STATE OF CALIFORNIA

2020 CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION (CRC)

In the matter of:

ZONE K - PUBLIC INPUT MEETING (Imperial, San Diego)

721 Capitol Mall, 2nd Floor
Sacramento, California 95814

FRIDAY, AUGUST 13, 2021

3:00 P.M.

Reported by:

Peter Petty
APPEARANCES

Commissioners Present:
Isra Ahmad, Co-Chair
Patricia Sinay, Co-Chair
Jane Andersen
Alicia Fernandez
J. Ray Kennedy
Sara Sadhwani
Derric Taylor
Pedro Toledo
Trena Turner
Angela Vázquez
Russell Yee

Staff Present:
Ravi Singh

Technical Contractors:
Katy, Public Comment Moderator
Kristian Manoff, AV Technical Director
Interpreters

Public Comment:
Jose Manuel Garcia
Nancy Nguyen
Michael Whyte
Delores Chavez Harmes
Ramah Awad
Fernando Garcia
Rami Ibrahim
Brenda Aguirre
Rahmo Abdi
Oromo Interpreter
Patrick Baden
Unidentified Speaker
Unidentified Speaker
Abdi Aziz Jama
Christopher Rodriguez
Nadine Hassoun
Makhfira Abdullahi
Barry Jantz
Mu Adham
Public Comment (Continued):

Hussein
Hayden
Aleena Jun
Joshua Raines
Ashman Farood
Omair Khan
Maria Lajacas
Ramiro Rodriguez
Erica Schwart
Unidentified Speaker
Unidentified Speaker
Maria Agravel
Michael Murray
Yasmeen Obeid
Amagalet
Magdalena Casales
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CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Good afternoon everyone, welcome and thank you for tuning in to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission Communities of Interest Meeting. I’m Commissioner Isra Ahmad and I will be co-chairing today’s meeting with Commissioner Sinay.

Today we are offering three language lines in the following languages: Spanish, Filipino and Tagalog, and Arabic, so language speakers can listen to the meeting in their native language.

Could I please have our interpreters provide our call-in numbers? We’ll start with the Spanish interpreter, would you please read the Spanish language line instructions?

SPANISH INTERPRETER: This is the Spanish interpreter. (Instructions read in Spanish). Thank you.

CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you so much. Can I have the Filipino and Tagalog interpreter read the Filipino and Tagalog language line instructions?

FILIPINO/TAGALOG INTERPRETER: (Instructions read in Filipino/Tagalog).

CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you so much. May I ask the Arabic interpreter to read the Arabic language line instructions?
CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Again, can I ask the Arabic interpreter to read the Arabic language line instructions?

ARABIC INTERPRETER: Yes, this is the Arabic interpreter. (Instructions read in Arabic).

CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you so much to all of our interpreters. Now we will go to Ravi for roll call. Ravi?

MR. SINGH: Thank you, Chair. Commissioner Akutagawa?

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Andersen?

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Fernández?

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Present.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Fornaciari?

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Kennedy?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Here.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Le Mons?

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Sadhwani?

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Sinay?

CO-CHAIR SINAY: Present.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Taylor?
COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Present.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Toledo?

(No audible response)

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Turner?

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Here.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Vázquez?

COMMISSIONER VÁZQUEZ: Here.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Yee?

COMMISSIONER YEE: Here.

MR. SINGH: And Commissioner Ahmad?

CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Here.

MR. SINGH: Roll call is complete, Chair.

CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you, Ravi. I will start by sharing a little bit about the Commission. Every 10 years after the federal government publishes updated census information, California must redraw the boundaries of its Congressional State Senate, State Assembly, and State Board of Equalization Districts, so that the districts correctly reflect the state’s population.

In 2008, California voters authorized the creation of the Commission when they passed the Voters FIRST Act. It authorized the Commission to draw the new district lines for State Senate, State Assembly, and State Board of Equalization Districts.

In 2010, the Congressional Voters FIRST Act added
the responsibility of drawing Congressional Districts to the Commission. The 14 member Commission is made up of five Republicans, five Democrats, and four not affiliated with either of those two parties.

The Commission must draw the district lines in conformity with strict, non-partisan rules designed to create districts of relatively equal population that will provide fair representation for all Californians.

This week the census redistricting data was released. When the official California Redistricting Database is available in late September, the Commission will begin drawing maps using six line drawing criterion as outlined in the California Constitution.

One of these is minimizing the division of cities, counties, neighborhoods, and communities of interest to the extent possible. We can obtain the city and county information from those jurisdictions, but we need the neighborhood and communities of interest information from Californians directly.

(Audio cuts out)

CO-CHAIR AHMAD: We encourage all Californians to participate in this process. If you would rather submit community of interest input over the internet, you can do so from our website or by visiting drawmycacommunity.org, skip the line, go online.
Now I will call on all Commissioners to introduce themselves and to say hello. To see the biographies of all 14 Commissioners, for additional information, or to sign up for our emails, please visit our website at wedrawthelinesca.org.

We will begin with my co-chair, Commissioner Sinay.

CO-CHAIR SINAY: (Greeting in Spanish first).
Good morning, San Diego and Imperial County, this is what I call home, San Diego, and I’m glad to be here and we’re looking forward to hearing from all of you. I am Patricia Sinay. Thank you.

CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you. Commissioner Akutagawa?

(No audible response)

CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Commissioner Andersen?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Good afternoon, California, and welcome to all the people from the San Diego area, I look forward to hearing from you today about your communities of interest and anyone else who is calling in from our wonderful state. Thank you.

CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you. Commissioner Fernández.

COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: (Greeting in Spanish first). Good afternoon, California, I’m Alicia Fernández
from Yolo County and a special welcome to those from Imperial and San Diego Counties. As it’s Friday the 13th, only positive things as we get to hear more about your community, so I’m really looking forward to that.

CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you. Commissioner Fornaciari?

(No audible response)

CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Commissioner Kennedy?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. Good afternoon, California, I’m joining from my home in Morongo Valley, which is one of the Joshua Tree gateway communities in the desert of southern San Bernardino County. Looking forward to hearing about the communities of Imperial and elsewhere and what makes your community special to you.

CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you. Commissioner Le Mons.

(No audible response)

CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Commissioner Sadhwani?

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Thank you, Chair. Good afternoon, California, and San Diego and Imperial Counties. My name is Sara Sadhwani. I am a resident of LA County and looking forward to hearing more about your communities of interest. Thank you so much.

CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you. Commissioner Taylor.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Good afternoon, California,
good afternoon, hope everyone is well. My name is Derric Taylor. I’m a long time LA County resident, so I'm your neighbor to the north, I don’t get to say that too often. Looking forward to hearing all of your input and put it into practice. Thank you.

CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you. Commissioner Turner.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Good evening, good afternoon, late afternoon. I’m Trena Turner and I bid you a farewell and -- not farewell, but I guess a good day coming from Central California. My home is in Stockton and I’m looking forward to hearing from you all today on this amazing good luck Friday. Thank you.

CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you. Commissioner Toledo?

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Buenas tardes, good afternoon. My name is Pedro Toledo and I'm from Petaluma, California in the heart of wine country up in Northern California. I’m looking forward to spending the afternoon and evening with you, learning all about your communities. Thank you, Chair.

CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you. Commissioner Vázquez?

COMMISSIONER VÁZQUEZ: Hi, there, happy Friday. Welcome California and especially to those in San Diego and Imperial County, very much looking forward to hearing all you have to share with us about your communities today.
CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you. And Commissioner Yee?

COMMISSIONER YEE: Hello, California, and special greetings to our two southern border counties, San Diego and Imperial. Looking forward to hearing about your communities of interest today.

CO-CHAIR AHMAD: And myself, I am very excited to continue to learn about San Diego and Imperial Counties. I had the privilege of being lead in Outreach with Commissioner Sinay on this region and I’ve learned so much and I am looking forward to continuing to learn.

Continuing on, we are active on social media, so please also follow the California Citizens Redistricting Commission on social media. You can find us on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn, and YouTube at wedrawthelinesca.org. Following us on social media is another way to get useful information about redistricting and updates from the California Commission.

Before we continue, could I please ask our interpreters to provide our language line numbers one more time? May I ask the Spanish interpreter to read the Spanish language line instructions?

SPANISH INTERPRETER: Spanish interpreter. (Instructions read in Spanish). Gracias, thank you.

CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you. May I ask the
Filipino and Tagalog interpreter to read the
Filipino/Tagalog language line instructions?

FILIPINO/TAGALOG INTERPRETER: (Speaks in
Filipino/Tagalog).

CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Again, may I please ask the
Filipino and Tagalog interpreter to read the
Filipino/Tagalog language line instructions?

FILIPINO/TAGALOG INTERPRETER: (Instructions read
in Filipino-Tagalog).

CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you. May I please ask the
Arabic interpreter to read the Arabic language line
instructions?

ARABIC INTERPRETER: This is the Arabic
interpreter. (Instructions read in Arabic).

CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you so much to our
interpreters. Now on to a few housekeeping items. This
meeting is primarily for communities of interest testimony
focused on San Diego and Imperial Counties and surrounding
areas; however, anyone in California can call in to provide
input. General public comment will take place at the end
of the meeting.

Although the Commission has divided up California
into 11 zones, that is in no way related to or reflective
of redistricting lines or boundaries. The Commission
created the zones to assist Commissioners and staff in
their outreach efforts only, not as an indication of planned boundaries.

Today we are joined by our line drawing team, HaystaqDNA and Q2 Data and Research, who will be displaying a map of the area that attendees describe. Please start with the area you would like to discuss and be as specific as possible about the boundaries of where your community is located. It is our goal to find the area on the map you would like to discuss prior to your testimony.

If you are within a specific neighborhood of a large city, please mention it by name. Once we are able to locate your area, your timer will begin. Attendees will not be able to share their screen.

We are also joined by Spanish, Filipino/Tagalog, Arabic interpreters as well as Somali, Oromo, Pashto, and Farsi interpreters that will be joining the meeting and Katy, our comment moderator, who will be introducing attendees when it is their turn to speak.

When you join the meeting, please use the raise hand button at the bottom of your screen to enter the queue. If you have registered for a time slot, we encourage you to call in during your appointment time slot. When it is your turn to speak, Katy, our comment moderator, will be identifying you by your unique assigned ID Number. You will be reconnected to the session with the ability to
enable your own video and/or audio.

Registration is not required to participate in this public input meeting. The public has the option of calling in during this meeting to get in the queue to speak. If you do not have an appointment and wish to call in to provide public input, the number to dial is (877)853-5247. Again, the number to provide input is (877)853-5247. You will need to enter the meeting ID number 81933017362. This call-in information and access code is also listed on the livestream. You will need to dial this number in order to give public input.

Today there will be Spanish, Arabic, Filipino/Tagalog, Somali, Oromo, Farsi, and Pashto interpreters available to interpret non-English input at this call-in number. Katy, our comment moderator, will also assign you a speaker order number before you begin speaking and please make note of this number for future reference. You will be able to use this number to identify your community of interest testimony on our website at a future date.

The Commission will be enforcing a 3-minute time limit for English speakers and a 6-minute time limit for those with an interpreter. There will be a warning at 30 seconds and 15 seconds remaining. At the beginning of your input, you will see a map on the screen. Please remind the
mapper what area you would like to see on the screen and be as specific as possible about the boundaries of where your community is located.

If at the conclusion of the meeting, there is still a need to allow for members of the public in the queue to speak, we will continue this community of interest input meeting at a new date and time and will attempt to schedule the remaining members of the public to speak for the allotted 3-minutes. Please monitor the website as we expect to post a continuation of this agenda within 24 hours if needed.

Now a little bit about the communities of interest tool. While there are no clear rules on how to define a community of interest, we’ve identified ways for you to describe your community. You can begin with your county or city; mention the street names and significant locations in your neighborhood to help us identify the parameters of your community. What are your shared interests, what brings your community together, what is important to your community, are there nearby areas you want to be in a district with, are there nearby areas you don’t want to be in a district with, why or why not?

Has your community come together to advocate for important services, better schools, roads, or health centers in your neighborhood? We also invite you to use
the community of interest tool to draw a map and describe your community by visiting drawmycacommunity.org. This website is also available in 16 languages. Skip the line, go online, submit your community of interest input today and please encourage at least three other people in your circles to do the same.

We will now begin the public input sessions and we’ll start with people who are registered and then open the phone lines if there is time before the next session. If you are calling without an appointment, please do not hang up as you will lose your place in line.

I will pass this over to Katy, our comment moderator; Katy will read the instructions and then instruct our Somali interpreter to read the site translation for the open public input session instructions. Katy, the floor is yours.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you, Chair. Welcome to the public input session. Please use the raise hand button at the bottom of your screen to enter the queue. When it is your turn to speak, you will be identified by your assigned unique ID number, which you were emailed yesterday. You will be reconnected to the session with the ability to enable your own video and/or audio.

You will then be assigned a speaker order number
before you begin speaking. Please make a note of your speaker order number for future reference. If you are calling without an appointment, please do not hang up as you will lose your place in line.

If you will be using an interpreter, please identify the language you speak as soon as you are connected. The Commission will be enforcing a 3-minute time limit for English speakers and a 6-minute time limit for those with an interpreter. There will be a warning at 30 seconds and 15 seconds remaining.

