Your line is
17 open.

18 MR. NAWABI: Hello, my name is Fayaz Nawabi. The
19 spelling of my name is F-A-Y-A-Z, the last name Nawabi, N-
20 A-W-A-B-I.

21 I'm calling on behalf of DARE, Downtown American
22 (indiscernible) relations, to raise my support for Pedro
23 Toledo for the NPP pool. As many people said earlier, he
24 does represent the Latino community. And seeing that's the
25 population that accounts for 40 percent of the population

1 of California. It's the Latinix -- it's unacceptable that
2 some folks are recommending that there are no Latinix
3 representatives on the Commission.

4 I'm also proposing my support for Victoria
5 Tamoush. And Victoria, she is the founder of Interfaith
6 Witness, which is an organization in the Orange County
7 region that stood up for any anti -- any anti-Muslim
8 attacks for our community. And she's also the only Middle
9 Eastern candidate in the entire pool. So, I'm voicing my
10 support for both Pedro Toledo and Victoria Tamoush for the
11 NPP pool. Thank you very much.

12 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Nawabi.

13 Next in the queue, please.

14 AT&T OPERATOR: Madam Chair, there are no further
15 questions here in queue or comments.

16 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you. Having completed the
17 public comments portion just for the public, thank you very
18 much for all your comments. We take them into
19 consideration along with all of our other materials. We
20 have received the ones that have been submitted, written as
21 well, and we cannot comment on those at this time.

22 Moving along on the agenda, we will continue with
23 Item 5, our discussion, deliberation and action on the
24 slates for the six Commissioners.

25 At this time I'd like to have the group work

1 together and come up with some slates, have, say, a brief
2 discussion and get some slates proposed and do some voting.
3 I feel we are -- our conversations towards the end of
4 yesterday got a bit less than fruitful. And we know we
5 have a lot of difficult decisions, it's time to move
6 forward.

7 With that in mind, I'm going to ask Commissioner
8 Kennedy to lead with giving us a quick update on his status
9 with fighting the Apple Fire around him. If you could
10 please -- we've all been concerned, if you could give us an
11 update, please.

12 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Actually, Madam Chair,
13 well, I'm busy here and not fighting the fire. I'm back.
14 I asked Christian this morning to alert me if he sees
15 flames leaping up in the background behind me because I'm
16 focused on our work. I appreciate the support from all of
17 my fellow Commissioners and I'll try to keep you posted.
18 We're not sure how long we'll be away from the property.
19 As of last night the fire was about eight miles away, but
20 with winds gusting overnight between 45 and 50 miles an
21 hour it's nerve wracking.

22 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Yeah. We're all very concerned,
23 so thank you very much.

24 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: If I may, while I have the
25 floor?

1 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Yes, Commissioner Kennedy?

2 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: As we start our discussion
3 of slates, I just want to go on record again as saying that
4 the only difference between my slate and the Sadhwani and
5 Turner slates is that I include Victoria Tamoush rather
6 than Linda Akutagawa. But I also go on record again as
7 saying that I do not oppose their slate. So, I want to be
8 clear with that. So, that's where I am right now. Thank
9 you.

10 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Commissioner Kennedy.
11 Commissioner Le Mons?

12 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: I wanted to address one of
13 the comments from public comment because I think there
14 needs to be a clarification. I had no side meetings with
15 any Commissioners yesterday or at any other point in this
16 process. And I think the three Commissioners that I
17 referenced can affirm that. And that was Commissioner
18 Sadhwani, Commissioner Ahmad, and Commissioner Turner.

19 What I was referencing is the conversation that I
20 had with them in public view as a part of our discussion.
21 So, I just thought that that was important to --
22 particularly if someone raises a question of integrity,
23 which is one of my highest values, so I cannot let that go
24 unaddressed.

25 And then, my second point of clarification will

1 be for you, Madam Chair. You may have felt that it was not
2 fruitful. I didn't feel like the discussions at the end of
3 the day were unfruitful. So, I take a little bit of
4 exception with your judgment. It may be uncomfortable in
5 this process for some of us, or all of us at different
6 points along the way. But at no point did I feel like --
7 and I appreciate Commissioner's Turner's comments at the
8 end of the conversation, which I think was an indication,
9 at least from her point of view, that while it's
10 uncomfortable, it was productive. So, that's my response
11 to that.

12 Finally, I'd like to say that I would like to
13 propose another slate for consideration, if I can do so.

14 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Unless, would any other --
15 before we do that, would any other Commissioner like to
16 actually say anything before we move to proposing slates?

17 Go ahead, Commissioner Le Mons.

18 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: So, I'd like to propose
19 the following slate, which would include Angela Vazquez for
20 a Democrat, Patricia Sinay for a Democrat. For a
21 Republican it would be Alicia Fernandez and Russell Yee.
22 And for nonparty affiliate it would be Eddie Morgan and
23 Pedro Toledo. And I want to call that the One Tribe slate.

24 CHAIR ANDERSEN: I'm sorry, what was the last
25 part you said?

1 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: I'd like to name it the
2 One Tribe slate.

3 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you. We need a moment for
4 counsel to write that down and then read that back.

5 MS. SAXTON: Madam Chair?

6 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Counsel?

7 MS. SAXTON: As a technical matter, a legal
8 matter, Commissioner Le Mons will need to withdraw the
9 other slates as each Commissioner may only have one slate
10 for consideration at a time.

11 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Counsel.

12 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: That's fine.

13 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Le Mons, Commissioner Le Mons?

14 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yes. So, I guess there's
15 the point of either amending the previous slate or
16 withdrawing. Is that correct, Counsel?

17 MS. SAXTON: That is correct.

18 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: So, I think it will be
19 easier because I no longer wish it to be called the Le Mons
20 slate is to withdraw the previous slates and move forward
21 with the one I just outlined.

22 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you. Commissioner
23 Kennedy, you have a comment?

24 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: I have a question.

25 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Question.

1 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Looking back at my notes I
2 understood that the last slate that Commissioner Le Mons
3 had proposed failed, and so he does not currently have a
4 slate on the table. So, I'm wondering what it is that
5 needs to be withdrawn. I thought that had already been
6 defeated.

7 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: That was my thinking, too,
8 Commissioner Kennedy but --

9 CHAIR ANDERSEN: I have to agree, I also thought
10 that it had -- since it had failed, it did not exist
11 anymore. But Counsel is clarifying that for us. So, we
12 can --

13 MS. SAXTON: A defeated slate can still be
14 repropose. So, to be perfectly clear and safe, I would
15 advise withdrawing that slate for that reason.

16 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: No problem. I withdraw
17 the previous slate, the amended Le Mons slate and propose
18 the new slate.

19 MS. SAXTON: Thank you, Commissioner.

20 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: You're welcome.

21 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you for the point of
22 clarification.

23 Also, Commissioner Le Mons thank you for the
24 point of clarification in process, the public comment.
25 That was absolutely appropriate and I appreciate you

1 speaking to that comment, which was about process. And I
2 also was going to bring that up. I wanted to give you the
3 opportunity. You're absolutely correct and those
4 conversations occurred in public. That as far as we saw,
5 and have everyone verify that, that was absolutely
6 appropriate. Thank you very much.

7 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: You're welcome.

8 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Go ahead, Counsel.

9 MS. SAXTON: Let the record reflect that
10 Commissioner Le Mons has proposed the One Tribe slate with
11 the following applicants: Angela Vasquez, Democrat;
12 Patricia Sinai, Democrat; Alicia Fernandez, Republican;
13 Russell Yee, Republican; Eddie Morgan, neither party; Pedro
14 Toledo, neither party.

15 CHAIR ANDERSEN: I have a -- well, a slate has
16 been proposed. Is that a proposal for discussion or to
17 propose for a vote?

18 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Not for a vote. I just
19 want to put it forward for our discussion.

20 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Commissioner. Any
21 discussion on this slate?

22 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Madam Chair?

23 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Commissioner Taylor.

24 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yes, I think this slate
25 reveals what our impasse is, is where we like how our

1 slates come together up until we have the Morgan,
2 Akutagawa. So, that's what we have to address, which way
3 do we want to go, to be frank.

4 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Commissioner Taylor.
5 I might have a little clarification on that, if I may read
6 this from our charge, which I think certainly the public
7 might not be aware of.

8 We are charged, and this comes from -- let's see,
9 I want to get exactly where this comes from. It is -- it's
10 in the Government Code. These are our -- as written, as
11 the California Code was modified by the Voters FIRST Act.
12 And it actually comes down to the six appointees, how we
13 must approve them.

14 And the six appointees shall be chosen to ensure
15 the Commission reflects the state's diversity including,
16 but not limited to, racial, ethnic, geographic, and gender
17 diversity.

18 It also says: Applicants shall also be chosen
19 based on relevant analytical skills and ability to be
20 impartial.

21 These are not one and then the other. These are
22 all equal in the way it is exactly written. And that is
23 why we are having such a hard time with this. We have
24 conflicting considerations and they're equally conflicting.
25 They're equally of the same level of consideration. There

1 is no one order over the other order. This is a very
2 difficult decision.

3 We have both the geographical criteria, the
4 racial/ethnic/gender criteria, the analytical skills, and
5 the ability to be impartial. These are all items which we
6 have been weighing and considering that the public may not
7 be aware of. We have all the information from the
8 Applicant Panel Review Board, which we have gone over in
9 great detail.

10 Our words that we've chosen do not in any way
11 summarize the entire person when we are talking about a few
12 items. That would not be fair to any of our candidates.
13 That's just how we've had to use a few words in the point
14 of being short in our discussions. That should not be
15 taken as any kind of negative against any applicant. We
16 are working at our best ability to work together as a group
17 and these are very hard decisions.

18 We are indeed at a very difficult decision,
19 coming down to the nonparty preference items. And we can't
20 sort of quickly summarize what one person brings versus
21 another person and these are hard issues.

22 So, any comment that we make, we do not want that
23 to be misconstrued as it's against another. These are all
24 highly qualified people. We've had the discussion that we
25 would really like to add all three. Unfortunately, we

1 cannot.

2 So, that is what I have to say and I open the
3 field to any other Commissioner who would like to say
4 anything on this matter.

5 VICE CHAIR TURNER: Madam Chair?

6 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Yes, Commissioner Turner.

7 VICE CHAIR TURNER: Yes, thank you. Good
8 morning, Commissioners. This does get down, and I
9 appreciate the slates that have been offered and the names.
10 It really does boil down for me of a distinction between
11 Morgan and Akutagawa, and for all of the reasons that we've
12 discussed over the last few days. Listening at the public
13 comment, I believe with the Voter's Right Act we are within
14 our realm and the parameters, regardless of which candidate
15 is selected, they both fill a niche, fill a need, and would
16 represent. So, it comes down to what our, I guess,
17 conviction is based on public comment, based on what we've
18 heard, based on what we've read, viewed in their videos and
19 what have you. Both, again, strong candidates. We keep
20 saying that. That seems almost a moot point at this time.

21 For me, I'm still heavily weighing on Linda
22 Akutagawa for the breadth of representation that she has
23 for all of the population groups that was named. I think
24 that it provides a greater coverage of representation. Not
25 a better, a different than what would be Morgan. And to

1 that end, when it is time, I do want to lift the slate that
2 I originally proposed the other day that actually hasn't
3 been proposed before, but I lift it as the Turner slate,
4 which I'm still wanting to keep the same names we are not
5 struggling with, Sinay, Vazquez, Fernandez, Yee, but then
6 it would be the Toledo and Akutagawa is where I'm at this
7 morning.

8 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Any other Commissioner?

9 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Madam Chair?

10 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Yes, Commissioner Taylor.

11 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Thank you, Commissioner
12 Turner. And I liked how you phrased that. When we look at
13 those three in the nondenominational pool I start to think
14 of whose breadth spans the furthest. And we know that
15 we're not limited by what's said or listed on the paper.
16 It is comforting to know that Candidate Toledo that we are
17 getting calls from Humboldt and further north to explain
18 his impact up north. So, that is under consideration.

19 And again, as a person of color with the
20 struggles that African Americans have had with voting, it
21 will always be difficult to think that an area is not
22 represented. Those regions were defined for a reason and I
23 don't think they are to be overlooked.

24 But we are talking -- compromise is going to
25 smart some. But I am starting to look at the breadth of

1 impact that each candidate would have and how we can reach
2 our deficits.

3 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Commissioner.
4 Commissioner Ahmad?

5 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you, Madam Chair. So,
6 first good morning, everyone, happy Friday. I think when
7 we left the conversation yesterday I was in true conflict
8 with the two slates that we ended up voting on. I
9 recognize that each slate brings a vast variety of
10 experience and a certain level of diversity.

11 So, coming in to today's call, I made sure that I
12 made sure to set my expectations of I'm here to hear my
13 colleagues. I'm here to hear public comment. And I'm here
14 to absorb that information.

15 And what Commissioner Taylor mentioned about the
16 calls we received regarding Candidate Toledo and his
17 experience in Northern California also comforted me to a
18 certain degree. Because I, too, am internally battling
19 with the lack of representation from Northern California.

20 So, I just wanted to share that, that tidbit was
21 very comforting to hear from public comment.

22 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Commissioner.
23 Commissioner Le Mons?

24 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: I want to open by saying
25 that I, too, feel conflicted, though that may not always

1 come through. But I struggle with the choices, as well.

2 The angle that I've taken and having listened to
3 all of the public comment as well, and also being a member
4 of a minority group and understand firsthand what all that
5 means. First, I'd like to say by the Bingo ball, while
6 this group is not representative of the State of
7 California, it is diverse. That's just by accident.
8 Because I feel like some of the suggestion has been that
9 these eight people aren't diverse at all, and that's an
10 unfair characterization as well.

11 So, I commend all of my fellow Commissioners who
12 have really worked hard to listen carefully, and to absorb
13 information that has been provided to us over the last
14 several days, not just this week but even preceding in all
15 of the things that we've read.

16 When I look at what is our charge, and I
17 appreciate Madam Chair's rereading that for the public to
18 hear as well, and where we have constraints and where we
19 don't. And I think that for me the regional aspect is the
20 one place that we don't have the same constraint. And the
21 fact that we have a significant representation in the
22 Southern Coastal Region, and it's very difficult for me to
23 grapple with the idea that it can be suggested that because
24 you're a small percentage, oh, well, we'll look out for
25 you.

1 Because what happens a lot of times with the
2 small percentage is you don't get looked out for. And what
3 we're leaning toward is we've heard volumes, and volumes,
4 and volumes of testimony from people in certain directions,
5 and we're saying, okay, that gives me the validation that I
6 need to stand behind.

7 But does that protect that small percentage
8 voice, and I'm talking about the north, that doesn't have
9 the volume, that doesn't have the numbers for us to say,
10 okay, we see you now.

11 So, I think we have the opportunity to make sure
12 that at this Commission table, because it's just a table,
13 this is not going to reflect the entire state. This is not
14 going to prevent us from hearing from the people in Orange
15 County, if there isn't an Orange County representative on
16 the Commission itself. Of course we're not going to ignore
17 Orange County.

18 And I think that our charge as Commissioners are
19 going to be to facilitate a process that ensures that the
20 information that we need from the public is received to
21 inform the maps. And so, if we're committed to that, I
22 think we have more of a wraparound of the Orange County
23 area from the amount of representation in the Southern
24 Coastal.

25 You know, when I look at, you know, sort of the

1 balance of the most recent slate that I'm calling One
2 Tribe, I think it is certainly gender balanced. I think
3 it's racially balanced to the degree that we can with all
4 of the considerations around race and ethnicity. It's
5 regionally balanced. It considers all of the economic
6 categories that we have to consider as well. And it has, I
7 think, the opportunity for us to not have any part of the
8 state feel like they didn't matter enough, or they weren't
9 big enough, or there wasn't enough of them to say that we
10 thought they should have a seat at the table from a
11 regional perspective.

12 And I am partially comforted by Mr. Toledo's
13 reach, so at the end of the day if the other Commissioners
14 don't feel as strongly as I do about full regional
15 representation, I think we will have an opportunity. So,
16 that's not lost on me as well. I've heard that very
17 clearly.

18 However, that's not his area. That's not his
19 address. That's not the area he represents. And so, if
20 you live in that area and you're looking at the table, you
21 can say, yes, we have a friend in Mr. Toledo, but he's not
22 ours. And we know how that works, too.

23 So, I just encourage us to not so quickly dismiss
24 -- let me take that part back because I don't -- that's not
25 a fair statement because I don't think that anyone is

1 dismissing anything.

2 I'd ask us to reconsider the one opportunity that
3 we do have to have full regional representation. This is
4 only the second Commission. The first one wasn't able, for
5 whatever reasons, to be able to do that. We're the second
6 one. The third one won't be for another three [sic] years.
7 We're here to draw the maps for the entire State of
8 California. Let's make sure that there's at least a
9 representative from every region at that table, as we take
10 on this task.

11 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Commissioner Le Mons.
12 Commissioner Ahmad?

13 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you, Madam Chair. I'm
14 getting really into this conversation, so I appreciate all
15 of the points that are being brought up.

16 So, two things come to mind. Without going too
17 much into a rabbit hole yesterday, I started looking at
18 that map that has the regions divided. And I started to
19 question like who created this map? Who divided up the
20 regions this way and for what purpose?

21 And then, when I was looking at the map, I'm in
22 Santa Clara County, which is Central Coastal, and that
23 branches all the way down to Santa Barbara on that map. I
24 do not represent Central Coastal by no means, shape or
25 form.

1 I can go two cities over and feel like an
2 outsider just because that's how diverse California is.
3 So, I hear you a hundred and ten percent that we could have
4 full regional representation, but if that was such a
5 critical aspect of the Commission why wasn't that written
6 into the Voters FIRST Act as we need to have full regional
7 representation above these other diversity criteria.

8 To me, because it's in the same category as race,
9 ethnicity, gender, economic status as an aspect of
10 diversity, to me that speaks that we need to look for a
11 balance. And I think I've stated this before that is the
12 most challenging part because we tend to think in boxes.
13 We're trained in thinking in boxes. From K through 12
14 we're either this or we're that, or we're from here or
15 we're from there. We're from Nor Cal or we're from So Cal.
16 Like there's no diversity in thought that it's built into
17 our system. And that shows with the whole application
18 process from the point I put submit application I was not a
19 hundred percent comfortable with the boxes that I was
20 checking.

21 And to the point the list got sent to the
22 California Legislature it was still not representative of
23 California. And then, when the list came back to the
24 Applicant Review Panel it was still not representative.
25 So, we're still dealing with a list that is never going to

1 be representative of California. Our Commission will never
2 be able to confidently stand up and say, hey, we represent
3 all Californians. It's just not possible from a
4 statistical stand point. Fourteen data points out of 50
5 million is never going to be enough. The sample size is
6 just too small.