It is the Commission’s goal to find the area on the map you would like to discuss prior to your testimony. If you are within a specific neighborhood of a large city, please mention it by name. Once we are able to locate your area, your 3 or 6-minute testimony will begin. Attendees will not be able to share their screen.

And is the Somali interpreter available at this time?

(No audible response)

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Mr. Hassan?

(No audible response)

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: The Somali interpreter, Mr. Hassan, are you available to --

SOMALI INTERPRETER: Can you hear me?

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, we can. Are you
available to translate, do you have them in front of you?

SOMALI INTERPRETER: Yes, I do.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Perfect, thank you so much. The floor is yours.

SOMALI INTERPRETER: Thank you. (Instructions read in Somali). Thank you.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

SOMALI INTERPRETER: Thank you.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: At this time, we will be starting with 003 and up next will be 019. 003, I will be promoting you now. 003, your speaker order number will be Number 1 if you will please make note of that for future reference. If you could please let the mapper know what area you would like to discuss, the floor is yours.

(Whereas the following was interpreted from Spanish to English).

JOSÉ MANUEL GARCIA: Thank you very much; I would like to speak in particular about the Escondido area. Very well, my name is José Manuel Garcia and I have been a resident of the Escondido City for almost 25 years. I have been a pastor in Hispanic churches for almost 30 years. And I’m a newly elected member of the City Council for the City of Escondido. This afternoon I would like to speak at the need of maintaining or keeping the communities mentioned together. These are communities
of interest and particularly we’re referring to the agricultural identification.

As a Hispanic, as a pastor of Hispanic churches, I have many members who are part of these community. And they might grade for work within those areas that we have mentioned. Another aspect of these agricultural area are the wine areas, the vines, grapevines, excuse me. And I also find that many of my members, members of my congregation work in those areas. I’ve also discovered that many members of our community work in that area as well.

I think that it’s important for us to keep these areas together because we also have the 15 Highway that runs right through those areas. It connects these areas. And it allows that these community of interest can mobilize and work within that area.

Additionally, I would like to express that I’m a pastor of a Hispanic church in Fallbrook. And I see a unification of interest particularly Fallbrook and Temecula. And again talking and touching upon the same issues, employment and transportation, the economic growth of this area is not simply provided by agriculture, but it is also helped by the mobility, the ability to mobilize and to work with ease.

So I would like to say this afternoon that I
I think it would be a good thing to maintain together these areas of interest for the reasons that I have expressed. Thank you so much and I thank you for giving me the time and having listened to me. Thank you.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

Right now we will have 002 and up next will be 020. 002, I will be promoting you now. 002, your speaker order number will be Number 2 if you will please make note of that for future reference and if you’ll please let the mapper know what area you would like to discuss, the floor is yours.

NANCY NGUYEN: Hi, my name is Nancy Nguyen; I’ll actually be giving a public comment on behalf of an organization. I’m a civic engagement organizer for the Partnership for the Advancement of New Americans and we work at the intersection of African, Middle Eastern, Muslim, South Asian refugee communities. PANA is a research, public policy, and community organizing hub dedicated to advancing the full economic, social, and civic inclusion of refugees.

We serve hundreds of immigrant and refugee families across San Diego County. We presented to you in November on diversity of African languages and best practices for community engagement. Since last speaking with you, we have conducted redistricting 101 sessions with the community, hosted ten COI sessions with 200 residents.
in the last three months, both virtually and in-person.

We met at parks, local mosques, and community centers and we covered the COI sessions in English, Somali, Oromo, Swahili, Arabic, and Dari, so our community members could effectively engage in the process in their preferred language. We engaged youth and elders in the community to learn more about their experiences in schools and jobs.

Our community will be calling in to share their experiences and speak about their COIs. I don’t want to speak on behalf of the community, but an example could be in City Heights, there are two significant landmarks that kept coming up, that includes the City Heights Tower and the Colina Del Sol Park.

Community members will be calling in for their COIs, including City Heights, El Cajon, and Southeast. We’re still in the process of using your COI app and we’re talking to community members before we formally submit our COI through the app.

The community has come together to draw maps that accurately represent us to ensure voting power to elect representatives who look like us in office and have our interests in mind. Thank you so much for your time and listening. Really look forward to seeing you again in September.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.
Right now we will have 020 and then up next will be 004.

020, I will be promoting you now. 020, your speaker order number will be Number 3 if you will please make note of that for future reference and if you’ll please let the mapper know what area you would like to discuss, the floor is yours.

MICHAEL WHYTE: Hello everybody, my name is Michael Whyte. I’m from Southeast. I would like to discuss Southeast San Diego. I’m 44 years old and I’ve lived in Southeast San Diego my entire life.

I was on a COI session on August 9th with Natasha and Michael Lanae (ph.). I just wanted to talk about Southeast San Diego and why we want to keep it together so we can keep our numbers strong. That’s a predominantly black and brown areas of San Diego. We have traditional landmarks such as FAM MART, Chicano Park. We have events like PHATCAMP, that brings all the black women together to play softball from different communities all throughout Southeast San Diego and we have roundtable meetings as for the fellas that’s all from around Southeast San Diego to try to get the gangs to be squashed.

The things that are key political issues that impact our community are poverty, gangs, drugs. Southeast San Diego tends to be the lower end of the financial scale in San Diego, so it’s overridden by cops and, you know,
they harass us and do all kind of illegal jury-rigged stops.

I would like to put the landmarks -- east would be Grand Avenue in Spring Valley, west would be 12th and Imperial Transit Station, the trolley station, north would be 54th and El Cajon, Hoover High School, the Bazaar, and south would be Euclid and Division and Mario’s clothing shop right there.

These are predominantly black and brown communities and in order for us to have a voice, a strong voice together, we need to keep these communities together because breaking us up apart and when it comes time to vote, we all vote together, but it’s all separated anyway.

So I would love -- thank you for taking my time in consideration and thank you for hearing me out.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. Right now we will have 004 and then up next will be 019. 004, I will be promoting you now. 004, it appears that there may be some connectivity issues and I am unable to promote you; however, I will use the audio only option at this time.

DELORES CHAVEZ HARMES: Can you hear me?

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: There you are. So your speaker order number will be Number 4, if you’ll please make note of that for future reference and if you’ll
please let the mapper know what area you would like to discuss, the floor is yours.

DELORES CHAVEZ HARMES: Valley Center, I included that in the chat also. Good afternoon, my name is Delores Chavez Harmes, I am the Chair of the Valley Center Community Planning Group and I also have served as the President of the Latino American Political Association of San Diego County for the last six years, which is a non-partisan organization founded in 1973 to promote leadership and unity in the Latino community and to increase Latino participation in the political process and in representation government.

Today I am testifying on behalf of Valley Center to request that the communities of Valley Center, Fallbrook, Bonsall, Pala, Pauma Valley, Rainbow, and De Luz are included in the same district to protect our shared rural character and ensure our unique needs and concerns over housing and wildfire prevention are well represented.

As chair of the Valley Center Community Planning Group and a Valley Center resident for over 12 years, I know well the unique concerns my neighbors and I share with the surrounding communities over housing development and protecting our rural character.

In Valley Center and other surrounding unincorporated communities, housing is largely limited to
one acre lots which helps protect the rural character of our communities. Coastal incorporated cities to our west, such as Oceanside, Vista, Carlsbad, and even San Marcos have very different priorities when it comes to housing. Similarly, Section 8 low income housing is administered in our rural communities by the County of San Diego’s Housing and Community Development Services Department, which is very different than the coastal cities such as Oceanside and Carlsbad.

In order to ensure our unique priorities for housing are well represented, I request that the rural communities of Valley Center, Bonsall, Fallbrook, Pauma Valley, Pala, Rainbow, and De Luz are all included in the same district.

Valley Center also shares concerns regarding the ever present threat of wildfires and the need for wildfire prevention funding with our surrounding communities. These concerns are shared by the surrounding communities of Pauma Valley, Bonsall, Fallbrook, Pala, Rainbow, De Luz, and even parts of Escondido.

Once again the more urban coastal communities west of Valley Center including San Marcos, Vista, Oceanside, and Carlsbad do not share these concerns to the same extent that we do. For these reasons, I am requesting --
AV TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: 30 seconds.

DELORES CHAVEZ HARMES: -- our rural communities are kept in the same district apart from the urban communities to our west to ensure our wildfire concerns are well represented. Thank you.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

Right now we will have 019 and I’d like to invite 018 to use the raise your hand button at the bottom of your screen as you do have an appointment during this session and you will be next after 019. Right now we have 019. I will be promoting you at this time and up next will be 018, I see that hand. 019, your speaker order number will be Number 5, if you’ll please make note of that for future reference and if you’ll please let the mapper know what area you would like to discuss, the floor is yours.

RAMAH AWAD: Hi, my name is Ramah Awad, and I’m a community advocate with the Arab Community Center in San Diego, we’re based in El Cajon, so I’m today mostly concerned with the City of El Cajon. We’re somewhere in between District 50 and District 53.

I want to thank you for the opportunity to speak today and for hosting these public hearings so that our communities can be more involved in this process. I work with San Diego’s Arab, refugee, and immigrant communities in El Cajon, but also across San Diego County.
San Diego County, as I’m sure you all know, has historically and continues today to receive the greatest number of refugees in the state of California. Most of the community members that I work with through the center have resettled here within the past 5 to 10 years after fleeing war in their homelands in the Middle East, namely from Iraq and Syria.

My daily work is dedicated to ensuring that they gain access to the services and resources that they need and my community is connected through their shared experiences as refugees and as newer immigrants. They’re also connected by a common language, being Arabic. They share similar cultural values as well as attend similar places of worship. They are renters, business owners, and a huge proportion of them work in the service sector and are recipients of government aid programs.

As a community advocate, we are involved in the process of redistricting because there is a direct relationship between the limited (ph.) realities of community members and federal policies that they -- that relate to housing, health care, immigration, and foreign policy.

Our first involvement in redistricting was with the 2020 Census. Since the census, since the census data fails to account for Arabs in the U.S., we had to make a
concerted effort last year to ensure that our communities are registering or were registering for the 2020 Census.

Since then, since our campaigning efforts, we have been mapping our community members by having them mark their places of residence, schools, and religious institutions on both digital and physical maps. We have found that our communities are currently divided between District 50 and District 53 on the Congressional level.

This means that our communities do not have a strong say in federal policies that have direct implications on their lives in the U.S. as well as the lives of their families abroad. I urge that the Commission pay --

AV TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: 30 seconds.

RAMAH AWAD: -- attention to this divide and work to redraw the lines in a way that keeps our Arab, Muslim, and refugee communities in San Diego together so that they have a real say in the policies that most impact them.

Thank you.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

Right now we will have 018; I will be promoting you now. 018, your speaker order number will be Number 6, if you will please make note of that for future reference. You can now enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of your screen. If you will please let the mapper
FERNANDO GARCIA: Great, thank you. Can you hear me?

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, we can.

FERNANDO GARCIA: Great. The area I want to talk about is in Oceanside and Bonsall and Fallbrook --

AV TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: Thank you, go ahead, please.

FERNANDO GARCIA: -- and Camp Pendleton. My name is Fernando Garcia, I’m a retired Marine. I retired in Camp Pendleton. I’m also an immigrant, I’m a Latino immigrant, I immigrated here from Mexico when I was seven, so I can do Español if you want, I can do English. Let’s just stick with the English so that we don’t do the translator.

So I live right at the most northeast corner of Oceanside. My home, it’s in the Arrowood neighborhood on Vandegrift Boulevard is a very important avenue that joins Camp Pendleton and Oceanside, as well as there’s a part that goes towards Fallbrook.

So there is about 800 military students in Camp Pendleton that go to Fallbrook as well. My daughter went to Fallbrook High School even though I live in Oceanside, that’s just how the districts are drawn here for on the
school wise.

So Bonsall is another school that our kids go to. Our school district that our kids go to here in Northeast Oceanside so we have a lot of shared interests. Besides that, we have public transportation. There is a couple of bus lines that transport people from Fallbrook to Camp Pendleton to Oceanside to Bonsall back and forth to work for commuting purposes.

The water resources -- the most important vital asset that we have is water. Fallbrook and Camp Pendleton share a vital water source between the two. Additionally, school districts, like I already mentioned, there’s a lot of federal funding that goes from Department of Defense towards the area for schools as well as Fallbrook has invested in the school district to support all these 800 kids.

Additionally, many military families live in Fallbrook, so just to keep it, keep it simple, I’m requesting just to keep the Camp Pendleton, Fallbrook, Oceanside, and Bonsall areas together because that a lot of the people that work, live, and play live in these four areas.

Military commute to Bonsall for dinner, Bonsall to Fallbrook to work, Fallbrook to Oceanside to work. So, yeah, these four communities are so intertwined together, I
don't -- I just cannot fathom, you know, having them breaking apart, so I’m requesting for these four to stay, stay together or be together if possible. That’s it, thank you.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. Now at this time, I’d like to invite those that have called in to please press star 9 on their telephone keypad to raise their hand indicating they wish to give comment. I see those hands. Right now we will have caller with the last four 7682 and then up next will be caller 5600. Caller 7682, if you will please follow the prompts to unmute at this time. Caller 7682, your speaker order number will be Number 6 -- no, your speaker order number will be Number 7, if you’ll please make note of that for future reference and if you’ll please let the mapper know what area you would like to discuss, the floor is yours.