7 So, to me, what I think we need to be looking
8 for, if I'm going to step back, is that do we have people
9 who will stand up and fight for other people, regardless of
10 what their perspectives are? Regardless of which region
11 they come from? Which economic status? How they identify
12 gender or race/ethnicity? Will we stand up and say, hey,
13 that person's voice is not at the table and it is our job
14 to ensure that we hand our power over to those people.

15 And to me, every combination that has been
16 presented in terms of slates -- I haven't presented a slate
17 for a very specific reason because every combination speaks
18 that to me. That these people will stand up and fight for
19 other people.

20 Where I am conflicted is how can we select a
21 slate that will fight for as many people as possible. I'm
22 not saying that a combination won't fight for people, but
23 as many people as possible. And I think that's where I'm
24 conflicted. That's where I keep falling on the Turner
25 slate because I see that slate as having a broad outreach

1 across all the diversity criteria that we are charged under
2 the Voters FIRST Act to follow. Those are my thoughts.
3 I've been holding it in for four days, so there we go.

4 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Commissioner Ahmad.
5 Any other comments at this time?

6 I do have an additional comment. The one thing I
7 was looking at is we are -- we are a facilitator almost in
8 this. We cannot by ourselves identify communities of
9 interest, which is why we need to reach out to the entire
10 state because we need their input before we can proceed
11 with our task. Our task is to identify those communities
12 of interest. Because, basically, only then do we have the
13 information as a group to then proceed to get that into
14 data in some sort of form, graphical, so that we can make
15 maps.

16 And from that we can actually, again going back
17 to the communities, say is this going to represent you?
18 And it's really sort of a roadblock. This is not -- I see
19 some of our constrictions is we need the community to want
20 to come towards us. And we need to make the Commission as
21 accessible as possible. And when it comes -- I actually
22 went down to -- the criteria is all the same. The Voters
23 Rights Act is very specific in that it does deal with the
24 political side of this. Who, as a group has been
25 sidelined, almost, as far as voting and can we identify

1 that as a group. That's the Voters Rights Act in a very,
2 very simple form.

3 And the one thing that -- which is a part of our
4 analysis. But we still have to get the communities
5 interest to do the rest of our job. So, it's almost like
6 those are very similar things, but not quite the same. And
7 what we don't want to do, I feel, is put up a roadblock.
8 And we're sort of used to the roadblocks being about
9 getting into vote. You know, here, here are some
10 questions, which it doesn't matter how you answer that
11 question, depending on what your race is you're going to be
12 able to vote or you're not going to be able to vote. You
13 know, those are obvious, hard roadblocks.

14 I see this sort of geographical as a very
15 potential roadblock. You know, I don't like the idea that
16 we're putting incredibly competent Commissioners, possible
17 Commissioners in the idea that we're trading one versus
18 another. I really don't like that, but it's sort of where
19 we are. And I see this as a little bit of physical access,
20 almost, where what are the differences if we have one or
21 don't have one?

22 And there's a lot to gain by having Orange County
23 and someone as capable as Ms. Akutagawa, there's no doubt
24 she would benefit the entire state.

25 But if we don't have her, do we still have access

1 to the people that she wants to represent versus if we
2 don't have Mr. Morgan in the north and his connections
3 through the entire area, again also through the state. If
4 we don't have him on, the people who are in his area, what
5 are the roadblocks to accessing them?

6 And I just thought physically of how do we even
7 get there? And I, of course, being an engineer ran a few
8 different numbers of estimating just straight mileage. You
9 know, how do we -- you know, how can we cover an area, how
10 can we -- and it's physically almost -- it became almost
11 insurmountable. You know, I actually put numbers on, so
12 it's 20 times harder, essentially, for people in the north
13 to access the Commission. This is just physically, a
14 distance, than it would be the people in Orange just
15 because of physical distance.

16 And I thought that's an actual roadblock. And I
17 was very troubled by putting an actual roadblock into
18 accessing the Commission.

19 Now, I understand that given Zoom and a lot of
20 this will be done remotely, but then I also know through
21 the rural parts of the state, because we've had a bit of an
22 issue with Commissioner Kennedy, Zoom access is not easy.
23 And how are we actually, physically going to access people
24 in the north part of the state. And I understand we have
25 that issue regardless of who is on the Commission. But if

1 they already didn't make it -- they were -- they had,
2 essentially, no representative from up here, you know,
3 there's no one of us on that, you know, state group and
4 they felt like that for years and it happens again, I feel
5 will we have any credibility? And when we try to say, hey,
6 please come and talk to us, you know, do I feel we've lost
7 our credibility because we actually chose a roadblock.
8 That's sort of where I came down with it.

9 And that might be very harsh, but it could be
10 seen in those terms. Now, there's a lot of backing off of
11 that, obviously, but that is one way to look at it.

12 So, with that I see -- I think it's Commissioner
13 Kennedy and Commissioner Ahmad.

14 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Madam Chair. I
15 really would like us to look at ourselves as not -- I mean
16 we have to be broadly representative of the diversity of
17 the State of California. But I don't want us to see
18 ourselves as representatives of particular places or
19 constituents. We are here to serve the people of
20 California, not -- to me we're here more to serve than to
21 represent. We need a body that is broadly representative
22 in order to build and maintain the credibility of this
23 enterprise called the Citizens Redistricting.

24 But we're here to serve and each of us is here to
25 serve every single one of the citizens of California.

1 Thank you.

2 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Commissioner.

3 Commissioner Ahmad?

4 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: My researcher side kind of
5 just jumped up and started screaming internally. I would
6 caution the presentation of numbers that you stated, Madam
7 Chair, specifically that it's 20 times harder to reach the
8 Commission without having all of that information that you
9 took into consideration to get to that number. It just
10 doesn't make sense to me to throw out a number without
11 having presented the reasoning and the calculations behind
12 how you got to that number. It just sparks question of
13 what does reaching the Commission even mean? Is there a
14 certain location that you use?

15 From my understanding, we need to go to
16 communities. I would never expect us to be like, hey,
17 everyone come to Sacramento so you can spend your whole
18 workday getting here, listening to us, and then telling
19 used what you need. If we need community we need to go to
20 them.

21 And so, the digital divide exists everywhere.
22 I'm sure it's more disparate in rural areas, as research
23 has shown in California, but they exist in San Jose as
24 well. We have those conversations on the daily.

25 So, I would just be very cautious to introduce

1 generalizations about what barriers may or may not exist
2 across the state without having tangible evidence of that.
3 I just wanted to share that thought.

4 MS. SAXTON: Madam Chair, five minutes to the
5 first 90-minute break.

6 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you. Thank you,
7 Commissioner Ahmad.

8 Commissioner Le Mons, you also had your hand up?

9 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yeah, real quickly I'll
10 just say that, I mean I agree with Commissioner Ahmad in
11 terms of presenting data. However, I think in the spirit
12 of what you're saying around access, I actually agree with
13 you. We know that those areas of the state are harder to
14 reach for any number of reasons.

15 And one of the things that I do observe about
16 Orange County is clearly, from everything we've heard
17 there's a machine already active there. And we'll be able
18 to get the information that we need from those communities.
19 They've identified themselves, they're well organized.
20 We've heard from organizations, we've heard from
21 individuals, we've heard from political figures. I mean
22 we've heard from a machine in Orange County.

23 So, what that says to me is that they're going to
24 be watching this process very carefully. They're going to
25 be involved in this process as they should be, and any

1 other group throughout the state as well.

2 So, when I think about what our task is, which it
3 is to engage with community, I think that we -- Orange
4 County has done beautifully, has presented themselves as an
5 organized community that's ready to work with us.

6 And so, when I balance between what might be lost
7 by not including the north versus Orange County, and again
8 Orange County is not a region. Orange County is a subset
9 of the Southern Coastal Region, which is very well
10 represented, meaning the region. And I know some of you
11 are like, well, why do you keep talking about the regions?
12 I just keep going back to I'm a Californian, I live in
13 Southern California, but I'm a Californian and this is the
14 California State Redistricting Commission. And however
15 this map got created it was the map that was given to us,
16 just like everything else that was given to us as it
17 relates to application, video, et cetera. All of this
18 stuff was provided to us.

19 So, this is the framework, just like the three
20 breakdowns of the political parties which, you know, I wish
21 we had another seat, but that's what was given to us as
22 well.

23 So, I have criticisms about the tools and the
24 frames that were given to us, but within the confines of
25 what was I still go back to eight -- one, two, three, four,

1 five, six seven regions were introduced to us in a map, and
2 provided to us. We have the opportunity to make sure that
3 there's at least representation from each of those regions
4 on a Commission who's charged with serving an entire state.
5 And we've heard from the community that a particular
6 region, it sounds like there was only one, we had counsel
7 check, was the Northern Region was left out in the first
8 Commission, and here we are a decade later. We're not
9 willing to right that wrong when part of what we're trying
10 to do is right wrongs. So, I just hope that we don't keep
11 that wrong in place. I think we have an opportunity to do
12 something as historical in making sure that all the regions
13 are represented. And I don't think that the ultimate maps
14 are going to suffer because Orange County isn't represented
15 directly. Yeah

16 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Commissioner.

17 We are basically at 11:00 o'clock. We need to
18 take a 15-minute break, so --

19 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: May I make one last
20 comment before we start our break?

21 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Yes. Commissioner Sadhwani.

22 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Thank you. Good morning
23 to everybody. In this conversation about roadblocks what
24 I'm concerned with here is that we are thinking about it
25 purely geographically. And as Madam Chair pointed out it's

1 not just geography, there's also these other components
2 that we need to be thinking about.

3 I'm concerned about the use of the term
4 roadblocks, actually. Are we talking about roadblocks to
5 joining this Commission or roadblocks to voting?

6 In addition to the geographic component, as we
7 have all said and discussed, and that is mandated by law,
8 race and ethnicity is a factor that we need to think about.
9 Asian American and Pacific Islanders do face significant
10 roadblocks to voting. And I think it would be helpful if,
11 you know, we did have those trainings, they spoke generally
12 about the communities of interest and the kinds of barriers
13 that communities might face to voting that we will need to
14 think about. And the kinds of considerations that the
15 Voting Rights Act will require us to think about.

16 One of those is for language minorities, of which
17 Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders most certainly are a
18 part of. They speak many, many different languages, right.

19 Counties are charged with having information
20 available to them in many different languages as well.

21 And so, I really would like to uplift that. I
22 think what would be extraordinarily helpful is if we also
23 spend a little bit of time and perhaps go back to some of
24 the documentation from 2010 about the kinds of processes
25 that they went into and/or seek additional information

1 about these supposed roadblocks that individuals have
2 either to joining this Commission or to voting. Because
3 ultimately, at the end of the day in terms of the
4 communities of interest that we have to think about, one of
5 the main considerations there is are these exact kinds of
6 roadblocks that you're mentioning, right, including racial
7 and language roadblocks.

8 So, whether it's -- you know, I know that we
9 cannot shift our agenda, nor do I propose that we do.
10 Perhaps someone like the professor who had spoken during
11 the main trainings, Professor, I think it was Levitt from
12 Loyola Marymount could give us additional information about
13 the kinds of roadblocks that communities have been facing
14 particularly over the last ten years. It seemed like the
15 former Commissioner Ancheta had a lot of information about
16 that.

17 I would welcome if -- I don't know if any of them
18 are listening, but I would certainly welcome them to call
19 in during public comment and to help provide some of that
20 legal context for us.

21 Or, you know, to the extent if legal counsel can
22 provide some of that to us that would be very helpful for
23 me.

24 CHAIR ANDERSEN: We are up at our time frame
25 where we need to take a break. So, we have to continue

1 that discussion after. It being 11:00, five after now, we
2 will recess for 15 minutes and meet back at 11:20.

3 (Off the record at 11:03 a.m.)

4 (On the record at 11:19 a.m.)

5 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Christian. The time
6 being 11:20 and I see we have a quorum, I will call the
7 meeting out of recess and back to order.

8 We were in discussions about slate and an issue
9 came up from Commissioner Sadhwani. I actually brought up
10 about roadblocks and Commissioner Sadhwani advanced that,
11 and I must say the roadblock I was talking about was access
12 to our Commission. The idea of roadblocking for voting is
13 beyond the scope of our task right now. That's something
14 we could discuss with the full Commission.

15 As a Commission we need -- as a group of eight we
16 need to ensure that the Commission is accessible by the
17 state. That's one of our tasks. Because we need the
18 community to be able to access us. That was what I was
19 referring to. Any other items about the voting, I was
20 trying to come up with an example. I was trying to come up
21 with an example and I was talking numbers. Those examples
22 did not work and they caused misdirection which we don't
23 need at this time. We need to focus at this time.

24 So, the point I was making is I'd rather make
25 sure that we didn't artificially cause a hardship for some

1 of the state, people in our state in terms of just
2 accessing this Commission. Not necessarily being on it,
3 but actually accessing this Commission however that may be.
4 That was my point in its entirety.

5 Commissioner Ahmad?

6 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you, Madam Chair. I
7 just wanted to recognize all the Commissioners. This is a
8 really healthy conversation we're having. Out of all of
9 the days that we've been speaking to each other I feel the
10 most comfortable today sharing my thoughts, and listening
11 to opposing thoughts, and really taking all of the
12 perspectives into consideration. So, I was just smiling
13 during break because I was like, wow, this is a really
14 healthy conversation we're having. So, I just wanted to
15 appreciate everyone for allowing that space, especially for
16 me to feel comfortable and share my thoughts. So, thank
17 you.

18 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Commissioner Ahmad.

19 Do we have any additional comments from any of
20 the Commissioners? Seeing none at this time do we want to
21 -- would anyone like to propose a slate for a vote?

22 VICE CHAIR TURNER: Madam Chair, I would like to
23 propose the Turner slate for a vote -- as is.

24 CHAIR ANDERSEN: We have a proposal of the Turner
25 slate for a vote. If the counsel could please read the

1 Turner slate.

2 MS. SAXTON: Turner first amended slate:
3 Patricia Sinai, Democrat; Angela Vasquez, Democrat; Alicia
4 Fernandez, Republican; Russell Yee, Republican; Linda
5 Akutagawa, neither party; Petro Toledo, neither party.

6 CHAIR ANDERSEN: The Turner slate has been read.
7 It has been proposed for a vote. Do I have a second.

8 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I'll second.

9 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Commissioner Sadhwani has
10 seconded this slate. Would we like to discuss? And we do
11 need to require, before we actually go to a vote we must go
12 to public comment.

13 So, Commissioner -- I'm sorry, Counsel, would you
14 please read the instructions for public comment.

15 MS. SAXTON: If you would like to make a public
16 comment regarding the vote of the first eight on the Turner
17 first amended slate please call now by dialing 844-291-
18 5495. In the next few moments we'll be taking public
19 comment and that number again is 844-291-5495.

20 After dialing the number you will speak to an
21 operator. You'll be asked to provide either the access
22 code for the meeting, which is 8121803, or the name of the
23 meeting with is CRC selection meeting.

24 After providing this information the operator
25 will ask you to provide your name. Please note that you

1 are not required to provide your actual name. When the
2 operator asks for your name, you may provide a name other
3 than your own. When it's your turn to make public comment
4 the operator will introduce you by the name you provided.
5 Please be assured our office is not maintaining any list of
6 callers by name. We ask for you to provide some name to
7 enable the operator to manage multiple calls simultaneously
8 and let you know when it's your turn to speak.

9 After speaking with the operator you will be
10 placed in a listening room. In this room you will be able
11 to listen to live audio of the meeting. Please mute your
12 computer audio because the online video and audio will be
13 delayed by approximately 60 seconds and feedback issues may
14 occur, making it difficult for anyone to hear your comment.
15 Also, please do not use a speakerphone and make sure to
16 speak directly into your phone.

17 When you decide that you want to make a comment
18 about an item on the agenda, press 1 0 and you'll be placed
19 in the queue to make public comment about that item. After
20 joining the queue to make public comment you should hear an
21 automatic recording informing you that you've been placed
22 in the queue.

23 When it is your turn, the operator will introduce
24 you. At that time please state and spell your name for the
25 transcriptionist. Then, state your comment clearly and

1 concisely. Comments will be limited to two minutes. You
2 will hear a time check when 15 seconds in your time
3 remains. After you finish making your comment we will move
4 on to the next caller. At that point please hang up your
5 phone. If you'd like to comment on another agenda item at
6 a later time, please call back when we open up public
7 comment for that item and repeat this process.

8 If you are disconnected for any reason please
9 call back and explain the issue to the operator, then
10 repeat the process and rejoin the public comment queue by
11 pressing 1 0.

12 These instructions can also be found on our
13 website.

14 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Counsel.

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

17 AT&T OPERATOR: We certainly do. And just a
18 reminder, pressing 1 0 to place yourself into queue.

19 Our first question or comment comes from the line
20 of Kimberley Coles. Please spell your name for the
21 reporter. Your line is open.

22 MS. COLES: Thank you. My name is Kimberley, Dr.
23 Kimberley Coles. K-I-M-B-E-R-L-E-Y C-O-L-E-S.

24 I called the other day and I'm going to talk
25 about a few other things. I wanted to mention that I'm a

1 Professor of Clinical Anthropology, and like Commissioner
2 Kennedy have worked overseas in international election
3 work. And like Professor Sadhwani lecture and teach
4 seminars on the Voting Rights Acts.

5 And what I'd like you to do is consider the
6 particularity of local politics and what it looks like in
7 different areas. Because we should be interested in
8 disengagement and disenfranchisement. But there are
9 different reasons for that disenfranchisement.

10 And so, the difference between an apathetic and a
11 disengaged because they don't know or because they're
12 angry, or they feel like they've been ignored for 20 years
13 is important. And this is the difference between apathy
14 and what could lead to boycotts or active disgruntlement
15 and oppositional politics.

16 And so, this very particularity of the north I
17 think is important. And I'd like to uplift, to use this
18 new language, of the One Tribe slate that Commissioner Le
19 Mons is bringing because it does address the anger that the
20 north area has about feeling ignored, and being told in a
21 rather patriarchal area, oh, we'll look after you.

22 I say this as a proud San Diegan that Southern
23 California tends to dismiss the north and say, oh --

24 MS. PELLMAN: Fifteen seconds.

25 MS. COLES: -- it's not a big deal. But the

1 north doesn't feel that way and I think those are
2 important. Because like Maricela had said, the cofounder
3 of the Central Coast Alliance, she said, oh, we were
4 disappointed to not be successful in having Central Coast
5 person --

6 MS. PELLMAN: Time.

7 MS. COLES: -- even though --

8 CHAIR ANDERSEN: AT&T Operator, that is up to our
9 discretion to cut someone off.

10 MS. COLES: Thank you. I'm almost done.

11 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Yeah, please continue.