RAMI IBRAHIM: Hi, Commissioners, the area I’d like to discuss is El Cajon, California. My name is Rami Ibrahim and I’ve been a resident of San Diego for 21 years and I’m currently a volunteer with the Majdal Center. We are located in the heart of our community on Main Street in El Cajon.

We are a community and resource center located in El Cajon for Arab refugees, immigrants, and residents of San Diego. We seek to empower and uplift all members of the
Arab community in San Diego with a community network of over 300 families and a base of largely Syrian, Iraqi, and Palestinian refugees and new immigrants.

We are a community of interest in San Diego with a shared language of Arabic, largely renters, recipients of government aid programs, and are largely employed in the service industry. We have been really busy holding community mapping sessions locally and attending redistricting hearings in the city of El Cajon, as we are not counted in the census and we have to make ourselves visible.

At a youth event that we held in Wells Park in El Cajon last month, we supported over 30 youth in mapping their homes, schools, and community spots and we also held a tabling session at the Islamic Center of San Diego East County on 833 Broadway in El Cajon.

We successfully supported over 15 Arab, immigrant, and Muslim community members in giving testimony at the El Cajon city redistricting meeting at the Hillside recreation center. Our community members testified in both English and Arabic and we fully supported them with translated materials.

And so we’re now transitioning to a larger focus on the state redistricting process and you’ll definitely hear from many of our community members today. Our
community is currently split right down the middle at the Congressional level between Districts 50 and 53.

It’s critical that our Arab, Muslim, and refugee communities stay together in this upcoming redistricting cycle. Many of our community members in El Cajon share community support networks with refugees in other parts of the county, like Spring Valley and City Heights in particular.

From community mapping, we've also found that our community members who shop and pray in El Cajon are also located in those cities. Currently, many community members are struggling to pay rent.

AV TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: 30 seconds.

RAMI IBRAHIM: There’s a lack of affordable housing. Many members became unemployed from the pandemic and many of our school are facing Islamophobia and bullying. Additionally, many of our recently resettled families are still getting used to life in the U.S. --

AV TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: 15 seconds.

RAMI IBRAHIM: -- and many rely on each other in (indiscernible) communities. It’s important that our communities stay together. Thank you.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. Right now we will have caller 5600 and then up next will be caller 9559. Caller 5600, if you will please follow the
prompt to unmute at this time. Caller 5600, your speaker
order number will be Number 8, if you’ll please make note
of that for future reference and if you’ll please let the
mapper know what area you would like to discuss, the floor
is yours.

BRENDA AGUIRRE: Hello, I would like to discuss
the South Bay, Mid-City area of San Diego. My name is
Brenda Aguirre and I’m calling from Chicano Federation. We
serve as provider of home-based children and toddler-based
program and as an advocate on behalf of emerging issues of
equity and it’s very important to advance the Latino
community. The Chicano Federation embraces --

AV TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: Excuse me, caller 5600,
could you please speak closer to the microphone and speak
louder, please?

BRENDA AGUIRRE: Can you hear me?

AV TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: We’ll restart your time.

Yes. Speak louder, please.

BRENDA AGUIRRE: Thank you. The Chicano
Federation is based in City Heights, but serves communities
in Western San Diego County, Orange County, and Coachella
Valley as well. I’m calling today to urge you to respect
the Latino community of interest in the South Bay in San
Diego County.

The South Bay has a high Latino population with a
combination of monolingual, Spanish, and bilingual residents. We are renters and low income working class homeowners. Housing affordability is a major issue in our community. Our proximity to the border means that we have a strong Mexican American culture that is concerned about immigration, like border patrol presence as well as Spanish language access, equal access to education and services and housing affordability.

Many Latino families have mixed status families and this has influenced several generations about how to interact with government, law enforcement, voting, and access to service that they qualify for. The voter rights of the Latino community should be respected in the South Bay and Mid-City areas where majority of Latinos live. This includes San Ysidro, Chula Vista, National City, Barrio Logan, City Heights, Sherman Heights, and Logan Heights.

Even though San Diego Bay, this community does not include Coronado. The Latino community has been historically marginalized and disenfranchised from the voting and civic engagement process. This community of interest needs to be empowered to ensure that Latinos cannot only influence and voice their needs and concern, but that they be done equitably to repair generations of bias and neglect that have harmed our community.
Please respect our community by keeping us together in the restriction process. Thank you for your time.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. Right now we will have caller 9559 and then up next will be caller 1834. Caller 9559, if you’ll please follow the prompts to unmute at this time. Caller 9559, your speaker order number will be Number 9, if you’ll please make note of that for future reference and if you’ll please let the mapper know what area you would like to discuss, the floor is yours.

RAHMO ABDI: Hi, I’m calling from City Heights. My name is Rahmo Abdi; I’m a community organizer with PANA. I’m calling (indiscernible) City Heights, which is (indiscernible) and has been coined as Little Somalia. Hundreds of hundreds of immigrant and refugee families across San Diego County. We hosted (indiscernible) session with 200 residents both in virtual and in person at local community park over the past month in multiple languages, English, Somali, Oromo, Swahili, Arabic, so youth and elder in the community could effectively engage in the process in their proper language to learn more about their experience.

And we are so grateful for the (indiscernible) tools which we have been using with the community members
during our mapping session. Our community has been (indiscernible) shut out of the process. We have been here over 30 years and this is our first time our community has put (indiscernible) in mapping and we are very excited to be part of redistricting (indiscernible).

It is very important for our voice to be heard and unified to have representation in politics and someone who has been -- who has our community best interest in mind. This is our first time -- this is our first opportunity for us to share our (indiscernible) as an African, immigrant, and refugee community.

We lived in underserved community in San Diego, we shut out of all decision making process and we want to bring change in our community by unifying a voting bloc. The refugee community in City Heights experienced high rates of hidden homelessness with families that wound up in the same home to afford rent and having to face navigating a new environment without language access.

This makes a simple task like applying for a job, visiting doctors, or enrolling kids in a school, or going to DMV is very difficult for us, which is why it is important for us to stay together in one community in drawing a map that accurately represent us. Thank you for your time.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.
Right now we will have caller 1834 and then up next will be caller 3362. And I would like to invite those that have called in to please press star 9 to raise their hand indicating they wish to give comment. Caller 1832, if you’ll please follow the prompts to unmute at this time. 1834, I apologize. Caller 1834, your speaker order number will be Number 10, if you’ll please make note of that for future reference and if you’ll please let the mapper know what area you would like to discuss, the floor is yours.

OROMO INTERPRETER: Hello, my name is Saliyo Hasjamasan (ph.). I’m from San Diego, California. I’m representing Oromo language translation. So I now start --

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: One moment. Did you say Oromo?

OROMO INTERPRETER: Yes, ma’am.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you. One moment, please. Oh, you are the translator, sorry, my bad. All right, one moment.

AV TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: Caller 1834, we are going to rename you so that we know that you are our Oromo interpreter and you will be able to mute and unmute yourself using star 6 as needed. Thank you so much for calling in, we’ll move on to the next caller.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: However, while I have you, I believe we will go ahead and do the instructions in
Somali and Oromo. So if you could please not mute yourself momentarily. Do you have the instructions with you for unmuting and muting for -- do you know what I’m talking about?

   Oromo Interpreter: Yes.
   Public Comment Moderator: Yes, okay. If you could please -- I guess we’ll just do the consecutive instructions at this time. If you could please repeat the instructions to raise -- if you could please press star 9 to raise your hand indicating you wish to give comment if you have called in at this time. Could you please interpret that, interpreter for Oromo?

   Oromo Interpreter: Yes. Hello, my name is Saliyo Hasjamasan. I'm interpreting for Oromo language which is represented at the East San Diego and San Diego areas. The number that I have over here in Oromo is -- (Instructions read in Oromo).

   AV Technical Director: Just a moment, Mr. Saliyo, is this Mr. Saliyo?

   Oromo Interpreter: Yes.
   AV Technical Director: Hi. Could you please interpret the following for the people in the queue? Could you please interpret, please press star 9 to raise your hand indicating you wish to speak? That’s, that’s what we need right now, if you could just interpret that, please,
into Oromo.

OROMO INTERPRETER: Can you repeat that what you’re saying?

AV TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: Please press star 9 to raise your hand indicating you wish to speak.

OROMO INTERPRETER: I did.

AV TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: Could you please just do it into the same line that you’re on right now? All right, we’re going to, we’re going to work with you offline.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Do I have the Somali interpreter at this time? Mr. Hassan?

SOMALI INTERPRETER: Yes, can you hear me?

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, I can. If you could please interpret for me to please press star 9 to raise your hand indicating you wish to give comment at this time.

SOMALI INTERPRETER: (Instructions read in Somali). Thank you.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

SOMALI INTERPRETER: Thanks.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: At this time, we will be going to caller 3362, if you could please follow the prompts to unmute at this time. Caller 3362, your speaker order number will be Number 11, if you will please make note of that and if you’ll please let the mapper know what
area you would like to discuss, the floor is yours.

PATRICK BADEN: Hi, my name is Patrick Baden (ph.) and the area I’d like to discuss is the territory that includes Rancho Bernardo, Carmel Mountain, and Sabre Springs.

These communities are in the 92128 and 27 zip code, the southern border is the 56th Freeway and Ted Williams Parkway and depending on where you cut off the area, the western border is slightly then to the west of the I-15 of Rancho Bernardo and then the eastern border would be the city of Poway as well as then San Pasqual Valley is the finger that shares that area here with us as well.

You know, part of the communities of interest here that tie us together is the education and one of those issues is the community college district with the similar ties that we have with East County vice (ph.) the city of San Diego, Rancho Bernardo, Carmel Mountain, Sabre Springs and San Pasqual Valley are all in the Palomar Community College District, which also serves Escondido and Poway. None of our communities here in this area are represented by the San Diego Community College District.

Another concern is the Poway Unified School District serves these communities as well. Rancho Bernardo, Carmel Mountain, Sabre Springs, and Poway are all
within the Poway Unified School District keeping us
together, as well as most of the areas that are mentioned
here also share a workforce together with the Poway
Business Park as well as the Rancho Bernardo Business Park.
Our communities work and live and play together
and based upon that, I believe that they should be kept
together. Thank you.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.
And at this time, we will go to caller with the last four
4407, if you will please follow the prompts to unmute your
telephone at this time.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Indiscernible).

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Somali?
UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Somali.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Somali, yes. Mr.
Hassan, are you available? Somali, Mr. Hassan?

SOMALI INTERPRETER: Yes, I’m sorry, I’m here.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Perfect, thank you so
much. Caller 44 --

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Indiscernible).

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: One moment.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Caller 4407, your
speaker order number will be Number 12, if you will please
let the mapper know what area you would like to discuss, it
is --

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Indiscernible).

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: -- the floor is yours.

(Conversation in Somali)

SOMALI INTERPRETER: Can I start now?

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, please.

(Whereas the following was interpreted from Somali into English).

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Spring Valley. So the area I want to talk about is Spring Valley, Paradise Valley, Area -- and College Area and City Heights Area. So there’s a lot of refugees in that area and they don’t speak English and they have a common interest and we would like them to be in the same area, to be in the same community. So for them, the last year during the presidential election, some people from the same family or relatives each one of them went to different districts, so they did not vote in the same area, they went to different districts or different areas to vote.

So we would like to have the same Congressman and live in the same area and we are from Paradise Valley to College Area, and thank you.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

For those that have called in, if you could please press star 9 if you wish to raise your hand indicating you wish
to give comment, please press star 9.

The Oromo interpreter, if you could -- oh, wait, we do have a hand, but one moment. Oh, okay, we're going to go to the hand, never mind. All right. Oh, (indiscernible) speak. He's right over here. Okay, right, got it. Oromo interpreter. If the Oromo interpreter could please press star 6 to unmute himself, Mr. Saliyo? Mr. Saliyo, Oromo interpreter, if you could please press star 6 on your telephone keypad to unmute yourself. Thank you so much.

If you could please repeat the instructions to please press star 9 on your telephone keypad to raise your hand if you wish to give comment at this time. Mr. Saliyo, can you hear me?

OROMO INTERPRETER: Yes.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Perfect. Could you please repeat the instructions, if you could please press star 9 to raise your hand if you wish to give comment at this time?

OROMO INTERPRETER: Yes, I'm commenting Oromo for Oromo audience right now.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, could you please interpret the instructions that I just repeated?

OROMO INTERPRETER: Yes.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you. Could you
please repeat it in this line to the people that are in the
call-in queue for this, this meeting?

    OROMO INTERPRETER: Yes. Okay. (Instructions read in Oromo). Thank you.

    PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. At this time, we do have one hand, I have caller 1223 that was prior to interpretation. Caller 1223, if you will follow the prompts to unmute at this time. Caller 1223, will you be needing an interpreter today? Caller 1223, can you hear me? Caller with the --

    UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes.

    PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Hi. Will you be needing an interpreter today?

    UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes.

    PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: What language?

    UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Somali.

    PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you. Mr. Hassan, Somali, Somali, Hassan.

    SOMALI INTERPRETER: Okay, yes, I’m here, ma’am.

    PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Perfect. Could you please let the speaker know that their speaker order number is Number 13 and to let the mapper know what area they would like to discuss --

    SOMALI INTERPRETER: The number --

    PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: -- and the floor is
theirs.

SOMALI INTERPRETER: (Instructions read in Somali).

(Whereas the following was interpreted from Somali into English).