12 MS. COLES: Maricela, the founder of the Central
13 Coast Alliance is disappointed that they're not
14 represented, but didn't suggest the anger that we know
15 exists in the north with, in the extreme case, secessionist
16 movements and Jeffersonian politics. And I think it's
17 worth nothing among, or thinking more, reflecting more
18 about the eight, about the different ways that
19 disengagement happens.

20 Thank you for your time and for allowing me to go
21 over.

22 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Ms. Coles.

23 Next in the queue, please.

24 AT&T OPERATOR: We'll go to the line of Eliot
25 Enriquez. Please spell your name for the reporter. Your

1 line is open.

2 MR. ENRIQUEZ: E-L-I-O-T E-N-R-I-Q-U-E-Z. Good
3 afternoon, Commissioners. I'm very impressed with all the
4 conversations and everything that you have said this
5 morning. And I want to thank you all for your hard work
6 and your efforts in making this very difficult decision.

7 I also want to thank you for once again
8 supporting and backing Pedro Toledo for the Commission. I
9 know that you've been making very difficult decisions all
10 morning, but I'm very confident in your decision to bring
11 him on to the Commission.

12 Pedro is a very smart young man who has a ton of
13 experience not only in the business sector, but in the
14 nonprofit sector, and has been a public servant basically
15 his entire professional life.

16 So, once again thank you so much for all your
17 hard work and efforts, and thank you for supporting him and
18 voting him on for the Commission. Thank you.

19 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Enriquez.

20 Next in the queue, please.

21 AT&T OPERATOR: We go to the line of Tammy Tran.
22 Please spell your name for the reporter. Your line is
23 open.

24 MS. TRAN: Hello. I'm calling for -
25 (indiscernible)

1 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Ms. Tran, there's an echo.

2 MS. TRAN: (Indiscernible) -- as well as
3 Polynesian American. I really appreciate those
4 Commissioners, in particular, for recognizing the diversity
5 of our communities demonstrated in your slate. It's about
6 choices, so this is all very --

7 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Ms. Tran, could you take your
8 phone off of speaker?

9 MS. TRAN: -- this slate has so much
10 (indiscernible) -- in the Republican category -- Democratic
11 category to (indiscernible) -- and the Republican and no
12 party preference. (Indiscernible) -- I think at least six
13 of you get up behind them. I have a comment about how we
14 showed up and nothing would be (indiscernible) -- if they
15 don't show up -- (indiscernible) -- if we didn't get a
16 seat. I really take offense to that. I'm usually not a
17 person that -reacts in anger but that one really upsets me.
18 Because of (indiscernible) -- because we were asking to
19 have Linda Akutagawa for Orange County representation,
20 please don't give up the (indiscernible) -- I ask you to
21 support this slate. (Indiscernible) -- it's easy to have
22 unfair perceptions based on the comments that we have been
23 making, but they have amazing backgrounds. I tell you to
24 (indiscernible) --

25 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Ms. Tran, could you please call

1 back?

2 MS. TRAN: -- (indiscernible) -- showed up, but
3 we're going to show up again. (Indiscernible) --

4 MS. SAXTON: Madam Chair, perhaps ask her to call
5 back.

6 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Yes. Ms. Tran, could you please
7 call back we cannot understand what you're saying.

8 MS. TRAN: -- (indiscernible) -- all the people
9 who have called in for Pedro Toledo (indiscernible) --

10 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Operator, could you break in,
11 please?

12 AT&T OPERATOR: Ms. Tran, if you're able to hear
13 us, please lift the handset or remove from speakerphone.

14 CHAIR ANDERSEN: I'm sorry. Ms. Tran, if you can
15 hear this as you've been watching, please call back. Your
16 phone call was completely garbled. And if you do call in,
17 please take your phone off of speakerphone. We appreciate
18 you calling. We could not understand virtually anything
19 you were saying, so please call back. Thank you.

20 AT&T Operator, next in the queue, please.

21 AT&T OPERATOR: We have the line of Tammy Kim.
22 Please spell your name. And your line is open.

23 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you.

24 MS. KIM: Yes, hello. Can you hear me?

25 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Yes, please go ahead.

1 MS. KIM: Yes. Thank you so much for having me
2 here. Tammy Kim, T-A-M-M-Y K-I-M. I am the Managing
3 Director of Korean American Center in Korean Community
4 Services here in Orange County, representing the 130,000
5 Korean Americans here.

6 I am calling in support of Linda Akutagawa. She
7 will bring the depth and breadth of impact, and the ability
8 to reach a wide swath of diverse communities. Without her
9 we're not going to be able to do this. If we don't have
10 her, we will lose access to Asian Americans in this area.
11 And I also feel that we're being penalized for having
12 organized. We need to organize because if we don't, we
13 realize we will not have a seat at the table. And we will
14 have -- alluding to your other caller, we will have more
15 oppositional organization. We need to ensure that Orange
16 County is not squeezed out by San Diego, as well as Los
17 Angeles.

18 And I also want to make a point about the issues
19 of access around physical distancing. Here in Orange
20 County, we have language access issues. In the City of
21 Irvine, alone, there's 70 different languages being spoken.
22 So, when we're talking about access we have to think about
23 that. And the fact that I, as a Korean American, am coming
24 in support of Linda Akutagawa, who is Japanese American,
25 says a lot if you look at historical issues within, you

1 know, our various communities.

2 And so, we really need to make sure that Linda
3 Akutagawa is at the table. We have to ensure that our
4 community has a seat at the table.

5 And it was alluded to yesterday --

6 MS. PELLMAN: Fifteen seconds.

7 MS. KIM: -- that she may still help our
8 communities. And if she is not there, we will not be able
9 to reach the diverse Asian American community that we have
10 in Orange County.

11 MS. PELLMAN: Time.

12 MS. KIM: We are the fastest growing community in
13 California. Thank you so much.

14 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Ms. Kim.

15 Next in the queue, please.

16 AT&T OPERATOR: Next, we go to the line of
17 Jacqueline Coto. Please spell your name for the reporter.
18 Your line is open.

19 MS. COTO: Hi, my name is Jacqueline Coto, last
20 name spelled C-O-T-O, from the National Association of
21 Latino Elected and Appointed Officials, NALEO Educational
22 Fund.

23 And I am briefly calling in strong support of the
24 Turner slate. That includes the four strong candidates
25 left in the pool, including Pedro Toledo and Linda

1 Akutagawa in the nonpartisan pool. Thank you so much.

2 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Ms. Coto.

3 Next in the queue, please.

4 AT&T OPERATOR: We go to the line of Rob Quan.

5 Please spell your name for the reporter. Your line is
6 open.

7 MR. QUAN: Okay. R-O-B Q-U-A-N. I want to call
8 in in support of the slate. And, you know, some of the
9 Commissioners have spoken about this before as far as, you
10 know, what can you do to accommodate for regions or
11 communities that feel as though they're left out of this
12 slate. You know, I think increasing the number of meetings
13 in the Central Coast area, if that's a concern as far as
14 lack of representation. There are a number of other steps
15 you can take.

16 Lastly, I just want to thank Commissioner Le Mons
17 for the clarification and apologize for having not
18 understood the context. Yesterday, you said that you had
19 checked in directly with individuals. And having not seen
20 the meetings or appreciated the context I was wrong on
21 that. So, my apologies. And thank you all for all your
22 time and consideration of these issues, and dealing with
23 all the public comment. Have a good one.

24 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you very much, Mr. Quon.

25 Next in the queue, please.

1 AT&T OPERATOR: We'll go to the line of Vanessa
2 Hernandez. Please spell your name for the reporter. Your
3 line is open.

4 MS. HERNANDEZ: Hi, my name is Vanessa Hernandez.
5 V-A-N-E-S-S-A H-E-R-N-A-N-D-E-Z. I'm representing myself
6 and representing HOPE, Hispanas Organized for Political
7 Equality.

8 I'd like to show strong support for the Turner
9 slate, which is inclusive of four Latinos and three
10 Latinas. We believe this is incredibly important in
11 completing the mandate of this Commission. This slate also
12 includes Patricia Sinay, who is a bilingual and has amazing
13 leadership, Angela Vasquez, who is a smart policy advocate.

14 And we'd also like to show our support for Linda,
15 who is well poised to support the API community. Thank
16 you, Commissioner Turner for uplifting this slate and we
17 hope to see this successful moving forward. Thank you.

18 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Ms. Hernandez.

19 Next in the queue, please.

20 AT&T OPERATOR: We'll go to the line of Maria
21 Morales. Please spell your name for the reporter. Your
22 line is open.

23 MS. MORALES: Hi, this is Maria Morales, spelled
24 M-A-R-I-A, Morales, M-O-R-A-L-E-S.

25 Thank you for your work and careful deliberation.

1 Your mandate is to select Commissioners who are diverse and
2 adequately represent California. The Latino community
3 represents 40 percent of the state in 2020 and it is also
4 expected to grow significantly in the next ten years.

5 Specifically, I would like to uplift Patricia
6 Sinay, who I know has a deep community and deep
7 connections, and is open minded and would be a great
8 addition to the Commission. She is well poised to execute
9 the mandate of this Commission to truly represent the
10 diversity of California.

11 I'm calling on behalf of myself and also as a
12 (indiscernible) -- political party HOPE. And would like to
13 continue to express my support for the Turner slate. Thank
14 you.

15 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Ms. Morales.

16 Next in the queue, please.

17 AT&T OPERATOR: We'll go to the line of Alejandra
18 Ponce Deleon. Please spell your name for the reporter.
19 Your line is open.

20 MS. PONCE DELEON: Alejandra, A-L-E-J-A-N-D-R-A,
21 last name Ponce Deleon, P-O-N-C-E space D-E-L-E-O-N,
22 speaking on behalf of the Redistricting Alliance, and I'm
23 with the Advancement Project of California.

24 Really appreciate Turner's slate that she's
25 proposing for you to consider. And I'm calling also to

1 speak to the roadblocks that was discussed a moment ago.
2 And wanted to uplift that across the board when we think
3 about roadblocks, barriers to public participation, you
4 know it's not just geographic roadblocks which are
5 important, but it's also language access, barriers,
6 economic barriers such as, you know, household incomes.
7 Being able to get off of work and attend a meeting. Access
8 to having internet, immigration status, being a mixed
9 family. All of these barriers plus many, many more across
10 the board have impacted the participation of Latinx, AAPI,
11 Native Americans, black community, and other people of
12 color. So, when it comes to voting, Census participation,
13 engaging elected officials either writing emails, going to
14 meetings, calling, sending letters, donating for political
15 campaigns or even running for office these are the
16 communities, and even now applying to be on this
17 Redistricting Commission or getting selected they continue
18 to be underrepresented.

19 And this is very critical when we think about
20 California's population that the majority of California's
21 population are people of color. But, yet, they continue to
22 be underrepresented in all of the avenues that we have at
23 hand to engage our democracy. And so, for these reasons we
24 continue to urge you to place racial equity as a defining
25 factor for redistricting in the redistricting process, but

1 more now today, especially the selection of the remaining
2 six members of the Commission.

3 Appreciate for all your time and deliberation,
4 and continue to urge you to think about the racial equity
5 and these barriers of participation that are extremely
6 important, and disempowering, and disenfranchising --

7 MS. PELLMAN: Fifteen seconds.

8 MS. PONCE DELEON: -- to communities of color.

9 Thank you.

10 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Ms. Ponce Deleon.

11 Next in the queue, please.

12 AT&T OPERATOR: We have the line of Esperanza
13 Guevara. Please spell your name for the reporter. Your
14 line is open.

15 MS. GUEVARA: Hi, good morning. My name is
16 Esperanza, E-S-P-E-R-A-N-Z-A. I've been monitoring the
17 meetings and, again, I'm calling on behalf of the Coalition
18 for Humane Immigrant Rights, CHIRLA. I'm calling to
19 express my support for the Turner slate, which includes
20 both Pedro Toledo and Linda Akutagawa.

21 And I also wanted to mention the roadblocks that
22 the Commissioners have brought up. I have lost count of
23 how many calls have come in for increased Latinx
24 representation and also for diverse API representation.
25 The Commission -- some of the Commissioners continue to

1 mention the name of a candidate who has received far less
2 support from members of that region. And we have been --
3 on the other hand, we have been calling you every day,
4 people from the Latinx and API community to tell you that
5 we want to make sure that our communities are included
6 proportionally on this Commission.

7 Again, Latinx people represent 40 percent of
8 California's population, as well as over one-fourth of
9 registered no party preference Latinx voters in the state.
10 The API community is diverse and also makes up 16 percent
11 of our population.

12 We want to again uplift Pedro Toledo, who has
13 strong ties to regions throughout Northern California,
14 which already has been uplifted many times from people in
15 those communities. A Latinx candidate who, again,
16 represents a wide cross-section of the state's population.

17 And speaking of roadblocks, I also started
18 looking at some of the numbers and counties in Northern
19 California. I just wanted to lift a couple. In Colusa
20 County, where 58 percent of the community is Latino, 90
21 percent of that population is limited English proficient,
22 which is one of those roadblocks that we are discussing.

23 Again, in Northern California, in Lake County --

24 MS. PELLMAN: Fifteen seconds.

25 MS. GUEVARA: -- 19 percent of the Latino

1 community there, 92 percent of the limited English
2 proficient population speaks Spanish. In Trinity County,
3 83 percent of the limited English proficient community
4 speaks Spanish.

5 MS. PELLMAN: Time.

6 MS. GUEVARA: And so on. So, I hope that you can
7 support the Turner slate.

8 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Ms. Guevara.

9 Next in the queue, please.

10 AT&T OPERATOR: Next, we go to the line of Sky
11 Allen. Please spell your name for the reporter. Your line
12 is open.

13 MS. ALLEN: S-K-Y A-L-L-E-N. Can you all hear me
14 okay?

15 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Yes, please go ahead.

16 MS. ALLEN: Okay, perfect. Thank you. Good
17 afternoon, my name is Sky Allen. I work for an
18 organization called IE United, located here in the Inland
19 Empire.

20 First, I want to thank you for all of your hard
21 work over the past week. I know these are difficult
22 choices and difficult conversations. And before I say
23 anything else, I want to acknowledge you all for tacking
24 them anyway, and dedicating your time to this work.

25 As someone who lives in the Inland Empire, I can

1 very much empathize with the concern regarding regional
2 representation. However, as a black woman, I also want to
3 uplift that two people can live in the same place and have
4 a completely different perspective on what the issues and
5 needs are depending on the racial and gender
6 identification.

7 That being said, I want to uplift and acknowledge
8 support for Commissioner Turner's slate. The perspective
9 that Pedro Toledo and Linda Akutagawa can offer as
10 community experts and people of color are really imperative
11 to ensuring this body can reflect the human diversity of
12 the State of California.

13 Again, I fully empathize with the concern for
14 geographic representation and equity, but this Commission
15 can travel to see other places. You can only reflect the
16 people of the state by approving slates that include them.
17 Thank you so much for your time.

18 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Ms. Allen.

19 Next in the queue, please.

20 AT&T OPERATOR: We have the line of Vanessa
21 Acosta. Please spell your name for the reporter. Your
22 line is open.

23 MS. ACOSTA: Hello, my name is Vanessa Acosta,
24 spelled V-A-N-E-S-S-A A-C-O-S-T-A.

25 Thank you for your work and careful

1 deliberations. Your mandate is to select Commissioners who
2 are diverse and adequately representative of California.
3 Now, I represent myself and also Hispanas Organized for
4 Political Equality.

5 The Latino community comprises 40 percent of the
6 state in 2020 and it is expected to grow substantially in
7 the next ten years.

8 Specifically, I would like to uplift Patricia
9 Sinay, who I know to have deep community connections, open
10 minded, and would be a great addition to the Commission.
11 She is well poised, a great leader, and will lead this
12 Commission with integrity.

13 The mandate of this Commission is to truly
14 represent the diversity of this great state. And with this
15 we need the representation of Latinas and Latinos. And
16 also, with the support of API is also very important. And
17 with that, I would like to show my full support for the
18 Turner slate.

19 Thank you so much for your time and thank you to
20 Commissioner Cooper [sic].

21 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Ms. Acosta.

22 Next in the queue, please.

23 AT&T OPERATOR: We'll go to the line of Myron
24 Quon. Please spell your name for the reporter. Your line
25 is open.

1 MR. QUAN: Good afternoon, Commissioners. Myron
2 Quon, M-Y-R-O-N Q-U-O-N.

3 I did call in yesterday and I just wanted to add
4 a few more points after having listened to a bit of
5 commentary from Commissioners and the public yesterday and
6 today.

7 One of the things I just think we should clarify,
8 as you're probably starting to figure out, there are
9 actives from throughout California calling for Linda
10 Akutagawa. And that's because she is able to reach and
11 engage throughout California.

12 I live in L.A. County. I've also lived in Santa
13 Maria (phonetic), California, Central Coast, and I
14 recognize that Linda is one of the people who will work
15 very hard in her capacity to ensure that all of California
16 is represented. That's a part of why people are strongly
17 supporting here.

18 There's no reason to penalize her joining the
19 Commission or weigh against her because people have come
20 out in full support. African Americans, Latinos, and Asian
21 Americans, you've seen everything.

22 My last point I just wanted to share is that I
23 have circled two statewide Commissions in the last several
24 decades, I think three decades at this point. One on
25 tobacco control, one for the state bar commission, working

1 for all attorneys throughout California. It is very, very
2 hard to get rural representation because of the sparsity of
3 the areas and because of the low density.

4 The best we do is not necessarily find one person
5 from Humboldt County, but rather find people from
6 throughout California who will honor, value and do the best
7 to reach out to throughout California.

8 And so, for that reason, again, I'm with everyone
9 else supporting Turner's slate and recommending very
10 strongly, without any reservation that Linda Akutagawa
11 should join this Commission because she will help you do
12 the best job you guys can possibly do. Thank you.

13 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Quon.

14 The next in the queue, please.

15 AT&T OPERATOR: Certainly. And just a reminder,
16 it is pressing 1, followed by 0, to place yourself into
17 queue.

18 Next, we have the line of James Woodson. Please
19 spell your name for the reporter. Your line is open.

20 MR. WOODSON: So, it's James, J-A-M-E-S, Woodson,
21 W-O-O-D-S-O-N. Again, calling on behalf of the Black
22 Census and Redistricting Hub to support the Turner slate
23 and echo the comments of many of my colleagues that have
24 been calling in.

25 You know, concern that the conversation has

1 devolved into a debate over geographic diversity to the
2 detriment of race and ethnicity. And I would just really
3 encourage the Commissioners to go and look at some of the
4 analysis around hard-to-count communities particularly that
5 the state has done, that Advancement Project and the
6 Census Policy Advocacy Network has done. And really dig
7 into why certain communities are hard to count. Largely
8 because they're hard to reach. And that includes racial
9 and ethnic minorities, largely because of historic
10 government distrust, historic, you know, examples of where
11 folks have been left out and not heard.

12 And people will ultimately bring that to the
13 Commission in terms of their participation, in terms of how
14 engaged they are. And so, again, you know, you all are now
15 representing the state. And the question ultimately is,
16 you know, you can say that we'll hear your voices. The
17 question is will people believe you? Your actions will
18 ultimately speak louder than your words.

19 And I think it's important to send the message
20 to our Latinx and our AAPI communities that they are heard,
21 that their engagement won't be disqualifying, and won't be
22 ignored, and that it will be accepted and heard.

23 And so, I really urge folks to support the Turner
24 slate. Thank you.

25 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you.

1 Next in the queue, please.

2 AT&T OPERATOR: We have Dyrell Foster. Please
3 spell your name. Your line is open.

4 MR. FOSTER: Hello, my name is Dyrell Foster, D-
5 Y-R-E-L-L, Foster is F-O-S-T-E-R.

6 I'm from the Bay Area. I've lived in Orange
7 County and now I've moved back to the Bay Area to serve as
8 the President at Las Positas College, in Livermore.

9 First, thank you for your service. I'm calling
10 in today because I feel strongly that the work of this
11 Commission will have a profound ripple effect for our state
12 and for our community. And I take seriously the decisions
13 you all must have to weigh in.

14 As someone in education, I know and I feel the
15 impact of how institutions impact the lives of each
16 student, each person that comes in our doors. Something I
17 want to point out is the importance of keeping in mind why
18 certain communities lack the resources and access to
19 education, higher education and opportunities for upward
20 mobility.

21 That said, I say that because I am black and
22 Korean. And I encourage you to think about the decisions
23 that are before you. Who we have in these positions
24 matter. Please take into consideration the engagement and
25 dialogue that have been presented to you over these past

1 days. Race does need to be a consideration.

2 Communities like the Latino, and Asian American
3 communities, and African American communities need to be
4 represented.

5 I urge the Commissioners to please support the
6 Sadhwani and Turner slates which include Linda Akutagawa
7 and Pedro Toledo. Thank you very much for your time.

8 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Foster.

9 Next on the queue, please.

10 AT&T OPERATOR: Kimberly Fuentes, please spell
11 your name for the reporter. Your line is open.

12 MS. FUENTES: Yes, my name is Kimberly Fuentes,
13 K-I-M-B-E-R-L-Y, Fuentes, F-U-E-N-T-E-S.

14 And I'm speaking on behalf of the California
15 League of United Latin American Citizens, the oldest Latino
16 civil rights organization, LULAC. It advances the economic
17 condition, educational attainment, political influence,
18 housing, health, and civil rights of all Latinos.

19 We are calling to urge the support of the Turner
20 slate, which includes Pedro Toledo and Linda Akutagawa. We
21 need to ensure equity and diversity among the Commission to
22 ensure that this process is aligning with our state's
23 diversity and the mandate of which you are all to uphold.

24 Again, thank you for taking the time to hear our
25 public comments.

1 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Ms. Fuentes.

2 Next in the queue, please.

3 AT&T OPERATOR: Julia Marks, please spell your
4 name for the reporter. Your line is open.

5 MS. MARKS: Thank you. My name is Julia Marks,
6 J-U-L-I-A M-A-R-K-S. And I am a voting rights attorney
7 with Asian Americans Advancing Justice, Asian law caucus.
8 Our organization works to promote a fair and inclusive
9 democracy in California. And I just wanted to share some
10 reflections from our work that may help inform your
11 deliberations.

12 First, I wanted to emphasize the many barriers to
13 democratic participation that are faced by Asian Americans.
14 This Commission is, as you know, an essential part of the
15 democratic process in California, so having representation
16 here is particularly important.

17 Asian Americans face language barriers that
18 affect their access to the polls and their access to public
19 meetings and public forums. More than half of Asian
20 American likely voters immigrated here and are naturalized
21 citizens. Many of them face language barriers.

22 I also wanted to highlight that both Asian
23 American and Latino communities have significantly lower
24 voter participation rates than white communities. And this
25 is relevant here because this Commission does have the

1 power to help reduce those disparities by including
2 Commissioners who are representative of those communities,
3 including across various political preferences to show that
4 the Latinx and Asian American communities do have a voice
5 in our democracy.

6 Second, I want to note the complexity of drawing
7 districts in dense urban and suburban areas that have
8 multiple racial and ethnic groups, such as those seen in
9 Orange County and many other areas of the state.

10 Our organization has worked with communities to
11 draw draft maps in local jurisdictions in the Bay Area, and
12 I've had the privilege to be in the room while diverse
13 groups discuss their communities, try to identify
14 similarities and differences, and then apply these very
15 complex concepts to the flat surface of the map. Based on
16 these experiences, I strongly believe that having --

17 MS. PELLMAN: Fifteen seconds.

18 MS. MARKS: -- robust Latino representation,
19 Asian American representation, and Commissioners with
20 knowledge of Orange County's, and similarly diverse multi-
21 ethnic areas will help this Commission draw lines that
22 respect communities of interest --

23 MS. PELLMAN: Time.

24 MS. MARKS: -- and also comply with the Voting
25 Rights Act.

1 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Ms. Marks.

2 Next in the queue, please? And we only have five
3 minutes for lunch, until we need to break. Please, next in
4 the queue.

5 AT&T OPERATOR: Next, we have the line of Belinda
6 Barragan. Please spell your name for the reporter. Your
7 line is open.

8 MS. BARRAGAN: Hello, my name is Belinda
9 Barragan, B-E-L-I-N-D-A, Barragan, B-A-R-R-A-G-A-N. And
10 I'm calling on behalf of HOPE, but also as a Latina from
11 the San Fernando Valley, which is made up of over 80
12 percent Latinos.

13 And I just want to thank you all for the work
14 that you're doing to ensure that the Commission is
15 representative of the state. The Latino community
16 represents 40 percent of the state and the Commission
17 should be represented by having four plus Latinos on the
18 Commission because they do understand our communities.

19 And I would like to uplift Patricia Sinay, who
20 has strong community roots. She is bilingual, very
21 intelligent, and open minded, and would be a great addition
22 to the Commission. And I would just like to show my full
23 support for the Turner slate and I hope that the
24 Commissioners vote on that.

25 Thank you for your time and thank you for

1 allowing me to give this testimony.

2 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Ms. Barragan.

3 Next in the queue, please.

4 AT&T OPERATOR: We have Yvette Chappell-Ingram.
5 Please spell your name for the reporter. Your line is
6 open.

7 MS. CHAPPELL-INGRAM: Yes, my name is Yvette
8 Chappell-Ingram. Y-V-E-T-T-E, Chappell is C-H-A-P-P-E-L-L-
9 hyphen I-N-G-R-A-M.

10 Thank you for allowing me. As the President and
11 CEO of the African American Board Leadership Institute and
12 former state Commissioner myself, I'd like to respectfully
13 urge the support of the Sadhwani and Akutagawa/Turner bill.

14 What I am very surprised to hear in some comments
15 that were made earlier that race may not matter. And while
16 I understand the issues here, I'd like to say that it does
17 matter. It matters a great deal. And take that from a lot
18 of the -- much of the bills that have been passed in the
19 past.

20 And so, I'd like to really urge you -- I am a big
21 supporter of Linda Akutagawa. She is a woman of high
22 integrity. And I would just like to respectfully urge you
23 to consider this bill. And yes, yes race does matter.
24 And, you know, I continue to be disturbed about the
25 engagement of a community being taken -- being taken as

1 unnecessary, but it is. In terms of race, it is.

2 So, again I thank you for your time.

3 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Ms. Chappell-Ingram.

4 Next in the queue, please.

5 AT&T OPERATOR: We have the line of Jay Sander.

6 Please spell your name for the reporter. Your line is
7 open.

8 MR. SANDERS: Hello, my name is Jaype Sanders,
9 J-A-Y-P-E. I'm from the Northern Region of California and
10 I'm calling in strong support for the Turner slate,
11 including the Latino candidate Pedro Toledo and Linda
12 Akutagawa. Sorry for the misspelling -- the spelling.

13 It's a nonpartisan pool who will equitably
14 reflect the state's diversity in representation. And I've
15 greatly benefitted from the diversity in my business, so
16 I'd like to see some of that in the representation.

17 Thank you for your public support and service,
18 really appreciate what you all are doing.

19 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Sanders.

20 Next in the queue, please.

21 AT&T OPERATOR: We have the line of Timmy Lu.

22 Please spell your name for the reporter. Your line is
23 open.

24 MR. LU: T-I-M-M-Y, the last name's L-U. Hi,
25 everyone, my name is Timmy Lu. I'm the Executive Director

1 of AAPI, for pacific empowerment and we're an organization
2 focused on building the political power of grassroots Asian
3 American and Pacific Islander communities.

4 I just wanted to know, you know, earlier one of
5 the Commissioners had mentioned correcting past wrongs,
6 right. And when we think about correcting past wrongs, we
7 really do need to consider that of race and ethnicity. And
8 I'll speak specifically for Asian Americans. Asian
9 Americans did not become -- was not allowed to become
10 citizens in the United States until after the 1965 Civil
11 Rights Act, right, and reforms in the U.S. immigration
12 policy.

13 And so, if we're thinking about correcting past
14 wrongs, we should really consider the way that the history
15 of the United States has had an impact in reducing the
16 participation of many groups within that, and I think that
17 includes Asian Americans whose political participation did
18 not start increasing until citizenship rates began
19 increasing. And then, we are still in the process of sort
20 of catching up and encouraging our immigrant monolingual-
21 speaking community members to be a part of that process.

22 And also, just to note that it is extremely
23 important that these commissions, and boards, and our
24 elected officials reflect our community members so that we,
25 ourselves see ourselves in the diversity of these

1 communities, and as a part of the political process.

2 So, thank you very much for your time.

3 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Lu.

4 Next in the queue, please.

5 AT&T OPERATOR: Next we have the line of Lori
6 Shellenberger. Please spell your name for the reporter.
7 Your line is open.

8 MS. SHELLENBERGER: Hello, this Lori, L-O-R-I,
9 Shellenberger, S-H-E-L-L-E-N-B-E-R-G-E-R. I'm the
10 Redistricting Consultant for California Common Cause and
11 I'm speaking on their behalf today.

12 And I want to thank you all for your thoughtful
13 deliberations. And I know you're grappling with a really
14 difficult decision and you've really narrowed it down. And
15 I think I'd like to commend the Chair and others'
16 commitment to facilitating participation in this process.
17 And I understand that's factoring into your decision here,
18 as it should, and how best to eliminate those barriers.

19 And I support the comments of the prior speakers
20 regarding the various and expansive barriers that lots of
21 Californians face to participation. And representation on
22 the committee certainly matters.

23 But in the interest of furthering your thinking
24 on what appears to be a deadlock, I'd like to just point
25 out another critical means of facilitating participation

1 that you may or may not be aware of, but that you may want
2 to factor into the decision that you're grabbling with.
3 And that's the very generous budget that your Commission
4 has for outreach and education to facilitate participation
5 in this project -- this process.

6 The Legislature has allocated over \$1.9 million
7 to you for outreach and that's -- and there are additional
8 discretionary funds that you could also use for that
9 purpose. And that gives you a variety of ways to reach
10 those who, unfortunately, may not be represented
11 regionally, or their racial or ethnic group may not be
12 represented. And there are many remote corners of the
13 state that are not currently in the pool, and other racial
14 and ethnic groups that aren't as well. And I just wanted
15 to make sure that you all understand you will have a lot of
16 --

17 MS. PELLMAN: Fifteen seconds.

18 MS. SHELLENBERGER: -- a lot of resources at your
19 disposal and a lot of community advice, I'm sure, about how
20 to use those to reach those hard-to-reach communities.

21 Thank you all for your thoughtful deliberations,
22 and your commitment, and the time you've already put into
23 this process.

24 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Ms. Shellenberger.

25 Next in the queue, please.

1 AT&T OPERATOR: We have the line of Helen Torres.
2 Please spell your name for the reporter. Your line is
3 open.

4 MS. TORRES: Yes, my name is Helen Torres, H-E-L-
5 E-N T-O-R-R-E-S. I reside in San Bernardino County. I'm
6 also a member of HOPE, Hispanas Organized for Political
7 Equality.

8 I'm calling to say I'm strong support for the
9 Turner slate. I think it reflects our state and it
10 reflects the careful deliberation that all of the
11 Commissioners have been partaking in, and which I'm very
12 grateful for.

13 As you all know, the Latino community comprises
14 of 40 percent of the state in 2020, yet we're expecting a
15 more significant growth. I believe this slate not only
16 ensures that Latinos are represented, but also takes into
17 consideration that a good amount of women are highly
18 represented in the Commission as well. And that cannot be
19 an over -- we have to be very purposeful of ensuring that
20 gender is a high priority when we're discussing
21 representation.

22 I specifically would also like to uplift Patricia
23 Sinay, who I personally know as someone who has been deeply
24 rooted in community, is very connected and an open minded
25 individual, and who has always been poised to include a

1 variety of voices in her decision making. And I'm glad to
2 see that her name is being moved forward.

3 Thank you very much for your consideration.

4 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Ms. Torres.

5 Next in the queue, please.

6 AT&T OPERATOR: We have Manju Kulkarni. Please
7 spell your name for the reporter. Your line is open.

8 MS. KULKARNI: Hi, my name is Manju Kulkarni.
9 It's spelled M-A-N-J-U, the last name is K-U-L-K-A-R-N-I.
10 I'm the Executive Director of APCON, the Asian Pacific
11 Policy and Planning Council. We're a coalition of over 40
12 community-based organizations that serve and represent the
13 1.5 million AAPIs in Southern California.

14 I'm calling to voice my support for the Turner
15 slate. I think the Turner slate appropriately considers
16 and ensures racial, economic equity, and ensures that
17 individuals on that slate will adequately represent those
18 in the community.

19 I want to point out two specific points, which is
20 that it's very important, in addition to communities of
21 color, that we have representation for Latino community
22 individuals; we have representation of Asian American
23 individuals, and those specifically to representing LEP
24 populations, limited English proficient.

25 And so, for that reason I want to strongly

1 advocate for Linda Akutagawa, who has been representing LEP
2 and Asian American community for a long time. And also,
3 Pedro Toledo doing the same in terms of Latino and LEP
4 communities.

5 So, thank you very much for the opportunity to
6 share my thoughts with you today.

7 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Ms. Kulkarni.

8 Next in the queue, please.

9 AT&T OPERATOR: Madam Chair, there are no other
10 callers in queue at this moment.

11 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Okay. Thank you, AT&T Operator.

12 AT&T OPERATOR: Just as I say that, we have three
13 in queue.

14 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Okay. Let's have those three
15 and then it's 10 after 12:00. Let's go ahead. Thank you.
16 Next in the queue.

17 AT&T OPERATOR: Next, we have Mariko Kahn.
18 Please spell your name for the reporter. Your line is
19 open.

20 MS. KAHN: Hi, my name is Mariko Kahn, M-A-R-I-K-
21 O, Kahn, K-A-H-N. And I am an Executive Director of a
22 mental health agency here in Los Angeles.

23 I wanted to speak in favor of the Turner slate.
24 I think it is really a good slate that represents women,
25 Latinos, Latinx, and API. And I think it is absolutely

1 essential for this Redistricting Commission to have that
2 representation.

3 I'm in favor, of course, of Linda Akutagawa
4 because she is a colleague of mine. I've seen her
5 integrity, her intelligence and her knowledge really lead
6 the API community for many years. And you can't go wrong
7 with a person who has that level of experience.

8 I also think it's important not to dismiss us
9 when we're calling in, in support of a candidate because we
10 didn't know that we could do this. And so, the process is
11 new to us. And now that we're aware of it that is why I
12 think you're hearing from so many of us. We didn't realize
13 the impact that the public would have on your hearings.
14 So, I hope you will hear our voices with clarity,
15 compassion, and neutrally, and you will make the best
16 decision possible for the state. Thank you.

17 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Ms. Kahn.

18 Next in the queue, please.

19 AT&T OPERATOR: Armando De La Libertad. Please
20 spell your name for the reporter. Your line is open.

21 MR. DE LA LIBERTAD: Hello, Armando De La
22 Libertad. A-R-M-A-N-D-O, the last name D-E, space L-A,
23 space L-I-B-E-R-T-A-D.

24 I first want to thank all of you for taking of
25 your personal lives to contribute to this important process

1 for the State of California. I am a businessman in
2 Southern California and a corporate social responsibility
3 professional. But I also was a part of the Census Bureau's
4 outreach team for the Census count in years' past, and so I
5 really value what you all are contributing to the state
6 here.

7 I want to comment to urge support for what I
8 think seems to be a very balanced slate that is the Turner
9 slate. I want to urge you to do that because although we
10 heard a bit earlier a comment that Orange County is already
11 organized and, therefore, nothing would be lost if ayes
12 went elsewhere, you know, votes went elsewhere, I wanted to
13 really address that point as a long time Orange County and
14 Southern California resident.

15 And so, I think that something would be lost
16 because although that reference was made to geography, you
17 know, this particular slate doesn't just represent
18 geography. I think there is a member of the slate that has
19 a focus on leadership in their professional life, which is
20 something that we, of course, need more of during these
21 tumultuous times. There is also significant ethnic/racial
22 -- ethnic and racial representation --

23 MS. PELLMAN: Fifteen seconds.

24 MR. DE LA LIBERTAD: -- as well as gender
25 representation. And, really, more than just Orange County,

1 but also Southern California wide and statewide interests,
2 and awareness on the slate.

3 So, I want to thank you for your time and I
4 appreciate you taking my comments into consideration.
5 Goodbye.

6 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. De La Libertad.
7 Next in the queue, please.

8 AT&T OPERATOR: Tammy Tumbling, please spell your
9 name for the reporter. Your line is open.

10 MS. TUMBLING: Tammy, T-A-M-M-Y, Tumbling, T-U-M-
11 B-L-I-N-G, Tumbling.

12 Thank you, Commissioners, for allowing me to
13 speak to you this afternoon. I am a resident of the City
14 of Cerritos and I've raised four kids in California. I
15 have a philanthropy background, but also as an African
16 American woman with a nonprofit and corporate experience,
17 I've worked to have always been a champion for diverse and
18 underserved communities.

19 I'm calling to urge you today to support the
20 Turner slate -- in support of the Turner slate. And this
21 is to focus on building bridges between our Latinx and
22 Asian/Pacific Islander communities. We need to build these
23 bridges. And I am doing my role in today's job to do it as
24 well. And I urge you to support four Latinos, and Linda
25 Akutagawa as one of the API voices in the community. I

1 know Linda and much has already been said about her. But I
2 think it would be a big, big loss to this Commission if
3 Linda Akutagawa was not included.

4 Thank you so much for your time.

5 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Ms. Tumbling.