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Indiscernible) San Diego, East High [sic] Area. So we want to have -- we want to be in the same district, in the same area to vote for the same person and because we are all over the place now, so City Heights and I want -- we want City Height and the College Area to be the --

We are a Somali community and there are so many of us in this area. Thank you.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. All right. At this time, for those that have called in, if you wish to give comment, please press star 9 on your telephone keypad. And I believe we will do the instructions one more time for those that have called in. The Somali -- oh, we do have a hand. We’ll go to the hand first.

Caller 5542, if you will please follow the prompts to unmute. Caller 5542, will you be needing an interpreter today?

ABDI AZIZ JAMA: Yes.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Language?
ABDI AZIZ JAMA: Somali (indiscernible).

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Somali, Hassan, are you available?

SOMALI INTERPRETER: Yes, I’m here.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Will you please let the speaker know that their speaker order number is Number 14 and to let the mapper know what area they would like to discuss and the floor is theirs.

( Whereas the following was interpreted from Somali into English ).

ABDI AZIZ JAMA: I live in City Heights and my name is Abdi Aziz Jama. So we are in San Diego County in El Cajon City, Green Valley, and Imperial Area. We would like to vote in the same district because we are in several different districts now, so we would like to be in the same area and to be able to vote in the same area. Thank you very much. Thank you very much and that’s all what I want to say and have a good day.

CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Can I ask for clarification from the previous caller?

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yeah. Of course, Chair. Caller 55 -- oh --

CO-CHAIR AHMAD: They’re gone, right?

AV TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: It's (indiscernible) --

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Oh, they’re gone.
AV TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: I’m sorry.

CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Okay, thank you. We’ll try to get in touch with them (indiscernible).

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Okay. For those that have called in, if you wish to give comment, please press star 9 on your telephone keypad. I believe we will do the interpretation again. The Somali interpreter, if you are available, if you could please interpret to press star 9 --

SOMALI INTERPRETER: Okay.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: -- on your telephone keypad if you wish to raise your hand to give comment.

SOMALI INTERPRETER: (Instructions read in Somali).

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And the Oromo interpreter --

SOMALI INTERPRETER: (Indiscernible).

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And the Oromo interpreter. Oh, one moment. All of the interpreters, please make themselves available at this time, Arabic, Tagalog, and Spanish.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Arabic, Tagalog, and Español.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We will start with Spanish at this time, if you could please interpret to press star 9 to raise your hand if you wish to give
SPANISH INTERPRETER: (Instructions read in Spanish).

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

SPANISH INTERPRETER: My pleasure.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And we'll go to the Arabic, if you could please interpret to press star 9 if you wish to raise your hand to give comment at this time. That is for the Arabic interpreter, please.

ARABIC INTERPRETER: (Instructions read in Arabic).

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

ARABIC INTERPRETER: (Spoken in Arabic).

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And for the Tagalog interpreter, if you could please interpret to press star 9 to raise your hand if you wish to give comment at this time. Or Oromo, we’ve got Oromo, Oromo? Oromo’s gone. We’ll do Tagalog, Tagalog. May I please have a Tagalog interpreter at this time? May --

FILIPINO INTERPRETER: (Instructions read in Filipino). Filipino interpreter, thank you.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

And the Oromo interpreter. Mr. Saliyo, if you could please interpret the instructions of pressing star 9 to raise your hand if you wish to give comment?
PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

(NO audible response)

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: The Oromo interpreter, if you could please interpret the instructions on the Zoom line to press star 9 to raise your hand verbally, if you could please ask the queue to raise their hand for me that would be great.

OROMO INTERPRETER: (Instructions read in Oromo).

Thank you, operator so I already pressed my message.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

Now we do have a raised hand at this time, caller 0362, if you could please follow the prompts to unmute at this time. Caller 0362, if you could please press star 6 to unmute at this time. Caller 0362, would you be needing an interpreter? Caller, interpreter?

(NO audible response)

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Oh, they’re gone.

CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you, Katy. We are actually right at 4:30, which is the time we are required to take our mandatory break and when we come back from break at 4:45, Commissioner Sinay will be leading us from there. See you all back here at 4:45.

(Off the record at 4:30 p.m.)

(On the record at 4:46 p.m.)
CO-CHAIR SINAY: Welcome back. Sorry, about that, wanted to make sure my mike was on. Welcome back to the California Citizen Redistricting Commission Community of Interest Input Meeting.

I am the Co-Chair today, Patricia Sinay. We also encourage you to visit our community of interest tool to draw a map and describe your community. You can go to drawmycacommunity.org to find the tool.

For anyone who has joined us recently, we are offering language lines for Spanish, Filipino/Tagalog, and Arabic speakers to listen to the meeting in your native language and a separate line for those who wish to provide public comment and public input. Could I please have each of our interpreters provide our language line number and information to provide public input, starting with Spanish?

SPANISH INTERPRETER: This is the Spanish interpreter. And, madam Chair, would you like the full call-in instructions or just the language line?

CO-CHAIR SINAY: Both the language line and the call-in instructions.

SPANISH INTERPRETER: Okay, perfect.

(Instructions read in Spanish). Thank you.

CO-CHAIR SINAY: Muchas gracias. Now the Filipino/Tagalog interpreter, please read the site translation for full call-in instructions.
FILIPINO/TAGALOG INTERPRETER: (Instructions read in Filipino/Tagalog).

CO-CHAIR SINAY: Salamat, thank you. Now to Arabic, please read the site translation for full call-in instructions.

ARABIC INTERPRETER: (Instructions read in Arabic). Thank you.

CO-CHAIR SINAY: Shukran, thank you. I will pass this over to Katy, our comment moderator, to continue with the public input. We will start with people who are registered and then open the phone lines if there is time before the next session.

We're also joined by Farsi and Pashto interpreters. Katy, when you have completed the instructions, please also request the Farsi and Pashto interpreters to read the site translation for the open public input session instructions.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair. Welcome to the public input session. Please use the raise hand button at the bottom of your screen to enter the queue. When it is your turn to speak, you will be identified by your assigned unique ID number, which you were emailed yesterday.

You will be reconnected to the session with the ability to enable your own video and/or audio. You will
then be assigned a speaker order number before you begin speaking. Please make a note of your speaker order number for future reference.

If you are calling without an appointment, please do not hang up as you will lose your place in line. If you will be using an interpreter, please identify the language you speak as soon as you are connected.

The Commission will be enforcing a 3-minute time limit for English speakers and a 6-minute time limit for those with an interpreter. There will be a warning at 30 seconds and 15 seconds remaining.

It is the Commission’s goal to find the area on the map you would like to discuss prior to your testimony. If you are within a specific neighborhood of a large city, please mention it by name.

Once we are able to locate the area you are -- once we are able to locate your area, your 3 or 6-minute testimony will begin. Attendees will not be able to share their screen.

Mr. Varoujan, are you available?

Farsi Interpreter: Yes, I am.

Public Comment Moderator: If you could please do the interpretation for Farsi at this time?

Farsi Interpreter: Yes, sure. Good afternoon.

(Instructions read in Farsi). Thank you.
PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much --

CO-CHAIR SINAY: Katy?

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes.

CO-CHAIR SINAY: May I ask you to please invite the Oromo and Somali interpreters to say it as well?

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, including the Pashto?

CO-CHAIR SINAY: Oh, yes.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Pashto.

CO-CHAIR SINAY: I’m sorry, you just did -- yeah, so all three.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: So all three, okay. Perfect, got it, yes. So right now, we’ll go to the Pashto, Mr. Hamed Farhad. For the Pashto interpreter, if you could please press star 6 on your telephone.

(No audible response)

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Mr. Hamed, the Pashto interpreter, if you could please press star 6 to unmute and interpret at this time.

(No audible response)

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Okay, we will go to Oromo at this time. Oh, wait. Will the Oromo --

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Indiscernible).

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes. Will the Oromo interpreter please read the instructions to call in at this
time?

OROMO INTERPRETER: Yes, my name is Saliyo Hasjamasan. (Instructions read in Oromo). Hi,
Commissioner, I already passed my message to an Oromo translator.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Okay, thank you so much. Would the Somali translator please do the call-in instructions?

SOMALI INTERPRETER: Can you hear me?

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, we can.

SOMALI INTERPRETER: Okay. (Instructions read in Somali). Okay, thank you.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And back to the Pashto interpreter, if you could please press star 6 on your telephone keypad to unmute yourself.

(No audible response)

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Okay, we will have to come back to the Pashto interpreter; I will have staff reach out to them.

At this time, we will be going to unique ID number 036 and then up next will be 030. 036, I will be promoting you now. 036, your speaker order number will be Number 15.

CHRISTOPHER RODRIGUEZ: Can you guys hear me okay?
PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We sure can. I have a couple of brief instructions. Your speaker order number will be Number 15 if you will please make note of that for future reference and if you’ll please let the mapper know what area you would like to discuss, the floor is yours.

CHRISTOPHER RODRIGUEZ: You guys can hear me okay?

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, we can, go ahead.

CHRISTOPHER RODRIGUEZ: Okay, got it. I know I’m on a time limit. My name is Christopher Rodriguez. I live in the city of Oceanside, but right near the border of Fallbrook. I’m a Marine Corps combat veteran and I’m a Hispanic and I am married and I have seven children and a small business owner.

The feedback I would like to provide to the Redistricting Commission is the importance of Camp Pendleton, the cities of Camp Pendleton, Fallbrook, and Oceanside and how they really need to stay together. There’s a large military population in the city of Oceanside, Fallbrook, and obviously on Camp Pendleton and we are all dependent on each other from public transportation, shared schooling, you know, veterans that commute on and off base to the cities of Oceanside and Fallbrook.

And so my feedback for the Commission is to
please keep the community of interest of our military population together and keep Camp Pendleton, the city of Fallbrook, and the city of Oceanside together with whatever district lines are provided.

And my last recommendation is if you need to trim from the district, the city of Del Mar and Encinitas is just completely foreign to us here in North County, they don’t come up here, we don’t go down there, and so that’s where I would recommend the Commission trims from. Thank you so much.

CO-CHAIR SINAY: Caller, can I ask a question?
AV TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: Just a moment, Chair.
CHRISTOPHER RODRIGUEZ: Yeah, can you hear me?
CO-CHAIR SINAY: Yes. Thank you for your input. I just was -- wanted to understand, did you also want to include the unincorporated areas around Oceanside and Fallbrook and is Bonsall as a neighbor to both of those, is that part of your --
CHRISTOPHER RODRIGUEZ: Yes, absolutely. I mean, I’ll be honest with you, Fallbrook’s a little bit more expensive so, so there’s not a lot of military that live in -- I mean, I’m sorry, Bonsall’s a little more expensive and I think the population’s like 3,000 or 4,000 and so and, you know, it would make probably sense because Bonsall connects, you know, right up against Fallbrook and
Oceanside.

But my biggest concern and the biggest point I wanted to make is Fallbrook and Oceanside that border Camp Pendleton, like the base entrances are there, I mean it just, it just makes so much sense for our military population to be together between those. But, yes, I would, I would definitely recommend Bonsall to be a part of that.

I just don’t know the logistics of, you know, you guys have a tough job of putting everything together and so I just wanted to make my point with Fallbrook, Oceanside, and Camp Pendleton being together, but Bonsall would be a good fit as well because it’s right there.

CO-CHAIR SINAY: Okay, thank you so much for calling and giving us your input.

CHRISTOPHER RODRIGUEZ: Absolutely, thank you.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. Up next will be 030. 030, I’ll be promoting you now. Right now, it will be 030 and then up next will be 026. I apologize. 030, I’ll be promoting you now. 030, your speaker order number will be Number 16, if you will please make note of that for future reference. If you’ll please let the mapper know what area you would like to discuss, the floor is yours.

NADINE HASSOUN: Hi, can we look at El Cajon on
the map, please? Okay. I’ll begin now. Thank you. Hi, Commissioners, my name is Nadine Hassoun, my community is in El Cajon, California. I am a co-founder of and a volunteer with the Arab Community Center in San Diego, also called the Majdal Center. It’s based in El Cajon. El Cajon has historically been a hub for refugees and immigrants, specifically from Iraq and Syria. My community is connected through their shared experiences as refugees, a common language, Arabic, shared cultural values, and places of worship. They’re renters, business owners, and a huge proportion work in the service sector and are recipients of government aid programs.

As community advocates, we’ve been involved in the process of redistricting because there is a direct relationship between the lived realities of the community members we serve and federal policies as they relate to housing, health care, immigration, and foreign policy.

We first began working or involving ourselves in redistricting with the 2020 Census. Since the Census fails to account for Arabs in the U.S., we made a concerted effort last year to ensure our communities were registered for the 2020 Census.

And since then, we’ve been mapping our community members by having them mark their places of residence, schools, and religious institutions on a map. We found
that our community is currently divided between District 50 and District 53 on a Congressional level, this means that our communities don’t have a strong say in federal policies that have a direct implication on their lives in the U.S. as well as the lives of their families abroad.

Currently, a lot of our members of -- our community members are struggling with high housing costs, school children are facing Islamophobia and bullying, community members are about to take their citizenship tests and are struggling to find resources to help them in the process.

Additionally, a lot of them are new to the U.S. and they’re still getting used to life here and they really rely on each other in tight knit communities for their needs. I urge that the Commission pay attention to this divide and work to redraw the lines in a way that keeps our Arab and refugee communities in San Diego together so that they have a real say on the policies that most affect them. And that’s all. Thank you.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

Right now, we will have 026 and then up next will be 033. 026, I will be promoting you now. 026, your speaker order number will be Number 17, if you’ll please make note of that for future reference. You can now enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of your screen. If you
will please let the mapper know what area you would like to
discuss today, the floor is yours.

MAKHFIRA ABDULLAHI: Hi, can you all hear me well?

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We sure can.

MAKHFIRA ABDULLAHI: So today I’d like to focus
on District 4, specifically the neighborhood Paradise Hills.

AV TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: Thank you. Go ahead,
please.

MAKHFIRA ABDULLAHI: Thank you. So, hello, thank
you for the opportunity to speak. My name is Makhfira
Abdullahi and I serve as a leadership corps member of
PANA’s Youth Congress, so I’ve been a resident of Paradise
Hills, San Diego for years and live on the street of
Montcliff Road. I spent my childhood here and view this
environment as my home and I really found that, like,
crucial to speak on this topic of redistricting within our
community.

So I participated in the community mapping
session posted by PANA. We’re an organization of
immigrants, refugees, or children of immigrants and
refugees, and through such we define Paradise Hills by the
boundaries of Southcrest to Skyline Hills. These are just
a few locations to name that encompass the rich culture of
Paradise Hills and it’s crucial that we protect our communities.

We believe we share a lot of the shared community characteristics with neighboring areas, such as City Heights, La Mesa, Spring Valley, and the general southeast of San Diego. In this case, I’d like to also highlight City Heights in particular because although I’m not a resident of there, I would like to say that this is essentially a home away from home.

I’ve been able to attend Islamic school there and the mosque all throughout my childhood and the La Mesa community within City Heights and Paradise Hills share languages, cultural practices, food, and common goals and it’s important that we connect these two and allow representation equally for all.

For many years, our communities have paid tax and have contributed to the economic and cultural vibrancy of these areas and however, we have lacked representation. So we hope that you don’t ignore our community and the months of participation that we have put into these.

And, overall, I’d just like to say thank you for giving us the opportunity to testify today and we’ll see you at the September hearing. Thank you.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

Right now we will have 033; I will be promoting you now.
033, your speaker order number will be 18, if you will please make note of that for future reference and if you’ll please let the mapper know what area you would like to discuss, the floor is yours.

BARRY JANTZ: Thank you very much. I’d like to discuss the area of Jamul. Is that being pulled up?

CO-CHAIR SINAY: Like, it might have frozen.

There we go.

BARRY JANTZ: There we go. Thank you so much.

My name is Barry Jantz, I live in Jamul. I have lived here for the last 11 years. Previously I lived in the city of La Mesa, which is up north and to the west a little bit and I served on the city council there for 16 years. But I just wanted to mention Jamul from a Senate District standpoint, it is currently part of Senate District 40 and I believe it is probably more appropriate being part of what is currently Senate District 38.

Senate District 40 stretches from urban San Diego County and urban South County on the west all the way to include Imperial County on the east and I don’t believe it’s appropriate for that district because communities of interest of East County which are north mostly shown there north of Jamul are really more consistent with Jamul.

East San Diego County Region is a very diverse geographic region including vast valleys, arid landscapes,
and mountainous terrain. The population’s about 483,000 (ph.), maybe more, and it’s comprised of four cities including La Mesa, El Cajon, Santee, and Lemon Grove and a number of unincorporated areas, rural communities, and including Indian reservations (indiscernible) included in that.

Many of those communities share outdoor recreational opportunities, agriculture, open space, to national and state parks and recreational activities as well as one huge negative, extreme wildfire danger.

From a transportation standpoint, Jamul is between Imperial County and urban San Diego as the crow flies certainly, it really has nothing to do with either of those. The closest communities are in the East County where it is connected to Spring Valley by Highway 94, as you can see there to the, to the west and to Rancho San Diego to the north by Highway 54. Those are the two main transportation corridors in and out of Jamul.

From an educational standpoint, Jamul shares education districts with the other East County cities and communities, not Imperial County or San Diego City. Jamul shares both the Grossmont Union High School and Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College Districts with the other East County community.

From a public safety standpoint, Jamul’s public
safety programs are linked to San Diego County, certainly not Imperial County or the city of San Diego. Like surrounding communities, Jamul is served by -- 

AV TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: 30 seconds.

BARRY JANTZ: -- the San Diego Sheriff’s Office, not the city of San Diego Police Department or the Imperial County Sheriff’s Office. And Jamul is also part of the Grossmont Healthcare District, that special Grossmont -- a special district -- 

AV TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: 15 seconds.

BARRY JANTZ: -- (indiscernible). From a wildfire standpoint, we also have much in common. So in closing, Jamul is more appropriate with other like, unincorporated, and incorporated cities making up East San Diego County. Jamul is more appropriate as part of Senate District 38. Thank you.

AV TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: Time.

CO-CHAIR SINAY: Caller? Oh, never mind.

AV TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: Just a moment, Chair.

Unique ID 033, the Chair had some questions for you, please.

BARRY JANTZ: Yes, thank you.

AV TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: Go ahead, Chair.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Chair, you’re on mute.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: There you are.
CO-CHAIR SINAY: Thank you. You brought up the Senate District and then you gave us a community of interest. Is that community of interest only for the Senate District or in -- or community of interest for all the maps we draw?

BARRY JANTZ: Assembly districts are obviously smaller, so it’s hard to say all of East County should be, you know, in one assembly district.

CO-CHAIR SINAY: Okay.

BARRY JANTZ: Certainly a lot of these communities of interest I mention East County due have commonalities. I am speaking, you know, about the Senate District specifically however.

CO-CHAIR SINAY: Okay, thank you.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. At this time, I’m going to invite those in the queue to please press star 9 to raise your hand indicating you wish to give comment. I’d like to ask our interpreters -- all the hands going -- actually most of the hands went up. Okay, we’ll do all the interpreters at this time as well.

Mr. -- the Somali, Hassan, if you could please do the instructions to press star 9 to raise your hand if you wish to give comment.

SOMALI INTERPRETER: (Instructions read in Somali).

Thank you.
PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

Thank you so much. Mr. Varoujan, Farsi.

FARSI INTERPRETER: Yes --

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Would you please give
the instruction to press star 9 to raise your hand?

FARSI INTERPRETER: (Instructions read in Farsi).

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

FARSI INTERPRETER: You’re welcome.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: That is actually all of
our hands in the queue at this time, so we will go to the
hands. Caller 2512, if you will please follow the prompts
to unmute at this time by pressing star 6. Caller 2512,
your speaker order number will be Number 19, if you’ll
please make note of that for future reference and if you’ll
please let the mapper know what area you would like to
discuss, the floor is yours. Do you need an interpreter?

(No audible response)

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Caller with the last
four 2512, can you hear me?

(No audible response)

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: You are unmuted, can you
hear me?

MU ADHAM: Oromo.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Oromo?

MU ADHAM: Yeah, Oromo.
PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Mr. Saliyo, will you please press star 6 to unmute?

OROMO INTERPRETER: Yes, Mr. Saliyo is on the line.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

Caller 2512 is requesting your services, they’re speaker order 19, the floor is theirs.

(Whereas the following was interpreted from Oromo into English).

MU ADHAM: Yes, ma’am, I say my name is Mu Adham (ph.). I live in East San Diego for the last 19 years. So he say Oromo community is located in City Heights Area and Central San Diego -- La Mesa, and also Mission Valley, Paradise, Paradise Hills, Normont (ph.) Heights, all the map is (indiscernible) Oromo community where they live, (indiscernible).

After that, we are barely (indiscernible). We need the state of California recognize us, Oromo speakers, we need (indiscernible) please our native languages to be -- we need a translator on each government sectors, or people in needed places.

OROMO TRANSLATOR: That’s what he mentioned, ma’am.
Translation over.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Is the caller complete with their testimony, will you please ask? Mr. Interpreter, will you please ask?
(Whereas the following was interpreted from Oromo into English).

MU ADHAM: Yes, ma'am, he testified that we need it, especially my dad. He doesn’t speak English.

But I testified (indiscernible) department is (indiscernible) department is in any public benefit sector, so we need Oromo person who translated by our languages, so we need it. That’s why he demanded, he mentioned it right now.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Okay, thank you so much. Is he complete with what he wanted to say?

OROMO TRANSLATOR: Can you repeat that Ma’am, what did you say?

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Is he complete with what he wanted to say?

(Whereas the following was interpreted from Oromo into English).

MU ADHAM: Yes, I completed my idea, especially underlined one was all those elders, all those kids, all (indiscernible) and new arrival from us. We are immigrant from East Africa located, which is all East African countries, so we needed a high demand of translation of -- especially in the state of California. In other state doesn't have -- they do have it, why California is special, the (indiscernible) translator from different
states or different areas, that’s why (indiscernible)
underline it and focus on it.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.
OROMO TRANSLATOR: He finished it.
PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you. All right.

Up next we have caller with the last four 2119 and then
after that will be caller with the last four 9306. Caller
2119, if you will please follow the prompts to unmute at
this time by pressing star 6.

(No audible response)

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Caller 2119, if you will
please follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6 on
your telephone keypad.

(No audible response)

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: If I could please ask
the Somali interpreter to interpret the instructions to
press star 6 to unmute their telephone for caller 2119.

SOMALI INTERPRETER: (Instructions read in Somali).

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. The
Farsi interpreter, Mr. Varoujan, if you could please
interpret to press star 6 to unmute.

FARSI INTERPRETER: Yes. (Instructions read in
Farsi).

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.
FARSI INTERPRETER: You’re welcome.
PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: If we could please have
the Oromo interpreter repeat the instructions to please
press star 6 to unmute. Mr. Saliyo, if you could please
repeat the instruction.

OROMO INTERPRETER: Yes, this is Saliyo, Oromo
interpreter. I think 29 --

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: 2119.

OROMO INTERPRETER: No, no, 29036 was an Oromo. I
think he’s on the line, doesn’t push it. Let me call him
on another line so he can raise his idea so we can go
forward.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Could you please
interpret the instructions to press star 6 to unmute for
caller 2119, please, Mr. Saliyo?

OROMO INTERPRETER: Yes, ma’am. (Instructions read
in Oromo). I passed message.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.
Could we please have a Tagalog interpreter? Is there a
Filipino/Tagalog interpreter available?

FILIPINO/TAGALOG INTERPRETER: Yes.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Could you please
interpret for caller 2119 if they could please press star 6
to unmute their telephone.

FILIPINO/TAGALOG INTERPRETER: (Instructions read
in Filipino/Tagalog).
PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. If we could please have an Arabic interpreter?

ARABIC INTERPRETER: Yes.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: If you could please interpret for caller 2119 to press star 6 if they wish to unmute.

ARABIC INTERPRETER: (Instructions read in Arabic).

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. Caller 2119 has decided to hang up at this time. Caller 9306 and then up next after that will be caller 3212. Caller 9306, if you will please follow the prompts to unmute at this time. Caller 9306, if you could please press star 6 to unmute your telephone keypad.

HUSSEIN: Hello, hello. (Spoken in Oromo).

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes. Oromo? What?

HUSSEIN: (Spoken in Oromo).

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: One moment. Mr. Saliyo, if you could please interpret for caller 9306, their speaker order number is Number 21, and the floor is theirs and please let that mapper know what area they would like to discuss.

OROMO INTERPRETER: Okay. (Instructions read in Oromo).

(Whereas the following was interpreted from Oromo into English).
HUSSAIN: Yes, my name, my name is Hussein (indiscernible), thank you for having to me and to give to me this opportunity and I’m very concerned about the state of California, especially at this during COVID-19 pandemic.

Our population, especially the elder population very suffering a lot because of due to translation in public services, especially hospitals, in government offices, in schools, in any benefit is taken to the doctor bring back from doctor the need a person who translates for them is call them out in different states and the people who doesn’t understand our local native languages.

So we really need the state of California focus on this issue and we can go forward with you guys. Thank you for offering to us and our population is living around the Rancho Bernardo Area, Central San Diego by Mission Valley, East San Diego, La Mesa, City Heights Area, so El Cajon City.

We live around all those areas, so we need it as a community, a special person or special from our community people who knows our native language, we need a translator as the state of California, we really demand it on it.

OROMO TRANSLATOR: Translation is over.

CO-CHAIR SINAY: Did he say Rancho Bernardo or Rancho San Diego?

OROMO INTERPRETER: Rancho Bernardo.
PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.
Right now will be caller 3212 and then up next will be
caller 5569 unique ID 029. Caller 3212, if you will please
follow the prompts to unmute. Caller 32 --

HAYDEN: Hi --

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Hi. Your speaker order
number will be Number 22, if you’ll please make note of
that for future reference and if you’ll please let the
mapper know what area you would like to discuss, the floor
is yours.

HAYDEN: The area I want to discuss is the
California State University, San Marcos Area, and the 78
like freeway that runs through San Marcos to Vista. So my
name is Hayden and I’m a student at Cal State San Marcos
and I just want to come on here today and discuss some of
the issues that me and my classmates are interested in and
hope that you guys will consider.