6 Next in the queue, please.

7 AT&T OPERATOR: Stephanie Ramirez, please spell
8 your name for the reporter. Your line is open.

9 MS. RAMIREZ: Good afternoon, everyone.

10 Stephanie Ramirez, S-T-E-P-H-A-N-I-E R-A-M-I-R-E-Z.

11 I am calling on behalf of Hispanas Organized for
12 Political Equality, and also as myself as a Latina
13 immigrant, urging to support the Turner slate.
14 Specifically, I'm calling to uplift the name of Patricia
15 Sinay. She's a qualified candidate with integrity and
16 leadership and I know that she will be a strong voice for
17 Latinos across the state.

18 Thank you for your time, for you deliberation,
19 and for your transparency on this process.

20 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Ms. Ramirez.

21 Next on the queue, please.

22 AT&T OPERATOR: Joseph Williams, please spell
23 your name for the reporter. Your line is open.

24 MR. WILLIAMS: Good afternoon, this is Joseph
25 Williams, J-O-S-E-P-H W-I-L-L-I-A-M-S.

1 I live in the City of Rialto, in the Inland
2 Empire. I am also an elected member of the San Bernardino
3 Community College Board of Trustees. And I am calling to
4 support the Turner slate.

5 And I just want to say that the Inland Empire has
6 traditionally been disproportionately impacted as it
7 relates to receiving federal, state, and philanthropic
8 dollars.

9 I've had the opportunity to work with Linda
10 Akutagawa on the -- on an energy panel and she was a staunch
11 advocate for diversity and supporting getting resources to
12 the Inland Empire. And I appreciate that we have a member
13 on there. I just want to say having an additional ally
14 from outside the community that understands our area and
15 understands the issues that we face I think is key to this
16 process. And just urge and ask you to support the Turner
17 slate, and also to support Linda. Thank you.

18 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Williams.

19 Next in the queue, please.

20 AT&T OPERATOR: Tammy Tran, please spell your
21 name for the reporter. Your line is open.

22 MS. TRAN: Yes, it's Tammy, T-A-M-M-Y, first
23 name, Tran, T-R-A-N.

24 And I'm sorry, I don't know what happened
25 earlier, and then I pressed 10, and then I guess when you

1 press 10 again you get queued out.

2 So, I'm calling to support the Turner slate, it's
3 a coalition slate. Four Latinas, two APIs, across the
4 Republican, Democrat, and no party preference. Women, men,
5 it's a bridge-building slate. It has geographic
6 representation. It's not perfect. But it's also something
7 I learned from the public comment today, it also represents
8 language access. This slate will have bilingual
9 Commissioners and I think that's something you all should
10 take into serious consideration.

11 I'm sure there are a lot of people that could
12 have called in, if they were able to do it in a language
13 other than English.

14 Thank you, Commissioner Turner for being
15 thoughtful in your reasoning behind your slate. Thank you
16 for listening and informing us. You have been very
17 consistent, thoughtful, informative, fact-based, culturally
18 sensitive. I encourage you not to give up.

19 I know you're about to take a vote. I think at
20 least five of you can get behind Turner's coalition, the
21 bridge-building coalition slate. Commissioner Kennedy, I
22 know you can get behind this. Please move from not
23 opposing to yes.

24 We see a coalition building organically today and
25 over the past three days. You will absolutely need this

1 when you start looking at Census data, communities of
2 color, communities of interest. You will need to inspire
3 coalitions that have been inspired by this slate between
4 Asians, Pacific Islanders, and Latinos.

5 Thank you. (Not speaking English). Muchas
6 gracias to all the Californians who have called for Pedro
7 Toledo. I am a supporter of Linda Akutagawa, but I have
8 heard you and I move to support Pedro Toledo.

9 Commissioners, I urge you to find consensus in
10 supporting the Turner coalition Slate.

11 MS. PELLMAN: Fifteen seconds.

12 MS. TRAN: Pedro Toledo and Linda Akutagawa, plus
13 you have your geographic representation. Thank you very
14 much and I hope you enjoy your lunch.

15 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Ms. Tran.

16 Is there anyone else in the queue?

17 AT&T OPERATOR: We do have the line of Beatriz
18 Perez. Please spell your name for the reporter. Your line
19 is open.

20 MS. PEREZ: Hi, good afternoon, my name is
21 Beatriz Perez. That's B-E-A-T-R-I-Z, last name Perez, P-E-
22 R-E-Z.

23 I'd just like to say thank you for your work and
24 careful deliberations. I'm calling on behalf of HOPE,
25 Hispanas Organized for Political Equality. Your mandate is

1 to select Commissioners who are diverse and adequately
2 represent California. The Latino community comprises of 40
3 percent of the state in 2020 and is expected to grow
4 significantly in the next ten years.

5 Specifically, I would like to uplift Patricia
6 Sinay, who I know to have deep community connections, is
7 open minded, and would be a great addition to the
8 Commission. She is well poised to execute the mandate of
9 this Commission to truly represent the diversity of
10 California.

11 Thank you for your time and I fully support the
12 Turner slate. Thank you.

13 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Ms. Perez.

14 Next in the queue?

15 AT&T OPERATOR: Jonathan Paik, please spell your
16 name for the reporter. Your line is open.

17 MR. PAIK: Sure. Jonathan, J-O-N-A-T-H-A-N. My
18 last name is Paik, P-A-I-K.

19 I am here today as a lifelong resident of
20 Fullerton, California, and Orange County, to be able to put
21 forth my support for the Turner slate.

22 Specifically, I want to be able to uplift the
23 names of Pedro Toledo and Linda Akutagawa. To be able to
24 actually uplift, as many of us have said on this call today
25 to be able to uplift what is a very organic API and Latinx

1 community that wanted to be able to work together to be
2 able to draw the best districts for everyone.

3 As a person who has worked at the municipal level
4 in the City of Fullerton, to be able to ensure that the
5 Korean community can continue to be uplifted and, you know,
6 I've seen what the impacts have been to be able to actually
7 see Korean first generation immigrant communities to be
8 able to enter into their city council, as well as to be
9 able to meet their state legislators for the first time,
10 and the impact on the district and being able to understand
11 what it means for my family members to be truly
12 represented. I wanted to be able to uplift the voices and
13 the folks who then could lift and be able to champion our
14 community needs.

15 And so, as a lifelong resident of Fullerton to be
16 able to see that proof, I would love for folks to be able
17 to actually uplift and support yes on the Turner slate.
18 Thank you.

19 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you.

20 Next in the queue, please.

21 AT&T OPERATOR: Byrd Lochtie, please spell your
22 name for the reporter. Your line is open.

23 MS. LOCHTIE: B-Y-R-D L-O-C-H-T-I-E, Byrd
24 Lochtie. I've spoken to you a couple of times before. I'm
25 sure you remember me.

1 I want to congratulate those people who talked
2 about the feelings that are in the North Coast of being
3 ignored, not being included in California. I want to say
4 that Eddie Morgan not only would represent the North Coast
5 and the north of California, he's in an area with very
6 large Native American populations, and he's in the pool of
7 people that earn under \$35,000. And I know you talked
8 about trying to average out the economic part of your
9 balancing.

10 I know it's a terrible balancing act. Every
11 member who's in your pool has already been chosen for many
12 good qualities of fairness, integrity, compassion, all of
13 those things have been considered by the group that chose
14 the 60 people, including all of you.

15 But people are calling in talking about specific
16 people and the things that are good about them. There are
17 good things about everyone. I urge you to go back and
18 think again about ignoring Northern California. Thank you.

19 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you.

20 Next in the queue, please.

21 AT&T OPERATOR: Madam Chair, there are no others
22 in queue.

23 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you.

24 At this time, Commission, do we want to -- we can
25 vote right now or we can break for lunch and come back.

1 Can I have a show of hands for the voting right now?

2 Great, it looks like one.

3 And who would like to --

4 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Madam Chair, I have a
5 question.

6 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Oh, sorry, question from -

7 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Yeah, a process question.

8 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Oh. No go ahead.

9 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Yeah, Ahmad, a question.
10 Okay, thank you. I just wanted to clarify that if we break
11 for lunch, upon returning from lunch do we go back to
12 public comment or how does that work?

13 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Well, since we were in the
14 middle of an action, we need to sort of finish this action.
15 So, I just didn't know kind of --

16 MS. SAXTON: Madam Chair, I'm sorry.

17 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Counsel?

18 MS. SAXTON: I did not quite hear Commissioner
19 Ahmad's question.

20 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Oh. As a process of a question,
21 so Commissioner Ahmad, would you please repeat your
22 question?

23 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Yes. And this question
24 might be appropriate for counsel. If we break for lunch
25 now, upon returning from lunch do we go back to public

1 comment or are we staying at this point where public
2 comment was concluded, and then we go to the vote portion.

3 MS. SAXTON: Whether or not to conclude public
4 comment at this time or continue after lunch is within the
5 purview of the first eight. That would be a decision of
6 the chair as to how to -- along with the other
7 Commissioners.

8 CHAIR ANDERSEN: So, I'm putting the question to
9 the other Commissioners. Oh, I'm sorry, we have another
10 question from Commissioner Ahmad -- oh, I'm sorry,
11 Commissioner Sadhwani.

12 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Yeah, just I think given that we
13 had informally agreed to do public -- I think we had said
14 like first thing in the morning, after lunch, and then at
15 these other key times. For me, that was why I had raised
16 my hand to vote now, so that we can have a vote and move on
17 however we need to and take that public comment when we
18 return.

19 I'm actually comfortable either way. But I just
20 felt like we had said that that's what we were going to do,
21 so I felt like we should honor that.

22 CHAIR ANDERSEN: We had indeed. So, there is a
23 vote on -- there is a motion on the table, it has been
24 seconded. Shall I call for the vote? Do you have any
25 objection to that? No objections.

1 Seeing no objections, Secretary -- yeah,
2 Secretary, would you please call the vote. So, sorry,
3 since it's been a moment, do we want to repeat the slate
4 that we're actually voting on?

5 Commissioner Le Mons?

6 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: I wanted to ask a
7 question. At the -- and this is a process question. At
8 the point of once we finish the vote there will be a pause
9 and we'll have an opportunity to change our vote if we
10 like. This question is about depending on the vote, so let
11 me put it like this, if we end up with a unanimous vote is
12 it possible to change the name of the slate at that time?

13 MS. SAXTON: I'm afraid, Commissioner, it is not.

14 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Okay.

15 MS. SAXTON: It would need to be changed prior to
16 the vote being announced.

17 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Got it. Okay.

18 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: From a process,
19 standpoint.

20 CHAIR ANDERSEN: No, a few process questions. Go
21 ahead, from Commissioner Sadhwani.

22 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Just to honor
23 Commissioner Le Mons' question or interest as I see it, is
24 it possible then to change the name of it now, before we
25 actually take that vote?

1 MS. SAXTON: Absolutely, if Commissioner Turner,
2 since it's the Turner slate, wishes to change it.

3 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Commissioner Ahmad. Sorry, do
4 you want to do Commissioner Turner first or --

5 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: I guess this is just
6 segueing into the process question. First, thank you,
7 Madam Chair, for recognizing my time. In the spirit of
8 just direct communication, before we change the name, is it
9 okay to ask for intent of what folks are thinking about in
10 terms of voting? Or is that too muddy into the actual
11 voting process? And I can direct that question to counsel.

12 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Yeah, that's direct to counsel.
13 And one minute, there's a current issue being discussed by
14 counsel.

15 MS. SAXTON: One moment, Madam Chair.

16 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Yeah, one moment. I do know
17 there is no -- under Robert's Rules there is no discussion
18 of your vote and that would -- so, that is a very
19 procedural question at this point because it needs to be
20 considered.

21 MS. SAXTON: Madam Chair, if Commissioner Turner
22 were to move to amend her slate, we would have to again
23 take public comment and she would have to remove her prior
24 slate as each Commissioner can only have one slate.

25 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Okay.

1 MS. SAXTON: It triggers the same --

2 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Process.

3 MS. SAXTON: -- cascade of activities and
4 process.

5 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Okay, thank you, Counsel.

6 And we have additional -- well, I don't want to
7 assume. Commissioner Ahmad.

8 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Related to that process
9 question, at this point we must complete the voting in
10 order to move forward to anything, right, anything else
11 regarding the --

12 CHAIR ANDERSEN: We're still in discussion. We
13 have not actually --

14 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Okay, we're still in
15 discussion. So, hypothetically if, let's say a
16 Commissioner who has not proposed a slate proposed a unity
17 slate and then we voted on that, what would the process be
18 for that? Would we have to withdraw the motion to vote --

19 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Yes.

20 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: -- and then propose another
21 slate, and then go back to public -- second that motion to
22 vote, and then public comment, and then vote, correct?
23 Okay.

24 CHAIR ANDERSEN: I look to Counsel, but --

25 MS. SAXTON: If you, a Commissioner, proposed a

1 new slate, then we would follow the same procedures that we
2 have been following. There would be a motion to adopt the
3 slate, there would be a second. You'd need public comment.
4 That slate would need to be posted on the website. And if
5 that Commissioner had a slate on the table currently that
6 slate would, of course, need to be withdrawn.

7 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you for the
8 clarification. I'll defer back to Commissioner Turner who
9 submitted it.

10 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Commissioner Taylor?

11 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yes. I see how in the
12 moments of trying to be efficient and, you know, there's
13 some inference here, I know I would be willing to come back
14 after lunch and take comment, if we wanted to sort of play
15 around with a unified slate or a One Tribe 2 slate. I'm
16 willing.

17 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you for that, Commissioner
18 Taylor.

19 MS. SAXTON: Madam Chair, there is a motion on
20 the floor right now to approve the Turner first amended
21 slate.

22 CHAIR ANDERSEN: So, we either need to vote,
23 unless that slate is withdrawn. Commissioner Le Mons.

24 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Commissioner Turner, I'm
25 sure you've been following this conversation, I think

1 because it is your slate. Based upon what Commissioner
2 Taylor just said and kind of what I alluded to, what's your
3 thoughts about the possibility of, A, changing it, or would
4 you -- yeah, what are your thoughts. I won't narrow your
5 thoughts, I'll ask that broadly.

6 VICE CHAIR TURNER: Thank you. I think I don't
7 have any tie to the actual name. I think I was trying to
8 think through the timing of the day and going back into
9 public comment. And I guess what would really necessitate
10 that and what's tied into the name. I don't have any, you
11 know, ties to it by it being Turner, my name per se, but
12 once we vote on the slate I'm wondering is there something
13 we're locked into afterwards from a name perspective that
14 actually warrants the additional time of going through all
15 of the process. That's what I don't know.

16 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Since I --

17 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Oh, I'm sorry, go ahead. Go
18 ahead.

19 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: I just want to say I think
20 we -- I think that in our subtext of naming and our spirit
21 of unity, and all of that, I think there will probably be
22 other opportunities to do that. So, maybe we should move
23 forward with the vote and then post the vote. We could
24 have a discussion about what we call ourselves.

25 One of the things that I was really -- I'm

1 looking forward to is us really coming up with a name that
2 is unified and not similar to the previous Commission that
3 had whatever they were, the -- they had two different
4 groups. And I really want, I would really love for us to
5 have a unified name that we adopt and invite the final six
6 into. So, that was really where my head was for the
7 transparency on that.

8 So, I'd like to suggest that we move on with the
9 vote, if everyone else is okay with that.

10 CHAIR ANDERSEN: I'm seeing nods, so let's call
11 for the vote.

12 MS. SAXTON: Madam Chair, the motion on the floor
13 is to adopt the Turner first amended slate that contains
14 the following applicants: Patricia Sinay, Democrat; Angela
15 Vasquez, Democrat; Alicia Fernandez, Republican; Russell
16 Yee, Republican; Linda Akutagawa, neither party; Pedro
17 Toledo, neither party.

18 CHAIR ANDERSEN: That's -- Commissioner Turner
19 are you confirming that that is the --

20 VICE CHAIR TURNER: Yes.

21 CHAIR ANDERSEN: That's a yes. We have a
22 confirmation. So, Secretary, would you please call for the
23 vote?

24 MS. PELLMAN: Commissioner Ahmed?

25 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Yes.

1 MS. PELLMAN: Commissioner Andersen?

2 CHAIR ANDERSEN: No.

3 MS. PELLMAN: Commissioner Fornaciari?

4 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yes.

5 MS. PELLMAN: Commissioner Kennedy?

6 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Aye.

7 MS. PELLMAN: Commissioner Le Mons?

8 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yes.

9 MS. PELLMAN: Commissioner Sadhwani?

10 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes.

11 MS. PELLMAN: Commissioner Taylor?

12 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yes.

13 MS. PELLMAN: Commissioner Turner?

14 VICE CHAIR TURNER: Yes.

15 MS. SAXTON: Madam Chair, we're going to take a
16 moment to tally the votes.

17 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Just Commissioner Kennedy, I'm
18 sorry, I could not get your -- could we have a repeat of
19 your vote?

20 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: I said aye.

21 CHAIR ANDERSEN: So, that is present?

22 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: I can say yes, I can say
23 si, I can say oui.

24 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Oh, okay.

25 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: I'm voting in favor.

1 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Got it. Then, I will change my
2 vote to a yes.

3 MS. SAXTON: Let the record reflect that
4 Commissioner Andersen is changing her vote on the Turner
5 first amended slate from no to yes.

6 The motion passes.

7 CHAIR ANDERSEN: So, we have a slate approved. I
8 don't know at this point is there a procedural -- you know,
9 is there anything to a rename, or does it go officially as
10 the Turner slate? How do we work this or can we just have
11 a new slate approved.

12 MS. SAXTON: The slate is approved. And if I
13 may, at this point the six new Commissioners to join the
14 first eight are Patricia Sinay, Angela Vasquez, Alicia
15 Fernandez, Russell Yee, Linda Akutagawa, and Pedro Toledo.

16 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Counsel.

17 Well, we are -- congratulations we have a full
18 Commissioner.

19 And with that, actually, before we move on to the
20 next item -- oh, congratulations, by the way, to all the
21 new Commissioners.

22 I believe we actually need to go to public
23 comment, is that correct?

24 MS. SAXTON: Madam Chair, we are going to be
25 required to take our next 90-minute break at 12:50.

1 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Excellent.

2 MS. SAXTON: And lunch, potentially, at that
3 time.

4 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Perfect. So, then I propose
5 that we adjourn for lunch now, come back --

6 MS. SAXTON: Recess.

7 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Sorry, recess for lunch now,
8 come back and have our public comment period which will
9 include -- Counsel, can we include our public counsel --
10 our public comment for, you know, general and after.
11 That's our Item 5. We can combine that, is that correct?

12 MS. SAXTON: The next item on the agenda is
13 introduction to temporary staff.

14 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Correct.