So one of -- some of the big ones would be, you
know, clean beaches and environment and funding for higher
education, so I wanted to bring that forward. And I also
wanted to talk about transportation mainly. So we -- as a
student, I currently live in Vista, California and I rely
on the 78 Freeway to get to work and now that we’re going
back in-person to school, I will be relying on that to get
to school.
And I also know quite a few classmates who will be
also using the Sprinter line to be able to get to Cal State
San Marcos for classes this fall, so I just wanted to talk
about how I believe that it’s really important for the
transportation, especially that 78 corridor and the
Sprinter to be all linked in the same district because we
rely on those for transportation to and from school and a
lot of us to and from work.

And I believe that it would be a lot better for the
students and to be able to get to school if we were able to
have our transportation in the same district, it would be
able to work better, flow better, and we would also have a
lot more say in what would be happening in that district if
we were able to both live, go to school, and commute
through the same district.

So I just wanted to really talk about that because
I know that a lot of my classmates are low income or
minority students. Cal State is a school of about 15,000
students and it is considered a commuter college, which
means a lot of the students live in the area and I think it
would be a lot better if Cal State was linked into a
district with areas such as Vista and Oceanside, where a
lot of the students tend to come from, along with the whole
seven- -- with the whole Sprinter line as well.

I think our needs would be a lot better served if
we were linked to the college, such as like Mira Costa, which is over in Oceanside and also linked to Palomar. If we were all linked in the same district, I believe that that would help with transportation needs --

    AV TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: 30 seconds.

    HAYDEN: -- to and from school and also to work.

So I just wanted to bring that to your attention so that, you know, students could have more of a say, you know, in what’s happening in our daily lives. So thank you so much.

    CO-CHAIR SINAY: Caller?

    AV TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: Just a moment, Chair.

    CO-CHAIR SINAY: Of course.

    AV TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: Caller 3212, if you could please press star 6, the Chair has some additional questions for you. Go ahead, Chair.

    CO-CHAIR SINAY: Hi. Thank you for calling in and sharing your thoughts. When you say the 78, you brought up the 78, the Sprinter, and Vista and San Marcos, can you give us a little bit more detail, is it all the 78, you know, just and how far north and how far south, if you’re looking at the corridor?

    HAYDEN: So I just basically, so what I was thinking was more that I just want the area of Cal State San Marcos --

    CO-CHAIR SINAY: Um-hum.
HAYDEN: -- which is a little bit south of the 78 corridor.

CO-CHAIR SINAY: Right.

HAYDEN: I want that to be linked in with the more western regions of Vista and Oceanside --

CO-CHAIR SINAY: Okay.

HAYDEN: -- because, yeah, that would keep the lines together.

CO-CHAIR SINAY: Okay, that’s perfect. Thank you so much.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now we will have caller 1243 and then up next after that will be caller 4540. Caller 1243, if you will please follow the prompts to unmute at this time by pressing star 6. Caller 1243, do you need an interpreter?

ALEENA JUNE: No, actually I don’t, thank you.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Okay. Your speaker order number will be Number 23, if you’ll please make note of that for future reference and if you’ll please let the mapper know what area you would like to discuss, the floor is yours.

ALEENA JUN: Thank you. My name is Aleena Jun; I’m calling from CAIR, San Diego. I currently live in the county of San Diego; I also live in -- off of Paseo Montril, which is Rancho Penasquitos Area.
My background is education, so I work a lot with the youth and one of the issues that we constantly bump into is the fact that students, minority students are underrepresented, particularly in Senate District 39 and 38.

We have seen this, in fact, it’s even made it to international media that students who are minorities, especially if you’re Latino, Black, or Muslim or if you look Middle Eastern, you tend to undergo this stigma of Islamophobia, even if you’re not Muslim.

Recently in Escondido, Orange Glen High School, when they were playing basketball, the students who are predominantly Latino, were thrown tortillas at, it was a humiliating experience for a youth to experience and on top of that, it was just -- it wasn’t the first time they have experienced something like this.

We also had people who wore T-shirts that said Convicts against Catholic (ph.). This rhetoric has been going on for a while and this is coming from the educational space. So the reason why I’m calling about redistricting and why it impacts our youth is because we don’t have representation, we don’t have curriculums that emphasizes on the health of our youth, where they actually can go to school, get the education they want without the trauma and PTSD that come out because of this hateful
rhetoric.

I’m hoping that you can look into the map of the Senate District 39 and 38 and realize there are over five, there are over five mosques in District Senate 39 and then there’s over six mosques with educational facilities attached to it in District Senate 38.

In both of these districts, they have huge private schools attached to it too. 39 represents about 20 to 25,000 AMEMSA community, AMEMSA is American [sic], Muslim, Middle Eastern, South Asian Communities. Senate District 38, it represents about even a larger map of it, which is about 30 to 40,000 AMEMSA community.

I know this because I’m working on the census myself. I’m trying to understand what is happening, why is there so much bullying, there’s so much, you know, trauma that’s coming out of those districts. We have done our bullying through CAIR San Diego.

AV TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: 20 seconds.

ALEENA JUN: We have done our statistics and it shows that those two districts who are separated from their Muslim community and their identities, they have the highest turnout --

AV TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: 10 seconds.

ALEENA JUN: -- when it comes to bullying experiences. And I’m hoping that you could actually keep
our communities together instead of separating us so our
students, our youth, our children are protected --

    AV TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: Time.

    CO-CHAIR SINAY: Caller?

    AV TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: Just a moment, Chair.

    CO-CHAIR SINAY: Sure.

    AV TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: Caller 1243, will you
please press star 6? The Chair has some additional
questions for you.

    ALEENA JUN: Yes.

    CO-CHAIR SINAY: You had brought up two Senate
Districts, but do you have actual -- to be able to keep the
community together, do you have some boundaries or to let
us know about?

    ALEENA JUN: Yeah, I’m hoping that you do not
separate those Senate Districts. I’m hoping you’re keeping
those Senate Districts together without coming in and
breaking the districts to smaller pieces where youth that’s
already experiencing trauma are furthering their trauma.
So I’m hoping that 39 still is kept in 39, 38 is kept in
38.

    CO-CHAIR SINAY: Okay, Thank you.

    UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you.

    PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Right now, we will have
caller 5569, which is unique ID 029, and then up next after
that will be caller 3325. Caller 5569, if you will please follow the prompts to unmute at this time. Caller 5569, your speaker order number will be 24, if you’ll please make note of that for future reference and if you’ll please let the mapper know what area you would like to discuss, the floor is yours.

JOSHUA RAINES: Can you hear me okay?

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We sure can.

JOSHUA RAINES: Okay, perfect. I am going to be discussing the area of Oceanside, North County, San Diego, Vista, San Marcos, Encinitas, Camp Pendleton.

AV TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: Thank you, go ahead, please.

JOSHUA RAINES: Okay, my name is Joshua Raines; I am an Oceanside homeowner and a 2-year resident. Prior to that, I lived in Vista for about since 2011. I currently am a criminal prosecutor for the state of California. I am a part-time Air Force officer and I have experience on the Oceanside Planning Commission.

I have two children, one goes to Guajome, which is in Vista, one goes to Tri-City Christian, which is in Vista. Specifically, I want to ask the Commission to keep as far as the community of interest goes, I would like to see a community of interest as far as like the Oceanside Area, Camp Pendleton, San Marcos, and Vista kept as a unit
if you will. I will give the Commission some examples of that.

As I stated, I’m a homeowner at Oceanside. My kids go to the schools, as I had mentioned. My wine club membership, North County Wine Company, is in San Marcos. Occasionally, my wife and I will go on dates in San Marcos to Restaurant Row. Additionally, I have many friends who live in San Marcos who frequent the beaches in Oceanside. I myself frequent the beach in Oceanside and I also frequent the beach on Camp Pendleton.

I think I will echo one of the other callers who is also military spoke to the importance of keeping Oceanside and Camp Pendleton together. I echo that sentiment as a military member myself; those two communities are pretty much integrated.

And if you had to cut any area of the community or declare it not a community of interest, I would (indiscernible) would be the area that really doesn’t kind of jive or flow with our culture up in North County. I really don’t go there and nobody that I know goes there unless you have a specific purpose for going that far.

We either just go down to San Diego and I know of nobody that lives in Encinitas or Del Mar that comes up to our area. And with that, I will conclude my comments unless there are any questions.
PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

CO-CHAIR SINAY: All right, caller, a quick question, you cut out on when you said who you wouldn’t want and then, and then you had said Encinitas and Del Mar, so I didn’t know if that’s what happened when you were -- when you cut out?

JOSHUA RAINES: I do apologize; the prompt that you guys probably can’t hear is screaming in my ear, I could not hear one thing you said.

CO-CHAIR SINAY: No problem. You had cut out. You had said the communities you wanted together and then you said you could cut out and then unfortunately your phone went, we didn’t hear you. So where were -- what are the communities you don’t want?

JOSHUA RAINES: The communities I don’t think really fit well with the district would be Encinitas and Del Mar.

CO-CHAIR SINAY: Okay. Thank you so much.

JOSHUA RAINES: Of course.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And right now we will have caller 3325 and then up next will be caller 2119, and I would like to invite those that have called in to press star 9 on their telephone keypad to raise their hand if they wish to give comment, but right now we will go to caller 3325. Caller 4540, I do see your
hand. Caller 4540, unique ID 037, we will be getting to momentarily after this caller.

Caller 3325, if you’ll please follow the prompts to unmute at this time. Caller 3325, if you’ll please press star 6 to unmute your telephone at this time. Caller 3325, your speaker order number will be Number 25, if you’ll please make note of that for future reference and if you’ll please let the mapper know what area you would like to discuss, the floor is yours.

ASHMAN FAROOD: (Speaking in Somali). Somali.

(Speaking in Somali).

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Somali, one moment. Do you need an interpreter?

ASHMAN FAROOD: Yes.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Somali?

ASHMAN FAROOD: Yep, yes.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Mr. Hassan.

SOMALI INTERPRETER: Yes, I’m here, ma’am.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Perfect, thank you so much.

SOMALI INTERPRETER: Yeah, I’m here.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Their speaker order number -- oh, go ahead.

(Whereas, the following was interpreted from Somali into English).
ASHMAN FAROOD: My name is Ashman Farood (ph.) and I live in La Mesa and I’ve been here for almost three years now, but my relatives, they’re all over the place. Some of them, they live here in La Mesa, some of them they live in Temecula (ph.), and City Heights, City Heights, Paradise Hills, El Cajon, and so on. (Indiscernible).

(Spoken in Somali).

So we live, we live -- there’s not only us, but there’s like a lot of Somali immigrants, immigrants overall in general, some of them are Somali, some of them they’re Oromo and we are living in different areas, so we would like to have like a district where we can all be together in the same area because we are all over the place now.

And (Spoken in Somali).

So for the last three months, there’s a group called PANA that used to come to us and they got a lot of information.

PANA, sorry. And they collected a lot of information about us and we would like to what they collected or what they advised to be approved because we want to be -- stick together and be in the same area.

(Spoken in Somali).

So (indiscernible) and areas again so that will help us politically, economically, and education-wise, all the immigrants in the area so we can be together.
And thank you very much for your time.

CO-CHAIR SINAY: Caller, could you be a little bit more specific on to keep the Somali and Oromo community together, where on the map you all are? You said (indiscernible)?

(Whereas, the following was interpreted from Somali into English).

ASHMAN FAROOD: So that we will all live in almost in the same area for there’s like highways and freeways dividing us, so we would be all -- we want to be all be in the same area so we can all vote in the same district and not be separated.

CO-CHAIR SINAY: Great, thank you so much.

(Whereas, the following was interpreted from Somali into English).

ASHMAN FAROOD: What was my number, 21 you said?

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: 25.

ASHMAN FAROOD: Thank you.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you.

SOMALI INTERPRETER: Thank you.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Right now, we will have caller 4540, unique ID number 037, and then after that will be caller 1752. Caller 4540, if you will please press star 6 at this time to unmute. Caller 45- --

OMAIR KHAN: Hi, can you all hear me?
PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We sure can. Your speaker order number will be Number 26, if you’ll please make note of that for future reference and if you’ll please let the mapper know what area you would like to discuss, the floor is yours.

OMAIR KHAN: Awesome, thank you. I live in Serra Mesa, but I will be speaking also about North County. My name is Omair Khan (ph.), I just -- as I said, I’m a resident of Serra Mesa. I am here representing the CAIR San Diego, which is the Counsel on American-Islamic Relations. I’m also representing the many people in our communities I engage with, that I ally with who cannot join this call due to different issues of accessibility, as we know, that’s an issue in certain parts of San Diego and in California.

CAIR is the Counsel on American-Islamic Relations. We're a civil rights and advocacy non-profit with offices nationwide and for here in California, we serve, you know, over 100,000 Muslims in San Diego, but our work by its nature extends to those, anyone who needs civil rights or civic rights.

You know, one of our biggest projects in 2020 was the census survey, where we surveyed about -- where we reached about over 725,000 people and because that was so important, redistricting is also a very important topic in
that process. Now that we’ve counted people, we want to make sure that our communities are also accurately in the redistricting process, are represented and are participating.

We’re currently, as a community, what we’re working with in the North County Area along with PANA, which has been mentioned earlier, we’re working in the data gathering phase so we are getting addresses, zip codes, and surveys from the community, pinning down, you know, where they live, where they socialize, where they attend schools.

So currently, that is a process that we are engaging in and not finalized and we are doing this especially in the North County Area. And, you know, this is important to me, this is important to my community.

I identify as a Muslim, I'm a person of color. You know, as a representative of CAIR also by the nature of my role, it’s my job to ensure that the communities I represent are fairly and accurately represented in the redistricting of the county lines or the district lines.