15 MS. SAXTON: There will need to be public comment
16 either before, during.

17 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Right. So, my question is can
18 we combine our, as we've arranged, after-lunch-public-
19 comment with that, you know, before we -- as we start into
20 Item Number 6, we can combine all that, is that correct,
21 for the public comments.

22 MS. SAXTON: Well, you must take public comment
23 on the agenda item, which would be limited to that agenda
24 item.

25 CHAIR ANDERSEN: That would be after. After the

1 introduction. Sorry, we're having a discussion with
2 counsel here, one minute.

3 Oh, do we have a question from Commissioner
4 Ahmad?

5 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Madam Chair, I think, and
6 counsel can correct me, I think the process is we move to
7 an agenda item, we discuss it, whatever needs to be
8 discussed related to that item, whether there's a motion to
9 vote on anything, and then take public comment prior to any
10 motion, or public comment related to any agenda item after
11 that agenda item has been discussed.

12 So, at this point, from my understanding, since
13 we have concluded Agenda Item Number 5 we could move on to
14 6, address that agenda item and then take public comment
15 related to that specific agenda item.

16 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Yes. My --

17 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: I think that's my
18 understanding, just to make it -- my thought process and
19 process clear and in hopes of making it clear for the
20 public as well, when they can expect to call in for public
21 comment.

22 CHAIR ANDERSEN: So, actually, my -- since we've
23 just completed Item Number 5, we would be asking for public
24 comment on Item Number 5. In that you're correct, that is
25 how we've been setting up procedure.

1 MS. SAXTON: No. Madam Chair, I'm sorry to
2 interrupt. Item Number 5, you had public comment on Item
3 Number 5. If it pleases the Commission we could take more
4 public comment on Item Number 5.

5 CHAIR ANDERSEN: So, as we've --I'm sorry, one
6 quick question. So, our public comment, since we've been
7 having it as we continued through Item 5, and we did it
8 before the vote, then we can say that we've actually
9 finished the public comment on Item 5.

10 MS. SAXTON: Correct.

11 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Got it. Okay, then -- I'm
12 sorry, we have a question from Commissioner Le Mons.

13 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yes, I think that it
14 seemed to me, Madam Chair, that you were trying to
15 reconcile our commitment to post-lunch public comment, Item
16 6, and associated public comment associated with that. I
17 think that's where you were going.

18 And so, I think we could honor that by letting
19 the public know that when we come back from lunch we're
20 going to do Item Number 6, which are introductions, and
21 we'll be taking public comment right after that.

22 And if we have some sense, since it's
23 introductions, I don't know if we can estimate time so that
24 we nail it down. Because I know when Commissioner Sadhwani
25 initially proposed this, it was really to get people

1 targeted so they don't have to sit and watch, you know, in
2 an eternity.

3 So, I don't know if counsel has any idea about
4 whether that's a 45, an hour, the introductions? I can't
5 imagine introductions would take an indefinite amount of
6 time, but who knows? So, is there a way for us to estimate
7 roughly how long introductions might be and then we can let
8 people know, let the public know that when we come back
9 from lunch we'll do introductions, and be taking public
10 comment about 45 minutes to an hour after we come back from
11 lunch.

12 Would that satisfy, fellow Commissioners, in
13 terms of us being in integrity of our desire to let people
14 know when they can give targeted comment?

15 CHAIR ANDERSEN: That was -- thank you,
16 Commissioner Le Mons that was exactly what I was trying to
17 do. Do we need to have a public comment, do an item, and
18 then again? So, because we said we were going to have
19 public comment coming after lunch.

20 Can we jump into Item 6 with an idea of how long
21 that will be, so we can tell people right now when to come
22 back and discuss --

23 MS. SAXTON: I hear the question, Madam Chair.

24 CHAIR ANDERSEN: -- and make public comment?

25 MS. SAXTON: If you could give me just a minute

1 to confer with my colleagues, I would appreciate it.

2 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Sure. Thank you.

3 And I do apologize how -- we still are within our
4 90-minute break, so the good news is once we come back from
5 lunch we should have another full 90 minutes, should we
6 need that time. We'll stand down for a minute.

7 (Pause)

8 MS. SAXTON: We're just checking on one item,
9 Madam Chair. But I do remind the Commissioners that there
10 is, before adjournment of the meeting, an agendaized general
11 comment from the public period that is there.

12 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Uh-hum.

13 MS. SAXTON: But in terms of how long the
14 speakers might continue, I do not believe that it would be
15 more than an hour and likely less time than that.

16 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you. We'll give counsel
17 just a moment here. You need another minute?

18 MS. SAXTON: Yes, I do. Thank you.

19 CHAIR ANDERSEN: I think it might be sort of safe
20 to say probably around 3:00 o'clock to have people call in.
21 We can pay attention around that time. That we should be
22 probably done with Item Number 6, and be in Number 7, and
23 those again might not be long items. And again, there is a
24 public, final public comment at the end of today, so that
25 might give people a bit of a time frame.

1 MS. SAXTON: Thank you very much for your
2 patience. Taking lunch, then public comment on Item Number
3 6, and then Item Number 6 is what would be required.

4 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Okay. So, I'm sorry, that means
5 before we talk about it or at the end of the item?

6 MS. SAXTON: Well, you mean Item Number 6?

7 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Under Item Number 6.

8 MS. SAXTON: It can be taken before or during.
9 And once Item Number 6 is complete, you do have that
10 general public comment at the end.

11 CHAIR ANDERSEN: All right. I'm sorry, do we
12 still have Item Number 7, the location update?

13 MS. SAXTON: Yes, and that also will require
14 public comment.

15 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Okay.

16 MS. SAXTON: I do point out that the Commission
17 is, in running the meetings, authorized to limit the public
18 comment period as is reasonable. You're not required to
19 take every caller, but that is a decision for --

20 CHAIR ANDERSEN: For the Commission.

21 MS. SAXTON: -- the Commission.

22 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you.

23 Okay, at this time then I'm going to propose,
24 it's quarter to, ten minutes to --

25 MS. SAXTON: Madam Chair, I'm sorry. I just

1 received information that in combination, the two temporary
2 staff members, 30 minutes.

3 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Ah, there we go.

4 So, then, since it is ten minutes to 1:00, I say
5 we come back at ten minutes to 2:00, start up with public
6 comment, do the Item Number 6. Then, can we do the Item
7 Number 7, and then go to general? Yes, that would work.

8 So, we'll come back, do we can even say a smaller
9 -- when we come back we could put an idea of our public
10 comment time, jump into Item Number 6, do Item Number 7,
11 and then conclude with public comments. That would cover
12 public comments on both Items 6 and 7.

13 MS. SAXTON: Also, Madam Chair, just to add some
14 additional information, whatever public comment is taken
15 next is exclusively on the subject of introductions to the
16 temporary 2020 staff.

17 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Oh, okay. I say we break for
18 lunch right now --

19 MS. SAXTON: Yes, you may.

20 CHAIR ANDERSEN: -- and let's talk about it when
21 we come back. It's ten minutes to 1:00, I say let's come
22 back at ten minutes to 2:00. The meeting's on recess.

23 (Off the record at 12:48 p.m.)

24 (On the record at 1:53 p.m.)

25 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Welcome back. I see everyone is

1 here. I will bring the meeting back to order. And at this
2 time we can go -- as we discussed, we'd like to go into
3 Item Number 6. And we have said that we'd do public
4 comment at this time, after lunch. But there's a slight
5 change in that we -- for all of the public who have been
6 following, they hopefully will have seen on our agenda is
7 Item 8 is public comment. And that, it says all items not
8 on the agenda. That can be anything that is on the agenda,
9 as well.

10 As we are going to move into Item Number 6, which
11 is introduction of temporary 2020 Commission staff, at this
12 time we're only taking public comment on that item. So, if
13 you're thinking that you want to call in and congratulate
14 us, or yell at us, please reserve that and call that in
15 after we deal with Item Number 6 and Number 7. We'll take
16 public comment on all of that at that time.

17 And we're estimating that that will take
18 approximately an hour. So, if you could hold those
19 congratulations, way to go, or we really don't like what
20 you did until about an hour from now, so come, you know,
21 look back in at about 3:00 o'clock, if you are not
22 interested in following the rest of our items. Thank you.

23 So, at this time we'll proceed to Item Number 6.
24 Oh, we have a question from Commissioner Ahmad.

25 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you, Madam Chair. I

1 don't mean to revisit this conversation, but just to
2 clarify we can do public comment after the temporary staff
3 are introduced and, therefore, the public can actually
4 comment on something. I'm not sure, I'm just thinking if I
5 was calling in what I would be able to comment on, if I
6 hadn't actually seen the conversation related to Agenda
7 Item 6. Just something for consideration for the group.

8 MS. SAXTON: Madam Chair, the rule is before or
9 during the agenda item.

10 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Oh, yeah.

11 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Is during before the
12 conclusion of the agenda item or --

13 MS. SAXTON: That's correct.

14 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Okay.

15 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Commissioner Fornaciari?

16 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yes, I agree with that
17 comment. I think we should go through the presentation and
18 the introduction first, and then allow folks to comment on
19 it because then they'll have seen what happened, if that
20 pleases the Chair.

21 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Certainly. Thank you. The
22 reason I gave the announcement about general comments are
23 please reserve those for after Item 8, which will be
24 approximately an hour. Because we'd put after lunch
25 general public comments and we're making a bit of a change

1 for our time purposes. So, that would be approximately
2 3:00 to general. So, when we do break, after the
3 presentation now, it will be public comment would then be
4 only on that introduction of the temporary 2020 Commission
5 staff.

6 So, with that clarification thank you very much
7 Commissioners, we will move on and I believe counsel will
8 introduce.

9 MS. SAXTON: Yes, it is with great pleasure that
10 I introduce Marian Johnston, who will be part of your
11 temporary 2020 Commission staff. She will serve as the
12 2020 Commission's temporary counsel and we're pleased to
13 have you here today. Thank you.

14 MS. JOHNSTON: It's a pleasure to meet all of
15 you. I'm what's called a retired annuitant, which if you
16 haven't worked for the state before you don't know it's
17 someone who's retired from the state, but you get them
18 back. It's a good deal for everybody. They pay you your
19 salary, but none of the benefits, and you would get me at
20 whatever rate you'd normally pay for a state -- my salary,
21 so it's a bargain.

22 And I worked for the 2010 Commission. I'd
23 welcome any questions you have for me.

24 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Just for the general public and
25 for myself, could you actually spell your name for us?

1 MS. JOHNSTON: Marian, M-A-R-I-A-N, Johnston, J-
2 O-H-N-S-T-O-N.

3 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you. So, any comments or
4 questions from the other Commissioners? Commissioner Le
5 Mons.

6 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Welcome, Ms. Johnston. I
7 have a question regarding temporary counsel, exactly what
8 does that mean? I mean how long do we have the privilege
9 of working with you? Maybe give us a little overview of
10 what we can expect from you in your role? Those, I'll
11 start with those two questions.

12 MS. JOHNSTON: That is totally your discretion.
13 The Commission is free of all civil service rules, so
14 basically I work at your pleasure. I did work for the
15 prior Commission for about eight years. I was not with
16 them at the very beginning. I was not their chief counsel.
17 And I'm not applying to be your chief counsel. I'm more of
18 like a -- sort of like what Amanda Saxton did for you here
19 on Bagley-Keene, those other meeting requirements, Public
20 Records Act, good government, conflict of interest type
21 questions that come up. And I can't work more than part
22 time.

23 And it would be a decision of the full
24 Commission, whenever you have your first meeting, about
25 whether or not you want to continue with me or not.

1 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Thus the term temporary?

2 MS. JOHNSTON: Thus the term temporary.

3 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you. Commissioner --
4 let's see, we have two hands. We have Turner and also
5 Sadhwani.

6 VICE CHAIR TURNER: No, I don't have a hand up,
7 thank you.

8 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Oh, thank you, Commissioner
9 Turner. Commissioner Sadhwani.

10 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Thank you, Madam Chair.
11 I was wondering, Ms. Johnston -- first, welcome, thank you
12 for serving in this capacity. You know, could you actually
13 give us some guidance? It wasn't entirely clear to me what
14 the process will be for setting that first meeting of the
15 full Commission and I'm just curious how we'll go about
16 identifying that date and time, and if you will be handling
17 that process, if Ms. Saxton will be handling it? Or, if
18 from here on out if Ms. Saxton is kind of --

19 MS. JOHNSTON: I will be handling with Raul
20 Villanueva, who's your administrative person on a temporary
21 basis, we could not schedule it until you had your full
22 complement of Commissioners. As soon as we can do a
23 survey, we'll figure out what time would work for all of
24 you. It's a 14-day notice requirement for the full
25 Commission, so the soonest this could be would be towards

1 mid or late August.

2 And we would be consulting with you all about
3 what you wanted to have on the first agenda. There are
4 some matters that need to be taken care of and then after
5 that, whoever you choose for your chair and vice chair, we
6 would work with them to schedule further meetings and
7 further agendas.

8 CHAIR ANDERSEN: So, Commissioner Le Mons?

9 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: I'm just curious, does
10 that mean that Ms. Saxton is -- are we not hearing from her
11 anymore or does she get to say goodbye, or does she just
12 disappear.

13 CHAIR ANDERSEN: She's already left the building.
14 No.

15 (Laughter)

16 MS. SAXTON: Thank you, Commissioner Le Mons.
17 The State Auditor's Office does continue to provide support
18 in transition. At this time I don't know what, if any role
19 I will play. But perhaps I might sneak over for a visit,
20 COVID-19 willing.

21 MS. JOHNSTON: I'm certain there will be a lot of
22 communication. Amanda Saxton and other people here I
23 worked with previously, in my previous life with the
24 Legislative Counsel's Office, so we're friends as well as
25 coworkers.

1 CHAIR ANDERSEN: So, Ms. Johnston, could you tell
2 us, are you giving us the information, then, about the
3 actual logistics of where, and when, and this sort of
4 thing, or is that Mr. Villanueva --

5 MS. JOHNSTON: Villanueva.

6 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Yes, Villanueva.

7 MS. JOHNSTON: It will be done cooperatively.
8 He'll probably take care of the logistical part of it. But
9 I've been working with him on a draft agenda.

10 CHAIR ANDERSEN: And in terms of, you know,
11 because where we are right now is in the State Auditor's
12 Office.

13 MS. JOHNSTON: I understand there have been
14 offices set up for you just a block away, at 721 M Street,
15 but I have not seen them yet. I'm going to see them next
16 week.

17 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Okay.

18 MS. JOHNSTON: Raul was going to be calling in.
19 You haven't heard from him?

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes, he's there.

21 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Oh.

22 MR. VILLANUEVA: I am here, Marian, I'm just -- I
23 wanted you to have your opportunity. I'm here.

24 MS. JOHNSTON: Well, I don't know if anyone has
25 any questions about me. I also wanted to talk about the

1 litigation on the timing of the Census, but I can wait
2 until Raul finishes the administration portion.

3 MS. SAXTON: Yes, Ms. Johnston, that is agendized
4 as Number 7.

5 MS. JOHNSTON: Right.

6 MR. VILLANUEVA: Well, let me go ahead then.

7 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Please do. Thank you.

8 MR. VILLANUEVA: So, first, let me offer my
9 congratulations to all of you as Commissioners of the 2020
10 Citizens --

11 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you very much.

12 MR. VILLANUEVA: -- and taking it upon yourselves
13 to accomplish a challenging task in really challenging
14 times. I feel confident in your ability to meet those
15 challenges and accomplish the work. Congratulations.

16 By the way, everyone can hear me? Very good. My
17 name is Raul Villanueva and I've been working with the
18 California State Auditor's Office, hired specifically to
19 provide support to the Commission during this transition
20 with staff and offices being fully functional required
21 under Government Code.

22 Now, in 2010 I had the opportunity to provide
23 support to the first panel. Afterwards, I worked with the
24 2020 Commission as their office manager. The State
25 Auditor's Office wanted you to have the benefit of lessons

1 learned from the prior Commission. Since I was there from
2 the beginning, I kind of have a pretty good idea of the
3 issues that caused them the most grief. And I've been
4 working really hard to spare you some of the challenges.

5 So, at this time what I'd like to do is give you
6 a high level report of the work we've done to date to help
7 you, and I'm also preparing a more detailed report for your
8 first meeting as a full Commission, a full team. But as I
9 give this report, please keep in mind that the primary
10 intent throughout this process has been to give you
11 options, be fully functional on day one as a full
12 Commission, and that you can operate independently as
13 intended by law.

14 First things first, we have secured office space
15 for you. We worked with the Governor's Office to identify
16 available office space and we have made space available for
17 you at 721 Capitol Mall, Sacramento. Now, the office space
18 will be fully furnished and equipped, pending a few
19 deliveries more that I'm waiting on.

20 So, there is sufficient space for you and your
21 staff to work and for you to hold meetings consistent with
22 COVID-related experiences, okay. We've set up the offices
23 with a wireless network, thus you and your staff will be
24 able to work onsite or remotely. And you can begin work as
25 soon as you're ready. You have laptops, printers, a copier

1 configured to your network and it's in place.

2 And now that you've identified the final six
3 members of the Commission, we're going to be sending them
4 materials similar to the ones that you received, laptops,
5 cell phones, and those materials like Bagley-Keene Open
6 Meeting Act.

7 Now, your offices are secure. There's onsite
8 security within your offices that require card key access.
9 You're also close to ample public parking and light rail,
10 and to keep you in close proximity to any other state
11 government offices, including the State Capitol.

12 Well, you were asking about the meeting and the
13 agenda. Let's look at that. First, you're going to need
14 certain services to ensure your meetings are public and
15 accessible to all Californians, we're preparing some
16 contracts for you to review and approve, if you so desire.
17 These include services like videography, transcription,
18 American Sign Language and English language interpreters.
19 It's really similar to the same types of services that
20 you've been receiving thus far.

21 As far as budgeting, accounting, HR, payroll,
22 we've lined up the state resources you're going to need as
23 a state commission to provide you support with your budget
24 accounting, and HR payroll. And I have the interagency
25 agreements for those services ready for you to review

1 during the first meeting as a full Commission.

2 Also, preparing a report about your appropriation
3 budget and how to access your funds, and that will be
4 available to you for that first meeting.

5 In regards to training, I've retained several
6 really great speakers for you on topics related to the
7 California demography, the Voting Rights Act, and laws
8 related to redistricting, as well as some pieces on the
9 nuances of working within state government structure, among
10 some others.

11 I'm going to be -- I am preparing some training
12 and discussion after hiring. So, similar to what the
13 Secretary of State's Office did last time, we advertised
14 three of the key positions you're really going to need at
15 meetings. Those included counsel, communications director,
16 and the executive director.

17 But as you've been discussing, you're already
18 recognizing that the full Commission must hire an attorney
19 with a certain type of skill level.

20 In regards to the communications director, it's
21 really to give you that immediate help of the press
22 inquiries you're going to be receiving from day one. Also,
23 to support you in getting your message out via your
24 website, and really to start thinking about your public
25 information.

1 In regards to your executive director, I think
2 you'll agree that hiring this position is imperative.
3 You're going to need someone to hire your other staff,
4 develop on-tracks on your behalf, and all the other things
5 an executive director does.

6 I'm also preparing a training and discussion for
7 you in contracting and procurement. Now, as a part of this
8 item there will be discussion about that line drawer. But
9 I have to bring up you have heard several individuals and
10 organizations say that you should regard these recruitments
11 and the RFP post your own.

12 Now, as our goal in issuing these recruitments
13 and RFP on your behalf is to give you a head start, and
14 particularly in light of the fact that we're working in
15 this COVID environment which, as you know, is impacting
16 everyone. Still you, the full Commission you, can
17 absolutely disregard these recruitments and the RFP and
18 post your own. Your recruitments clearly state the full
19 Commission may use them, reissue them, or disregard them.
20 The RFP is nonbinding and any proposals received will be
21 delivered to you as a full Commission unopened. There's no
22 intention of making any decisions for you. And you may
23 decide to look at them, interview bidders, revise
24 timelines, or ultimately reissue an RFP.

25 However, before you make your full decision as a

1 full Commission there is an opportunity for you to review
2 the documents as a body. To understand what the
3 recruitments and the RFP documents actually accomplished
4 and determine for yourselves what actions best support you
5 and your goals as a Commission which is something I would
6 urge for you to take the time to do.

7 As far as your agenda, we're in an interesting
8 situation right now in that during this interim period
9 between selecting the first eight and the final six
10 Commissioners no one has clear legal authority to sign work
11 orders, contracts, or other similar documents.

12 The State Auditor's Office, then, has taken the
13 setup of your operations really as far as possible. As
14 such, many of the items on your agenda for the first full
15 Commission meeting are going to be housekeeping items.
16 Things like review and approval of service contracts for
17 your meeting services, authorizations to obtain service, as
18 well as the training and the other things that I mentioned.

19 But I am working with the interim legal counsel,
20 Marian Johnston. I'd rather call her interim because
21 there's nothing temporary about Marian. And using input
22 from the State Auditor's Redistricting team and made a
23 comprehensive agenda for a multi-day meeting. So, really,
24 we're hoping that that will begin before the end of August.
25 Well, obviously, the dates haven't been finalized, but I do

1 want to put this meeting on your radar to calendar.

2 Because again, keep in mind that once you're a
3 full Commission your agendas must post for 14 days, not the
4 10 required by Bagley-Keene. So, for example, to hold
5 meetings the week of August 24th, an agenda would have to
6 be posted publicly as early as August 10th, Monday, and on
7 August 24th.

8 Please consider the timing for your first meeting
9 as a full Commission and Marian and I will be contacting
10 you in the days ahead really to determine what schedule
11 bests supports you all.

12 In closing, I'd like to thank the state staff
13 across many state departments and agencies, who worked with
14 me to help me accomplish these and other parts of the
15 operation. Now, it's one thing to assist as a part of the
16 normal, you know, normal affairs of government, but we all
17 know that right now we're working in an unprecedented time.
18 Many of these departments are working with a skeleton crew
19 and operating from multiple locations. Nevertheless, these
20 men and women were admirably diligent in the State
21 Auditor's Office and I would like to thank them for their
22 professionalism and their dedication.

23 Myself, I'd like to thank the State Auditor for
24 enabling me to perform this work on your behalf. It was
25 wonderful working for the 2010 and I'm (indiscernible) -- I

1 look forward to working with the full Commission during
2 this transition and I hope to help you to become fully
3 functional as quickly as you can so that you and your staff
4 can have everything you need to conduct your important
5 work. Thank you.

6 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you.

7 Any comments or questions from the other
8 Commissioners? Seeing none at -- oh, we do have one from
9 Commissioner Sadhwani.

10 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Thank you. Yes. I mean
11 I would just say it's so nice to meet you both and thank
12 you for all of the work that you're obviously doing behind
13 the scenes that we didn't really have a clear sense of what
14 all was happening. So, I greatly appreciate all of your
15 efforts, especially during these difficult times. So,
16 thank you.

17 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you.

18 MR. VILLANUEVA: You all are very welcome.

19 CHAIR ANDERSEN: I think that sort of sums up
20 what everyone would like to say. Thank you. And thank you
21 very much also for pointing out thank yous to the State
22 Auditor's Office and the people involved here. As I've
23 been seeing them on a day-to-day basis it is amazing. And
24 they are working with a skeleton crew. So, I appreciate
25 you bringing that up as well. And look forward to working

1 with both of you going forward. So, thank you.

2 That, I believe, brings us to the end of Item 6.
3 So, at this time, before we go into the litigation update
4 from Ms. Johnston, this would be a time when we would stop
5 and take public comment.

6 So, Counsel, could you please read those
7 instructions. And, yes, Mr. Villanueva's gone. Thank you.

8 MS. SAXTON: Thank you, Madam Chair.

9 If you'd like to make public comment regarding
10 Agenda Item 6, introduction of temporary 2020 Commission
11 staff, please call in now by dialing 844-291-5495. In the
12 next few moments we'll begin taking public comment and,
13 again, that number is 844-291-5495.

14 After dialing the number you'll speak to an
15 operator. You will be asked to provide either the access
16 code for the meeting, which is 8121803, or the name of the
17 meeting which is CRC selection meeting.

18 After providing this information the operator
19 will ask you to provide your name. Please note, you're not
20 required to provide your actual name. When the operator
21 asks you for your name, you may provide a name other than
22 your own. When it's your turn to make a public comment,
23 the operator will introduce you by the name you provided.
24 Please be assured our office is not maintaining any list of
25 callers by name. We ask for you to provide some name to

1 enable the operator to manage multiple calls
2 simultaneously, and let you know when it's your turn to
3 speak.

4 After speaking with the operator, you will be
5 placed in a listening room. In this room you will be able
6 to listen to live audio of the meeting. Please mute your
7 computer audio because the online video and audio will be
8 delayed by approximately 60 seconds and feedback issues may
9 occur, making it difficult for anyone to hear your comment.
10 Also, please do not use a speaker phone and make sure to
11 speak directly into your phone.

12 When you decide that you want to make a comment
13 about Agenda Item 8, introduction of temporary 2020
14 Commission staff, press 1 0 and you will be placed in the
15 queue to make public comment about Agenda Item 8,
16 introduction of temporary 2020 Commission staff.

17 After joining the queue to make a public comment,
18 you should hear an automatic recording informing you that
19 you've been placed in the queue. When it is your turn, the
20 operator will introduce you. At that time please state and
21 spell your name for the transcriptionist, then state your
22 comment clearly and concisely.

23 Comments will be limited to two minutes. You
24 will hear a time check when 15 seconds in your time
25 remains. After you finish making your comment, we will

1 move on to the next caller. At that point please hang up
2 your phone. If you'd like to comment on another agenda
3 item at a later time, please call back when we open up
4 public comment for that item and repeat this process.

5 If you are disconnected for any reason, please
6 call back and explain the issue to the operator, then
7 repeat the process and rejoin the public comment queue by
8 pressing 1 0. These instructions can also be found on our
9 website.

10 I also comment that at this time public comment
11 must be in regard to Agenda Item 6, introduction of
12 temporary 2020 Commission staff.

13 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Counsel.

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

15 AT&T OPERATOR: Just a reminder, you can now
16 press 1, then 0, if you'd like to queue up here for
17 comment.

18 At this time, Madam Chair, there is no one in
19 queue.

20 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you.

21 We will stand down for the usual 2 minutes to
22 allow people to call in.

23 AT&T Operator, if someone does come on the line,
24 please let us know.

25 AT&T OPERATOR: We certainly will.

1 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you.

2 (Pause)

3 CHAIR ANDERSEN: AT&T Operator, Do we have anyone
4 on the line at this time?

5 AT&T OPERATOR: Madam Chair, we have no one on
6 the line for you.

7 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you very much.

8 Having no, hearing no public comment at this
9 time, we shall move on to Item Number 7, which is a
10 litigation update by our lovely, delightful lady we've just
11 met, Ms. Marian Johnston.

12 MS. JOHNSTON: Thank you. Well, I hoped I could
13 give you a definitive answer today about what your timeline
14 would be. As you probably know, about three months ago the
15 Census Bureau announced because of COVID it was going to
16 delay the processing of the Census data, collecting the
17 Census data, then processing it to give to the states. And
18 would not be giving it to the Commission until
19 approximately next August, August 2021, which would give
20 you 15 days to do all your map drawing, which would
21 obviously be unworkable.

22 The Legislature then decided to file a lawsuit
23 against the Secretary of State's Office, which is the one
24 responsible for collecting the data and providing it to the
25 Commission, asking that the Supreme Court step in and

1 extend the time limits.

2 The day after the Legislature filed the lawsuit,
3 we got a letter from the California Supreme Court asking
4 what the opinion of the 2010 Commission was. The 2010
5 Commission met remotely and was very concerned that they
6 not step on your toes in any way. They know that they
7 cannot make any decisions for you and that anything they do
8 is not binding on you. But they did want to preserve your
9 opportunity to complete your job in the full, complete
10 manner, and with the public input and outreach that is
11 required by law.

12 So, with their instruction, I did file a brief in
13 the Supreme Court agreeing with the need for delay. And
14 about a month ago, now, the California Supreme Court did
15 issue a decision, that I hope you all have seen by now,
16 that set the -- gave us the extended time we'd requested
17 for four and a half months to make up for the four and a
18 half months that the Census was delaying.

19 But interestingly, they gave the decision in
20 terms so that if the date were to change subsequent to
21 their decision, then your timing would also change. If the
22 federal government transmitted the Census data to the
23 states later than August 1st, your time would be extended
24 beyond that. So, it would no longer be what would be
25 November, it would go back to whatever delayed time would

1 be added on to it.

2 Conversely, it also said that if the federal
3 government transmits the Census data to the state before
4 that time, the Commission should make every effort to
5 expedite its process and release the preliminary and final
6 maps in advance of the deadline set forth above.

7 So, that's the state of California law right now.
8 What we don't know is what's going to happen at the federal
9 level. You may have seen that earlier this week the Census
10 Bureau announced that it was going to in fact speed up its
11 timing and do it a month earlier than states -- than this
12 law required.

13 There are still several bills pending, one that's
14 tied into the HEROES Act, which is the current COVID bill
15 before the House. And then there's a standalone bill,
16 also, that would extend the Census data's time collecting
17 it, so that you would be able to get a full and complete
18 Census count which, of course, is essential to your job in
19 doing the redistricting.

20 I have heard rumors there may be some litigation
21 over whether the Census Bureau will be served suit on its
22 new timing schedule or not. I have not seen the results of
23 that litigation, yet. If anything has happened, I haven't
24 heard about it and I think I would have.

25 So, we're waiting to find out exactly what your

1 timing will be. In the meantime we want to do everything,
2 as Raul said to get you to the best position you can, so
3 that you can begin doing the very important work that you
4 so graciously volunteered to do.

5 A couple of other pieces of litigation that I
6 just wanted to alert you to. There is a lawsuit pending
7 about the government's decision to collect data on
8 undocumented immigrants. And that has been set for
9 expedited briefing. California Attorney General filed
10 lawsuit against Trump and there are a number of other
11 states that have done, as well. And I will, of course,
12 keep you alerted to whatever happens in that lawsuit.

13 One other piece of litigation that happened after
14 the 2010 Commission completed its work, but we did an
15 Amicus brief in, was on the legitimacy of having an
16 independent Commission, like yourselves, make a decision on
17 the Census. The way the Constitution and the federal law
18 reads, the State Legislature is to do redistricting.

19 In California, and in a number of other states,
20 there is a Power of Initiative reserved to the people. And
21 we argued successfully that because the people have that
22 initiative power that in that sense the people enacted the
23 Voters FIRST Act, and then the modification that added
24 Congress, that was a legislative decision from the states,
25 and that the Supreme Court agreed with that. And so, your

1 existence is protected at least for the time being.

2 So, I'd be happy to answer any questions you have
3 of any of those lawsuits.

4 CHAIR ANDERSEN: I do, just a quick for
5 clarification.

6 MS. JOHNSTON: Sure.

7 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Just we understand that the
8 dates are fluid right now. Could you give us the original
9 dates and like what is our timing, the amount of time that
10 was requested for extension?

11 MS. JOHNSTON: The Census Bureau had said it was
12 going to be delaying its work by four and a half months.
13 So, you were originally due to have your preliminary draft
14 map done by July 1st and your final maps done by August
15 15th.

16 We asked that it be delayed equivalently to four
17 and a half months, so it would be until November 1st, 2021
18 for the draft maps and December 15th for the final maps.
19 And then again, that was to be adjusted depending on what
20 happened with the Census Bureau.

21 CHAIR ANDERSEN: So, by adjustment you mean the
22 four and a half months is the gap and that shifts according
23 to however the feds decided.

24 MS. JOHNSTON: Exactly. But you don't have to
25 wait until then. A lot of the work done by the prior

1 Commission, and I assume will be done by you as well, in
2 your outreach, doesn't need to wait until you get the
3 Census data from the Census Bureau. So, you can go ahead
4 and solicit public opinion, have your public meetings, do
5 whatever you want to do for your public outreach. And it
6 actually gives you more time to do it which the former
7 Commission felt they were very rushed about collecting
8 public input. So, in a way that is a benefit to you.

9 Of course, if the Census Bureau hurries up its
10 process and gives you less time, the Supreme Court, the
11 California Supreme Court decision is not binding on you,
12 but it does say it strongly urges you to make every effort
13 to expedite your process to adjust to whatever the Census
14 Bureau does.

15 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you. And just back on the
16 Amicus brief, is there additional move towards changing
17 that? I might have misinterpreted that. To change that on
18 a federal constitutional level. I mean has this been --

19 MS. JOHNSTON: There are two bills pending I know
20 of, currently in the house, that would extend the date. As
21 you probably know there's substantial negotiations doing on
22 with the HEROES Act at the present time. That proposed
23 bill currently would give you an extension of time that's
24 all negotiable.

25 CHAIR ANDERSEN: And on that bill, actually, I

1 was talking about the validity of the Commission in terms
2 of California that is okay. And I understand there are
3 other issues with other states. Is there a -- was that
4 brief only affecting our Supreme Court or was that part of
5 a group going towards the federal.

6 MS. JOHNSTON: That case only had to do with
7 California law which set your time limits and asked that
8 those time limits be extended due to the delay of the
9 Census.

10 CHAIR ANDERSEN: No, on that one I was talking
11 about the existence of the Commission, in terms of the
12 Legislature versus --

13 MS. JOHNSTON: Oh, it was actually brought by the
14 Arizona Legislature, trying to dissolve the Arizona
15 Redistricting Commission, which actually was formed after
16 California's was. No one sued the California Commission,
17 per se, but we got involved in the case in order to protect
18 the legitimacy of the Commission. But that is now final.

19 The problem is that a lot of states don't have
20 the initiative power and so that route of having the
21 citizens decide that they want to have an independent
22 redistricting commission only can happen in those states
23 where there is an initiative power.

24 There is a movement among states either to have
25 the Legislature commit, create an independent commission or

1 to have the people adopt one. And in fact, the past
2 Commission got a grant from Harvard to do some outreach
3 throughout the state -- throughout the United States, and I
4 know they've talked with a number of states that have been
5 working towards creating independent commissions, much like
6 you are.

7 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you. Those are my
8 questions.

9 Any additional questions from the Commissioners?
10 Commissioner Ahmad.

11 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you, Madam Chair.

12 Thank you so much, Ms. Johnston, for this
13 overview. It was very helpful. I wish I had it two weeks
14 ago when we first met. I feel like it would have helped
15 kind of set the stage of where we are now. So, I want to
16 say thank you for that overview.

17 CHAIR ANDERSEN: All right. So, thank you very
18 much.

19 MS. JOHNSTON: I think there's one more question.

20 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Oh, we do have another question.
21 Commissioner -- thank you. Commissioner Sadhwani.

22 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes, thank you. I echo
23 Commissioner Ahmad's thanks to you for this update, very
24 helpful.

25 I was curious, and I'm not suggesting that we

1 need to do this, but I'm just curious. You had mentioned
2 that the 2010 Commission had been asked by the California
3 Supreme Court for their input. On that matter, at the
4 state level it seems the bigger issue is actually at the
5 federal level with whether or not the Secretary of State's
6 Office is going to be delaying or speeding up the Census.

7 Obviously, in California we have many -- as we
8 heard from many of the public comments, we have a lot of
9 very difficult to reach communities that could greatly be
10 impacted by the Census. Would it behoove us as a
11 Commission to consider sending a letter of support to say,
12 you know, we actually -- support the extension of the
13 Census to ensure a full count? Is that something that you
14 would recommend? Is it something that we should be
15 thinking about? Or is better, you know, hey, look, we just
16 stay out of it.

17 MS. JOHNSTON: I think if you want to put that on
18 the agenda at one of your first meetings, it would be very
19 appropriate for you to discuss whether or not that's an
20 action you would like to take.

21 In fact, is there unanimous -- an interest from
22 the Commission on us adding that to the agenda for the
23 first meeting or so?

24 CHAIR ANDERSEN: I would so move that I would
25 like to add that to the agenda as an agenda item. Is there

1 a second for the full meeting?

2 MS. JOHNSTON: Well, you don't really need to
3 vote on it. If there's an interest in it, we'll put it on
4 the agenda for you to vote up or down at that time.

5 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you. Just to consider it.
6 Any other questions for Ms. Johnston?

7 MS. JOHNSTON: Well, thank you very much. And
8 again, commend you for your dedication. And this will be
9 the hardest job you ever love.

10 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Well, thank you very much. We
11 really appreciate your time in coming, in introducing
12 yourself and giving us that update.

13 So, at this time we will go to our general
14 comment, as well as comments on this last litigation item.
15 I think it's okay to wrap that all together, is that
16 correct, Item Number 8 and public comment?

17 MS. SAXTON: We can take public comment.

18 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Yes. So, we'll do public
19 comments on -- so, thank you very much, Ms. Johnston, we
20 really appreciate your time.

21 At this point we will go to public comment.

22 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Just for clarity is it
23 okay to combine public comment on this agenda item and
24 general comments? That's my understanding of what was just
25 made, Madam Chair. I just wanted clarity from counsel that

1 that is --

2 MS. JOHNSTON: That's fine.

3 MS. SAXTON: It's fine.

4 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: It's fine, okay.

5 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Yeah, that was my question.