And, you know, after a very saddening summer last year filled with a lot of innocent lives that we lost, primarily of Black (indiscernible) communities and with so many protests asking for the justice system to be fair, it’s important that we have an accurate drawing of district lines so that our community can have a fair shot at
electing candidates who will represent the communities they serve and fight for those that they serve. Thank you.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

Right now, we will have caller 1752 and up next after that will be caller 3914. Caller 1752, if you’ll please follow the prompts to unmute at this time. Caller 1752, your speaker order number --


PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Hi, what, do you need an interpreter?

(Spanish conversation)

(Whereas the following was interpreted from Spanish into English).

MARIA LAJACAS: Good afternoon, my name is Maria Lajacas (ph.), I am an organizer with CHIRLA (ph.) and I live in the community Hesperia. As a member of the community for over years, I have seen the growth of the Hispanic community in the High Desert area.

My community has grown in what used to be largely a White area has become more of a Hispanic area, however there are many other communities as well, communities that speak other languages, not just Spanish.

This community in the High Desert area is composed mostly of working class people from the lower working class to a medium working class. The High Desert area does not
have many employment opportunities, many places where people can work, and that is the reason why most of the people in our communities go elsewhere for work.

There are many people, such as truck drivers and other people who commute very lengthy distances to get to work, like my husband, who works in Los Angeles. There are work opportunities, but they saw opportunities in the service industry, local stores, and but there aren’t many jobs that pay well.

The High Desert area lacks so many resources, such as parks and community places, spaces, and hospitals and different other tools. Sometimes we’re sent outside of our community for these types of resources.

Right now our community is composed of other communities of interest that share no interest with ours who are in a different economic status, places like Big Bear and Lake Arrowhead, and these communities are not similar to my communities at all.

So I would like to see these communities separated and our communities to be in close or be together with other communities that have more in common, such as Victorville, Hesperia, and (Spoken in Spanish).

Yep, I would like Victorville, Hesperia, and Adelanto to be part of these other areas mentioned such as Lancaster, part of more -- part of LA, because these places
share a lot of common interest. We also share transportations, like freeways and highways, and we also share areas where we come to look for work.

It would also be better for us, we would have a much better representation because for years we have been ignored, our voices haven’t been heard, and that is the reason why I think this would be a good idea to group us together. Thank you.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. Right now we have caller 9767 and then up next, we have caller 9808. Caller 9767, if you will please follow the prompts to unmute at this time. Caller 9767, do you need an interpreter?

RAMIRO RODRIGUEZ: (Spoken in Spanish) interpreter.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Uno momento.

SPANISH INTERPRETER: (Spoken in Spanish).

RAMIRO RODRIGUEZ: (Spoken in Spanish).

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Mr. Reyes, this is the -- whoever I am -- if you could please let them know that their speaker order number's Number 28, I would appreciate that, thank you.

SPANISH INTERPRETER: Absolutely. (Interprets into Spanish)

(Whereas the following was interpreted from Spanish into English).
RAMIRO RODRIGUEZ: Hello, my name is Ramiro Rodriguez and I’m a member of CHIRLA. Today I want to speak about -- today I'm going to speak as a representative of the community, speak about my experience living as a resident.

In the community of the High Desert, Victorville, and other communities mentioned, living there for 12 years. Yeah, my community is very diverse. The data from the U.S. Census has revealed that Hispanic population composes almost 60 percent of the population in Inland Empire.

I have heard several languages spoken throughout my community, such as Spanish, Tagalog, Korean, Vietnamese, Farsi, Arabic, and last language not clear to the Interpreter -- Hebrew, excuse me.

As an editor of a Spanish language magazine in the High Desert area, I have seen people in these communities, in my communities that live in extreme division between wealth and poverty.

On the streets of Rodeo and 7th Streets in Victorville, you can see people begging for money. While in other areas, you see those big old houses with beautiful views and a lot more access to resources.

In the Victorville and Adelanto Area, we have a need for more employment; we only have certain companies such as M&M, Pet Food (ph.), Dr. Pepper, and furniture
manufacturers. But most of the employment is found in the service industry and these people live check to check while they make the minimum wage.

The majority of the population of Victorville, Hesperia, Adelanto, and the High Desert Area have to travel elsewhere for work. We need more employment, the type of employment that our people need in order not just to make a living, but to be able to prosper.

The city of Victorville has access to a variety of hospitals, parks, and recreational areas. Once again, in the High Desert Area, we see the disparities of access to the community resources --

AV TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: 30 seconds.

RAMIRO RODRIGUEZ: -- and this has something to do with the way that our politicians at the local and federal level have shut the door right in our faces and particularly if they hear us speaking Spanish.

AV TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: Quince segundos.

RAMIRO RODRIGUEZ: We need there to be a change in the leadership and our political representatives that do want to see our Hispanic communities prosper.

AV TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: Time.

CO-CHAIR SINAY: Señor?

SPANISH INTERPRETER: (Speaks in Spanish). Go right ahead.
(Conversation in Spanish)

SPANISH INTERPRETER: Go right ahead, Ms. Patricia.

CO-CHAIR SINAY: Thank you. (Spoken in Spanish).

Can you tell us with who you want to be with?

SPANISH INTERPRETER: Could you please tell --

CO-CHAIR SINAY: Perdón.

SPANISH INTERPRETER: That’s okay.

(Whereas the following was interpreted from Spanish into English).

RAMIRO RODRIGUEZ: Okay. So Congress District Number 8, Senate District 21, Assembly District 33, this is where we are. It is -- I would like for the districts to absorb other local districts so we can have a stronger presence.

CO-CHAIR SINAY: Does he know which -- what cities or districts he would like to be included?

RAMIRO RODRIGUEZ: So the communities mentioned and also any other community that isn’t next to us right now but that they are communities like ours and that we would be better if we were united.

CO-CHAIR SINAY: Okay, thank you.

RAMIRO RODRIGUEZ: Yeah, muchas gracias.

CO-CHAIR SINAY: So we are at our required break, so that our ASL and other interpreters can all take a little bit of a break. We’ll be back in 15 minutes and so
we’ll see you at 6, at 6:30.

(Off the record at 6:14 p.m.)

(On the record at 6:30 p.m.)

CO-CHAIR SINAY: Welcome back to the California Citizen Redistricting Commission Community of Interest Input Meeting. For anyone who has joined us recently, we’re offering language lines for Spanish, Filipino/Tagalog, and Arabic language speakers to listen to the meeting in their native language and a separate line for those who wish to provide public comment or public input.

Could I please have each of our interpreters provide our language line numbers and the information to provide public input? We’ll start with Spanish.

SPANISH INTERPRETER: This is the Spanish interpreter.

CO-CHAIR SINAY: I was just going to finish the instruction. Just please read the site translation of full call-in instructions.

SPANISH INTERPRETER: Will do, Chair, thank you.

(Instructions read in Spanish). Thank you.

CO-CHAIR SINAY: Gracias. Now to the Filipino/Tagalog Interpreter, can you please read the site translation of full call-in instructions?

FILIPINO/TAGALOG INTERPRETER: Thank you.
(Instructions read in Filipino/Tagalog). Thank you.

CO-CHAIR SINAY: Salamat. And now to the Arabic, please read the site translation of full call-in instructions.

ARABIC INTERPRETER: Sure. (Instructions read in Arabic). Thank you.

CO-CHAIR SINAY: Shukran. This session is specifically dedicated to those that did not have an appointment; however, if you had an appointment and were unable to call during your time block, we encourage you to call now.

We will continue to take public input at this time as well as invite the public to give us general public comments. The phone lines for the public input and public comments will close at 7 p.m., so we encourage you to call right now.

We will get to all the callers who are in the queue by the time -- all the callers who are in the queue by 7 and we’ll go beyond 7 if needed. With that, I’m going to pass you over, pass this over to Katy, our comment moderator. Katy, after you read the instructions, please instruct the Farsi and Pashto instructors to read the site translation for the beginning of open line instructions.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair. The Commissioners will be taking community of interest input.
and public comment by phone at this time. To call in, dial the telephone number provided on the livestream feed, it is (877)853-5247. When prompted, enter the meeting ID number provided on the livestream feed, it is 81933017362 for this meeting.

When prompted to enter a participant ID, simply press the pound key. Once you have dialed in, you will be placed in a queue. To indicate you wish to comment, please press star 9, this will raise your hand for the moderator. When it is your turn to speak, you will hear a message that says the host would like you to talk and to press star 6 to speak.

If you would like to give your name, please state and spell it for the record. You are not required to provide your name to give public comment. Please make sure to mute your computer or livestream audio to prevent any feedback or distortion during your call.

Once you are waiting in the queue, be alert for when it is your turn to speak and again, please turn down the livestream volume.

Mr. Varoujan?

FARSI INTERPRETER: Yes.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Could you please read the call-in instructions at this time?

FARSI INTERPRETER: Sure. (Instructions read in
PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And Mr. Aziz (ph.)?

PASHTO INTERPRETER: Yes, ma’am.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Do you have a copy of these instructions?

PASHTO INTERPRETER: Yes, I do.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. Would you please interpret them at this time?


PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

PASHTO INTERPRETER: You’re welcome.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: At this time, we will have caller with the last four 9808 and then up next in the queue will be caller 3974 which is unique ID number 035 -- 035. But, right now caller 9808, if you’ll please follow the prompt to unmute at this time by pressing star 6. Caller 9808, your speaker order number will be Number 29. If you will please let the mapper know what area you would like to discuss, the floor is yours.

ERICA SCHWART: Hi, thank you so much. I would like to discuss Assembly District 36 and I would like to start by thanking the Commissioners for having this opportunity for myself and my other fellow Californians to
participate in today’s redistricting process.

My name is Erica Schwart (ph.) and I am with SBCC, Strength Based Community Change, we work out of LA County. I’m also representing Best Start Region 5 and the NALOE Educational Fund.

I’ve lived most of my live in Los Angeles County and for the majority of my life it is somewhere where I love and I appreciate for everything that we have, but I’m here today to talk about my specific region, which is the Antelope Valley, which is engulfed within the Assembly District 36.

It is located north of Angeles Forest Highway and specifically where I live, which is Lake Los Angeles, the community of Lake Los Angeles, we are as of 260th Street East to the east of us, north is Avenue A, which is other portions of the unincorporated LA County.

Then as we get into the city of Palmdale, our line is 90th Street East on the west side and to the south of us, Pearblossom Highway, which is Highway 138. This community is unique because they -- we are predominantly a Hispanic community, but that does not mean that we do not have other demographics of ethnicities in our area.

It is something that we pride ourselves in, in unique and diversity. We have one regional park that we work out of in terms of community unity projects and things
that we used to do prior to COVID of course. We also have
a state park, Saddleback State Butte Park, and we have an
Indian museum that is managed by the state of California as
well.

We have several wildlife reserves, our neighbors to
the east of us is Phelan in San Bernardino County and to
the north of us is Edwards Air Force Base and further up is
Rosamond and Cal City.

I would like to state that my community of interest
is within the Antelope Valley, Lake Los Angeles. We hold a
unique title of being, you know, just at the tip end of the
Mojave Desert, but also we lack a lot of resources, so it’s
difficult for us to be in a district where the home base
will be further out.

AV TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: 30 seconds.

ERICA SCHWART: We would prefer to stay within our
district. We care about illegal dumping issues; we care
about the issues in our community as far as early
education. We only have two schools for a lot of community
members that live here, I think it’s 12,000.

We’re considered rural, but I don’t believe that we
are backwards. We have to drive 20 minutes east or west in
order to get to any major grocery stores and what I feel is
that in order for us to really maintain a cohesive and
unity and that --
AV TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: Time.

CO-CHAIR SINAY: Thank you. I just wanted to remind the public that at 7:00, we will be closing down our lines, so please call in now if you’d like to speak, share your communities of interest today or have a public comment, and we will be here until past 7 to hear you.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you, Chair. Right now we have caller with the last four 9135 and up next after that will be caller 6103. Caller 9135, if you will please follow the prompts to unmute at this time.

(No audible response)

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Caller 9135, if you will please press star 6 on your telephone keypad to unmute your phone. Caller 9135, do you need an interpreter?

(No audible response)

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Caller 9135, can you hear me?

(No audible response)

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: You are unmuted, can you --

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes, I’m unmuted, I’m unmuted, sorry.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: That’s okay. Hold on one second. Hold on. Your -- so your speaker order number will be Number 30, if you’ll make note of that for future
reference, and then if you’ll please let the mapper know what area you would like to discuss, the floor is yours.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Oh, I’m actually calling from the 39th District, Senate District, and the 79th Assembly District for California. I live in Oak Park, Southeast San Diego and just wanted to comment about my area, a small area in Southeast San Diego, Oak Park.

I’m part of the Oak Park Community Council and just wanted to say that our community is very diverse and there’s a number of issues, social issues affecting our community, including homelessness, unemployment, educational opportunities, et cetera, et cetera, sort of like a microcosm of what other communities are experiencing.

We have had a shift in our population as far as it’s primarily Latino, Asian, and Black, not -- (indiscernible) percent probably White, but the majority, you know, African-American, Latino, and Asian. So I just want to say that to continue with the same line, boundary line, and that’s all I wanted to say. Thank you so much.