6 That was the response.

7 Okay, so at this time could counsel please read
8 the instructions for public comments?

9 MS. SAXTON: I have a feeling this is the last
10 time.

11 MS. JOHNSTON: You'll have to give me a copy of
12 it.

13 MS. SAXTON: I'm going to frame it.

14 If you'd like to make public comment, please call
15 in now by dialing 844-291-5495. In the next few moments
16 we'll begin taking public comment and that number again is
17 844-291-5495.

18 After dialing the number you will speak to an
19 operator. You'll be asked to provide either the access
20 code for the meeting, which is 8121803, or the name of the
21 meeting which is CRC selection meeting.

22 After providing this information, the operator
23 will ask you to provide your name. Please note you are not
24 required to provide your actual name. When the operator
25 asks for your name, you may provide a name other than your

1 own.

2 When it's your turn to make a public comment, the
3 operator will introduce you by the name you provided.
4 Please be assured our office is not maintaining any list of
5 callers by name. We ask for you to provide some name to
6 enable the operator to manage multiple calls simultaneously
7 and let you know when it's your turn to speak.

8 After speaking with the operator, you'll be
9 placed in a listening room. In this room you'll be able to
10 listen to live audio of the meeting. Please mute your
11 computer audio because the online video and audio will be
12 delayed by approximately 60 seconds and feedback issues may
13 occur, making it difficult for anyone to hear your comment.
14 Also, please do not use a speakerphone and make sure to
15 speak directly into your phone.

16 When you decide that you want to make a comment
17 about an action item, or an item on the agenda, or general
18 comment, please press 1 0 and you will be placed in the
19 queue to make public comment.

20 After joining the queue to make a public comment,
21 you should hear an automatic recording informing you that
22 you've been placed in the queue. When it's your turn, the
23 operator will introduce you. At that time please state and
24 spell your name for the transcriptionist. Then, state your
25 comment clearly and concisely.

1 Comments will be limited to two minutes. You
2 will hear a time check when 15 seconds in your time
3 remains. After you finish making your comment, we will
4 move on to the next caller. At that point, please hang up
5 your phone.

6 If you're disconnected for any reason, please
7 call back and explain the issue to the operator, then
8 repeat the process and rejoin the public comment queue by
9 pressing 1 0.

10 These instructions can also be found on our
11 website.

12 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Counsel.

13 So, AT&T Operator, do we have anyone on the line
14 at this time?

15 AT&T OPERATOR: Just a reminder, ladies and
16 gentlemen, it is pressing 1, then 0.

17 At this time, Madam Chair, we have no one for
18 public comment.

19 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you. We'll wait our two
20 minutes. We can stand down while we wait.

21 (Pause)

22 CHAIR ANDERSEN: AT&T Operator, do we have anyone
23 on the line at this time?

24 AT&T OPERATOR: We have no one on line for public
25 comment.

1 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, AT&T Operator.

2 Hearing no public comment at this time, I would
3 like to thank the group, I'd like to thank the
4 Commissioners for giving me the privilege of serving as
5 your temporary chair, and all your honest and hard work,
6 coming together as a group to get all this job done. I
7 appreciate all the comments you've been making and the
8 sharing of your time.

9 I really want to say a thank you to the staff
10 here. To Ms. Saxton, to Mr. Porche. You don't know, but
11 in the wings there's also been counsel, Christopher Dawson,
12 who helped the ARP. And we have other staffing.

13 Additionally, our video has been run beautifully
14 and extremely helpfully by Mr. Kristian Manoff. And I just
15 really appreciate all the time and effort you've taken.
16 Thank you very much for the whole Commission.

17 And it's been a privilege and I want to say thank
18 you and open this up to any other Commissioners who would
19 like to say anything at this point.

20 Commissioner Le Mons.

21 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: You all know I'd be remiss
22 if I didn't say something. I just wanted to thank you,
23 Madam Chair, for stepping up and taking on this task, and
24 doing a very good job. I appreciate it.

25 And I want to thank all of my fellow

1 Commissioners for the lively engagement. Actually, as
2 arduous as this has felt at some times, and challenging,
3 I've actually enjoyed myself and have enjoyed getting to
4 know each of you a little bit, and look forward to getting
5 to know you more, and working with you, and of course the
6 other six Commissioners who aren't here with us today. I'm
7 looking forward to that as well.

8 I know we have a tall task ahead of us. I do
9 feel like we are definitely up to the challenge. I'm very
10 proud of the final group that we put together.

11 And I also want to let the North know that we are
12 here for you and we're going to make sure that we address
13 the area and make sure we have presence there, and make
14 sure that your voice is heard. I think that's important
15 and I know that's shared by my fellow Commissioners as
16 well.

17 So, with that, again, just thank you to all. Oh,
18 and I wanted to make sure I extend my thank you to the
19 staff there, as well. Ms. Saxton, I've gotten used to your
20 voice. You have a very nice voice and I've gotten used to
21 your voice. And the rest of the crew there, as well.

22 MS. SAXTON: Thank you, Commissioner Le Mons.

23 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Any other Commissioners?
24 Commissioner Sadhwani.

25 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Thank you. I just wanted

1 to echo all of the thanks, I think that's on behalf of all
2 of the Commissioners. Our thanks to Ms. Saxton for all
3 that you've done over these last few weeks, month, month
4 and a half. And to all of the staff at the Auditor's
5 Office, all of the folks, Ms. Pellman, the videographer,
6 everybody that's been helping out.

7 And I did want to just say, you know, I
8 definitely have had my doubts about our democracy from time
9 to time over the last few years. As a professor, as a
10 clinical scientist I study democracy and I have had my
11 worries at times that perhaps democracy in the United
12 States generally is backsliding. And recently, when
13 Congressman John Lewis had passed away, he had penned an
14 op-ed before he passed that was run.

15 And in it he said this: Democracy is not a
16 state. It is an act. And each generation must do its
17 part.

18 And I feel like today we have, and over this week
19 we have all done our part to uphold our commitment to an
20 active democracy, to an active engagement with communities
21 here in California.

22 And so, I just wanted to acknowledge all of that
23 hard work. I think it has been hard and contentious at
24 certain points in time. And I'm very pleased to welcome
25 the new Commissioners. And I am certain that as a full

1 Commission of 14 members we will all be completely
2 committed to ensuring all of the voices that desire to be
3 heard in California have that chance and opportunity. And
4 that our charge is to ensure that broad representation.
5 Thank you.

6 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Commissioner.
7 Commissioner Kennedy.

8 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Madam Chair.
9 And just taking off on Congressman Lewis's remarks and
10 Commissioner Sadhwani's remarks, I want to thank everyone
11 who did call in or write in. That's an important part of
12 the democratic process as well. And for this process to
13 remain credible, we need everyone to continue to feed into
14 us. We have a responsibility but you, as citizens have a
15 responsibility as well.

16 You know, one of the things that I loved most
17 about President Obama was his emphasis on the role of
18 citizen being a person's most important role. I'm a big
19 believer in that. I've even had some t-shirts printed up.
20 I've quoted him on some of these things.

21 But citizen participation is the heart of the
22 matter. We have a responsibility, but the people of
23 California have a responsibility, all their time and
24 efforts. Apologize for the frustrations in getting
25 through. You know, I have a notebook here. I've got

1 everyone's name. I've got the key points that they made.
2 We've gotten all the written comments. We have read those.
3 And just, please, keep it all coming. Thank you.

4 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Commissioner Kennedy.
5 Any other Commissioner want to speak in? Not at
6 this time? Well --

7 VICE CHAIR TURNER: I'll be brief, Madam Chair.

8 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Oh, yes, Commissioner Turner.

9 VICE CHAIR TURNER: I want to echo the sentiments
10 of my other fellow Commissioners. I also wanted to again
11 iterate my appreciation for you leading out as our temp
12 chairperson. I think you did an admirable job. I
13 appreciate you kind of stepping out into that territory and
14 just wanted to express my appreciation for you and the rest
15 of the Commissioners, for the staff, and for all of those
16 that called in. And I look forward to the real hard work
17 now.

18 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you.

19 Commissioner Ahmad.

20 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: I can step back for
21 Commissioner Taylor.

22 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Commissioner Taylor.

23 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Thank you. Thank you. You
24 know, you can't contradict anything that was said. Thank
25 you, guys. To staff, thank you, thank you, thank you. And

1 I'll say it again to staff, thank you, thank you, thank
2 you.

3 I, myself, personally I enjoy the spirit of
4 debate. Through that we learn, we're enlightened and we
5 can move forward. Without it, we can't accomplish much.
6 Iron sharpens iron, so I expect that sort of exchange.

7 I look forward to the work. I'm pleased we have
8 14 teams of the north and we have 14 teams of orange, so
9 we'll put any of that fear aside. So, I look forward to
10 the work.

11 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Commissioner Taylor.
12 Commissioner Ahmad, did you finish? Did we get
13 Commissioner Ahmad?

14 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you, Madam Chair.
15 Just echoing everyone's comments. Expressing my deepest
16 gratitude and thanks for everyone who had a part in this
17 that we don't even realize had a part in this process.

18 Thank you, Madam Chair for leading the efforts
19 and facilitating the group in some very, very tough
20 discussions. Just reflecting on the past couple of days, I
21 am so grateful for everything that I have learned, all of
22 the different perspectives, and ideas that feed into the
23 common goal that we have to ensure that California's
24 diversity and Californians are represented in these maps.
25 So, it really gives me hope in democracy and it

1 gives me insights into the power that people actually have
2 when they voice what they want.

3 So, thank you so much to everyone for an
4 incredible four days and I look forward to the next ten
5 years.

6 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Okay, great. Commissioner
7 Fornaciari. Thank you, Commissioner Ahmad.

8 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, I just again want
9 to echo everything that's been said much more eloquently
10 than I could ever say it.

11 A couple things, though, I do just want to note I
12 really appreciate the open and frank discussion that we've
13 all had. I've learned a lot about you all and your
14 perspective, and it's really -- you know, a big part of why
15 I'm here is to learn and I'm learning a lot.

16 And I want to say to, you know, those listening
17 and those who called in, you know, your comments and your
18 participation is critical to this process. And we all
19 really appreciated your feedback and your thoughts, and it
20 really made an impact on the process and the outcome, as
21 you can tell. As you can tell, we all listened deeply to
22 what you had to say and considered that.

23 And I'm looking forward to continuing the process
24 and actually, hopefully getting to meet a lot of you face
25 to face, and hearing what you have to say, and taking in

1 your input and including it in the process and the final
2 outcome. So, thank you for that.

3 And Commissioner Andersen thank you again for
4 stepping up. And everyone there that has helped out, thank
5 you so much.

6 Now, I look forward to getting going in a few
7 weeks.

8 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you.

9 Commissioner Le Mons?

10 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: I have a question, Madam
11 Chair and a comment. The question is I know before we
12 broke for lunch we had told the public that to be prepared
13 to give any feedback at 3:00, and I know we got the
14 introductions and things, and got finished a little bit
15 earlier. So, I just wanted to raise that up to kind of
16 raise that up to see. I know we're kind of close to 3:00,
17 if we maybe could take a break and at least come back at
18 3:00 and see if there's any public comment, just because we
19 did make that very specific time spot. So, that's the
20 question.

21 And then, I'll need your help on this, Madam
22 Chair. I believe it was the public comment from Mr. Quon,
23 if I remember correctly, the one that had commented about
24 the meetings, and I addressed that. And I just wanted to
25 acknowledge his getting back on the line and calling back

1 in, and acknowledging the misunderstanding. I really
2 appreciate that. And I think that that really speaks,
3 particularly in these kinds of dynamics with public comment
4 when it's kind of one directional that that was effort on
5 his part. And I really have a lot of respect for his
6 willingness to take some additional time to call back in to
7 acknowledge a misunderstanding.

8 So, I didn't want to let it go by without
9 acknowledging that. So, thank you, Mr. Quon.

10 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Commissioner Le Mons.

11 Actually, that is a very good point, question. I
12 know we don't need to actually ask counsel. We can
13 certainly, at our prerogative take a break. We have not
14 adjourned or anything like that. And we did tell the
15 public to look about 3:00 o'clock.

16 And as we really do need the public's
17 participation for us to proceed, I also feel that's a very
18 good idea.

19 So, do I hear any objections to the idea of just
20 breaking for a bit, coming back, right about 3:00 o'clock
21 and listening for public comment?

22 I see no objections whatsoever. So, with that
23 we'll just recess until 3:00, coming back for public
24 comment. Thank you.

25 (Off the record at 2:52 p.m.)

1 (On the record at 3:00 p.m.)

2 CHAIR ANDERSEN: All right, I see we have a
3 quorum so I'll bring the meeting back to order for the
4 public who may be tuning in now. As we said, a few more
5 bits of business and check in about 3:00 o'clock.

6 We have concluded our items of business on the
7 agenda, with the exception of public comment. And so, at
8 this time we'll ask the staff, to counsel to please read
9 the instructions for calling in.

10 MS. SAXTON: If you'd like to make public comment
11 please call in now by dialing 844-291-5495. In the next
12 few moments we'll begin taking public comment and that
13 number again is 844-291-5495.

14 After dialing the number, you'll speak to an
15 operator. You'll be asked to provide either the access
16 code for the meeting, which is 8121803, or the name of the
17 meeting which is CRC selection meeting.

18 After providing this information, the operator
19 will ask you to provide your name. Please note that you
20 are not required to provide your actual name. When the
21 operator asks for your name, you may provide a name other
22 than your own. When it's your turn to make a public
23 comment, the operator will introduce you by the name you
24 provided. Please be assured our office is not maintaining
25 any list of callers by name. We ask for you to provide

1 some name to enable the operator to manage multiple calls
2 simultaneously and let you know when it's your turn to
3 speak.

4 After speaking with the operator you will be
5 placed in a listening room. In this room you will be able
6 to listen to live audio of the meeting. Please mute your
7 computer audio because the online video and audio will be
8 delayed by approximately 60 seconds and feedback issues may
9 occur, making it difficult for anyone to hear your comment.
10 Also, please do not use a speakerphone and make sure to
11 speak directly into your phone.

12 When you decide that you want to make a comment,
13 press 1 0, and you'll be placed in the queue to make public
14 comment. After joining the queue to make a public comment,
15 you should hear an automatic recording informing you that
16 you've been placed in the queue.

17 When it is your turn, the operator will introduce
18 you. At that time please state and spell your name for the
19 transcriptionist, then state your comment clearly and
20 concisely. Comments will be limited to two minutes. You
21 will hear a time check when 15 seconds in your time
22 remains.

23 After you finish making your comment, we will
24 move on to the next caller. At that point please hang up
25 your phone. If you'd like to comment on another agenda

1 item -- well, this is the end, right.

2 CHAIR ANDERSEN: So, you can't.

3 MS. SAXTON: If you're disconnected for any
4 reason, please call back and explain the issue to the
5 operator, then repeat the process and rejoin the public
6 comment queue by pressing 1 0.

7 These instructions can also be found on our
8 website.

9 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Counsel.

10 For all the public who hopefully are there, we
11 actually have finished all our business and all the
12 Commissioners said thank you to everybody. A lot of thank
13 you's to the public.

14 As you know, now, we have a Commission of 14.
15 Our task here of the eight to pick the next six has
16 concluded and now our work begins.

17 This was not -- if you called in to participate
18 in the Commission and said, oh, now it's done, no. That
19 was all pre-work. Now, we need all of you to get in touch
20 with us as we actually begin this entire process. So,
21 please, I hope that you stay involved regardless of if
22 you're happy or unhappy with this last decision. We need
23 all of you.

24 So, AT&T Operator, do we happen to have anyone on
25 the line.

1 AT&T OPERATOR: Well, again, if you wish to queue
2 up, you may press 1, then 0 at this time.

3 Madam Chair, there are no other lines for public
4 comment.

5 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you very much.

6 MS. JOHNSTON: If there is anyone who has already
7 signed up with the State Auditor's Office to get notice of
8 Commission meetings, that list will be transferred to the
9 current Commission and you will still be on the list to
10 receive all notices of future meetings.

11 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you. Actually, a quick
12 question on that. Do we have a website, if they want to --
13 right now they look at the Shape California. Is there a
14 new website that they would look to follow?

15 MS. JOHNSTON: There is an old website that I
16 think is going to be revised for this Commission. It was
17 wedrawthelines.com. And I don't think that has been set
18 up, yet, but it will be soon.

19 CHAIR ANDERSEN: So, for them to get in touch
20 right now what is the procedure?

21 MS. JOHNSTON: Through the State Auditor's Office
22 still.

23 CHAIR ANDERSEN: So, we have a question from
24 Commissioner Kennedy.

25 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Madam Chair.

1 I'm hoping that the website from the 2010 Commission will
2 be retained somewhere. I was trying to research some
3 things about the 2010 Commission even last night and when I
4 clicked on the links for the "meet the Commissioners" of
5 the 2010 Commission it took me to a list of us, which
6 wasn't helpful.

7 MS. JOHNSTON: We will need to work with the
8 Auditor's staff about that. My understanding was that they
9 were going to archive the 2010 Commission, but keep the
10 information available to the public. And we will do our
11 best to make sure that that happens.

12 CHAIR ANDERSEN: So, do we have anyone on the
13 line at this time?

14 AT&T OPERATOR: At this time there are no public
15 comments.

16 CHAIR ANDERSEN: No public comments, okay.

17 Well, it's actually now seven minutes after 3:00.
18 Do we feel we need to wait a few more minutes? I think the
19 public has spoken.

20 I just wanted to additionally say, ask
21 Commissioner Kennedy what's the update on your fire
22 situation?

23 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: My partner is back at home
24 reporting that the winds keep shifting. So, one minute
25 it's clear, one minute it's, you know, full of smoke again.

1 So, it's really difficult to say. It seems like -- I mean
2 the official reports are that they've made progress on the
3 southwestern edge of the fire, which is where the fire
4 originated. But that because of the winds we continue to
5 have concerns about the east and northeast edges of the
6 fire, which is what would threaten us.

7 So, I thank all of you for your concern and I'll
8 try to keep you posted. I know we'll miss each other the
9 next couple weeks without this daily contact.

10 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Actually, please do keep us
11 involved because I know I'll be -- I will be trying to
12 watch that tonight on the news, or getting on the internet
13 to find it. So, best of luck.

14 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you.

15 CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you very much to
16 everybody. I really appreciate this. Unless there are
17 additional comments, I think we might be able to all go
18 home or in your case just end the meeting.

19 Any additional comments? Not at this time.
20 Thank you very much everyone. Our business is completed
21 and I will call the meeting adjourned.

22 (Thereupon, the First Eight Commissioners'
23 meeting adjourned at 3:08 p.m.)

24
25

REPORTER' S CERTIFICATE

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 4th day of November, 2020.



TROY RAY
CER-369

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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 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 4th day of November, 2020.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Barbara Little", is written over a horizontal line.

Barbara Little
Certified Transcriber
AAERT No. CET**D-520