CO-CHAIR SINAY: Thank you. Katy, I was -- could we have the interpreters just quickly tell people that the lines will be closed at 7, so if they want to speak to please call in now? Can we go through each of the interpreters?
PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes. Do they have that in their script or is it something that we need to do a consecutive translation on?

CO-CHAIR SINAY: That’s a great question. I don’t know if it’s in their script, but I could, I could just say it, is that what you’re saying?

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Marcy -- she said they have already made this announcement in their intro.

CO-CHAIR SINAY: Oh, okay, then I apologize. Thank you for making that announcement.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

CO-CHAIR SINAY: All yours, Katy.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: All right. Caller 6103 will be right now and then up next will be caller 2768. Caller 6103, if you will please follow the prompts to unmute at this time by pressing star 6 on your telephone keypad. Caller 6103, do you need an interpreter this evening?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No, I do not.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: All right. Your speaker order number will be Number 31, if you’ll please make note of that for future reference and if you’ll please let the mapper know what area you would like to discuss, the floor is yours.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you. I’d like to
discuss the Congressional District Area 52. I live in that
district currently in Torrey Highlands and I’m calling
because I would like to make sure Torrey Highlands, Pacific
Highlands Ranch, Carmel Valley, Del Mar Highlands,
Fairbanks, Rancho Santa Fe, Rancho Bernardo, and Poway stay
together even if the district lines are changed.

I know Ocean -- excuse me, I know Coronado and down
by the San Diego International Airport are also in that
district, but the first part of what I mentioned for those
areas is important to stay together for the following
reasons: We share the 56 Freeway corridor from Del Mar to
the Del Mar Mesa Preserve all the way to the 56 which turns
into Ted Williams Parkway to Poway and Rancho Bernardo.
All our areas are interconnected by that 56 Freeway as well
as our main streets of Camino del Sur and Camino del Norte.

In addition to the location, the Poway School
District, which is in Rancho Bernardo and Poway Area
reaches into Torrey Highlands and it’s important that those
districts stay together.

As mentioned previously, with being in the 56
Freeway corridor, we’re connected by the Del Mar Mesa
Preserve and we have common interest in canyon
preservation, in our bike trails, in the bike path along
the 56 going into Poway and Rancho Bernardo, so we have
common interest in the schools and our land location.
And lastly, we all share in this area similar socioeconomic status. Our median incomes are roughly the same, our property values are roughly the same, and due to the locations and how we’re connected, this coastal living lifestyle is minutes away from the beaches due to the 56 bond that we have.

So based on our location and our schools and the area we want to preserve with our canyons, I’d like those areas to stay district together even if the lines are changed. Thank you.

CO-CHAIR SINAY: Caller?
PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: They’re still there.
CO-CHAIR SINAY: Ma’am, are you there?
UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes, I am.
CO-CHAIR SINAY: You had said you wanted to include Fairbanks Ranch, it’s currently not in the 52, but you would like to include it?
UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I would like to include it because Camino del Sur connects to San Dieguito Road and we’re all -- and I say we, I mean, many of the people in this, we’re kind of always looping around to include that. I think that’s important we share common ground as well, they are not completely right on the coast as are we, but in and out of going up to Camino del Sur down Carmel Valley Road and to San Dieguito Road, we share that common area.
CO-CHAIR SINAY: Okay, thank you so much.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now it will be caller 2768 and then up next will be caller 2119. Caller 2768, if you will please follow the prompts to unmute at this time. Caller 2768, your speaker order number will be Number 32, if you’ll please make note of that for future reference and if you’ll please let the mapper know what area you would like to discuss, the floor is yours.

MARIA AGRAVEL: Hello.

(Conversation in Spanish).

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Uno momento, por favor.

(Conversation in Spanish).

SPANISH INTERPRETER: Ms. Katy, can you repeat her call number, please?

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: 32.

(Whereas the following was interpreted from Spanish into English).

MARIA AGRAVEL: Commissioners, thank you so much for giving me the opportunity to give you my testimony today. I’m an active member of IHAD West (ph.) and I’m also associated with the organization, SBCC, and I also collaborate with the educational fund, NALEO. My community is composed largely by African-Americans and Hispanics and we share the same needs.
I have five children and four adopted children. I have lived in Los Angeles for over 20 years. In the District 8, which is by Normandie, but I identify more with District Number 15.

Since all of my children have attended the schools in Watts, the schools are mostly magnet high schools and middle schools, in Compton between 104th Street and Compton Boulevard. And also King/Drew High School which is located on 120th Street in Compton and also Jordan High School which is located on 103rd Street and Alameda.

I have been a volunteer in different schools in Watts and other community groups. I'm also part of different organizations; I shop at Food 4 Less, which is located on 103rd and Compton, and also Superior store market which is located on 104th Street in Avalon.

I would like for West, the Community of West Athens to belong to District Number 15. Since my community has a lot more in common with District 15, I would like for there to be better quality of foods in our local stores.

So because our concern is mostly for us Hispanics is to have better nutrition for all of our children, that is, in fact, most of our concerns for all our families. I thank you so much, all Commissioners, for your attention.

Good afternoon.

SPANISH INTERPRETER: Would there be any questions?
CO-CHAIR SINAY: Yes.

SPANISH INTERPRETER: (Translates to Spanish).

CO-CHAIR SINAY: Was she discussing the City Council District 8 or was it, or was it another district?

SPANISH INTERPRETER: Did you say 8, Madam, President?

CO-CHAIR SINAY: Yes.

SPANISH INTERPRETER: (Translates to Spanish).

Whereas the following was interpreted from Spanish into English).

MARIA AGRAVEL: I belong to District Number 8, but I am more related to District 15.

CO-CHAIR SINAY: Okay, muchas gracias. Thank you.

SPANISH INTERPRETER: Muchas gracias, Señora.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

Right now will be caller 2119 and up next will be caller 0893. And I would like to invite those that have called in that have not raised their hands at this point, to press star 9 to raise your hand if you wish to give comment in the reminder of our meeting.

Caller 2119, if you will please follow the prompts to unmute at this time. Caller 2119, if you will please press star 6 to unmute at this time. Caller 2119, your new speaker order number will be Number 33, if you will please make note of that for future reference. If you’ll please
let the mapper know of an area if you’d like to discuss it
and the floor is yours.

Caller 2119, can you hear me? You are unmuted.

MICHAEL MURRAY: Yes, I can hear you just fine.

How are you?

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: I am wonderful, how are
you?

MICHAEL MURRAY: I’m doing well.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: The floor is yours.

MICHAEL MURRAY: I just wanted to -- yes, ma’am?

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: The floor is yours.

MICHAEL MURRAY: Great. So my name is Michael
Murray, I’m a resident of the city of Oceanside, I’m on the
border of Fallbrook and I have some comments on the
redistricting that’s coming up.

I just wanted to -- basically, I’m a veteran of the
Marine Corps, I’m a single dad, I live here in Oceanside on
the border of Fallbrook, like I said. And Oceanside,
Fallbrook, and Camp Pendleton have to stay together for the
following reasons: First of all, Fallbrook has a heavy
military population; that population uses the base
entrances that go through Fallbrook, public transportation
off base, and they weigh heavily on our local economy, not
to mention Camp Pendleton and the city of Fallbrook
actually share an education system.
So as a single dad who has two kids and actually utilize that school system for a long time, it’s really important to me and our voters who all have similar interests and we’re all in a community of interest, I guess you can say, that we all stay together.

As a solution, I actually heard another speaker earlier who made a suggestion if we’re going to keep Fallbrook, then we should eliminate Del Mar and Encinitas. I want to double down on that, those two actually have nothing to do with this, this area. We don’t go there, they don’t come here, and so I want to second that, that motion as well, and that’s all I have.

CO-CHAIR SINAY: Thank you.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

Right now we will have caller 0893 and then up next will be caller 3914. Caller 0893, if you will please follow the prompts to unmute at this time by pressing star 6. Caller 0893, your speaker order number will be 34, if you’ll please make note of that for future reference, and if you’ll please let the mapper know what area you would like to discuss, the floor is yours.

YASMEEN OBEID: Thank you. Can you guys hear me well?

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We sure can, go ahead.

YASMEEN OBEID: Awesome. So I would like to look
at El Cajon, San Diego which is between 53rd and 60th Districts and my apologies if there is background noise, I’m actually driving. So basically, my name is Yasmeen Obeid, I’m Muslim, Palestinian, and I work with Majdal, the Arab Community Center of San Diego, which is a center located in El Cajon.

And we’re calling today to really ensure that in the process of redistricting this year, our Arab community is not split in between two districts. If you look at the map, our community is literally in the little split between both districts and that’s also split in our Arab community, our Arab refugee and immigrant communities in El Cajon.

So today we’re asking that you make sure that does not happen in this part of the redistricting and we also want to make sure that we’re (indiscernible) that our community or El Cajon in general has the largest Arab refugees in San Diego, the largest population of Arab refugees in San Diego, honestly probably in the state.

And at the moment, when we’re looking at the districts in San Diego, if we need to be put in one district, we would like to be put in the 53rd because we share a lot of the same communities as the 53rd. The 53rd has some of the largest refugee and immigrant populations (indiscernible) areas like City Heights in the 53rd have almost more than 80 languages spoken because of how diverse
it is and that resonates with our Arab community a lot as well as our Muslim community (audio cuts out) --

AV TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: Are there any questions?

CO-CHAIR SINAY: No, we’re good.

YASMEEN OBEID: Need to advocate that -- go ahead.

AV TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: I’m sorry, you were -- you got cut off there at the end. Caller, were you done with your comments?

YASMEEN OBEID: I just have one last sentence. I was adding that we would also like to include Rancho San Diego and Spring Valley with El Cajon because it’s really critical for our communities since we share similar socioeconomic statuses, we share again our Arab community is dispersed within these areas, as well as (indiscernible) communities as a whole.

So that concludes my comment. Thank you so much for having me and have a great day. I’m here if you have any questions.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. Right now we have caller 3914, this is our last raised hand in the queue at this time, so if caller 9916 wishes to make a comment this evening, please press star 9 on your telephone keypad. But at this time, caller 3914, if you will please follow the prompts to unmute. Caller 3914, your speaker order number will be 35, if you’ll please --
AMAGALET: (Spoken in Spanish).

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Español?

AMAGALET: Yes, please.

SPANISH INTERPRETER: Buenas tardes. Qué tal?

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: 35.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Good evening.

(Whereas the following was interpreted from Spanish into English).

AMAGALET: My name is Amagalet (ph.). I’m a member of CHIRLA. Today I will be talking -- today I’m speaking as an immigrant who has been part of the High Desert Area for the last 18 years. The communities in the High Desert Area are areas where the Latino population has been growing in the last decade.

There is a great division between the peoples that live within this district. Some people currently live in their cars, while other peoples, other people live in big houses with huge plots of land.

The economic situation for many members of the community is quite diverse. The largest employers in my community are restaurants, clinics, and toys, toy warehouses. In the community of Hesperia, a large furniture warehouse is being constructed that we hope will bring lots of employment.

There are many truck drivers who lived in this area
and because they can park the trucks in the large plots of land, but that could also change. They want to start charging for each truck that is parked within the homes, the lands. My husband and my brother-in-law are truck drivers and they depend on this for their living.

The fact that they want to charge for each truck that is parked in our lots, it’s due to the poor representation that we have for our community. The type of services that are available to my community are very limited.

We don’t have a hospital, everything is found on the Victorville side. We only have two small parks and only one library. There are very few service providers in my community, like the IHP Center and the churches who help us out with food baskets.

The Hesperia School District provides public education and in some places they offer college classes for those students who want to take the two year classes of college courses.

The problem is that we do not have a community college within our community. The only college that we do have, which is San Jacinto, happens to be a private college and the nearest community college that we do have is located in Victorville.

We need more colleges and universities and no more
jails; we have plenty of those in our community. And also
because the only college that we do have in Victorville is
full to capacity --

AV TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: 30 seconds.

AMAGALET: -- which is the reason why it is
necessary for us to stay together to continue advocating
for the needs of our community.

AV TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: Quince segundos.

AMAGALET: I ask that the communities mentioned to
be united to the communities of Palmdale (ph.), Lancaster,
and LA that -- yes, and be together, put together with
Palmdale (ph.), Lancaster, and Lake LA, which have common
themes with us.

AV TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: Time has expired.

AMAGALET: (Spoken in Spanish).

SPANISH INTERPRETER: (Spoken in Spanish).

AV TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: Chair, do you have any
additional questions?

CO-CHAIR SINAY: (Spoken in Spanish). There’s no
questions.

SPANISH INTERPRETER: (Spoken in Spanish).

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. At
this time, we do have one caller in the queue that has not
chosen to raise their hand. Caller 9916, if you wish to
raise your hand, please press star 9. Rather than go
through all the interpreters, I am going to try pressing
allowed to talk, if they wish to star 6, we’ll see. We’ll
try.

So caller 9916, you are our last caller in the
queue. If you wish to give comment to the Commission this
evening, if you will please follow the prompts to press
star 6 and unmute your phone.

Caller 9916, do you need an interpreter?

MAGDALENA CASALES: Please por favor.

SPANISH INTERPRETER: Buenas tardes.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Your speaker order
number will be 36.

SPANISH INTERPRETER: (Translates to Spanish)
(Whereas the following was interpreted from Spanish
to English).

MAGDALENA CASALES: My name is Magdalena Casales
(ph.) and I am representing Ms. Veronica Cardenas (ph.).

SPANISH INTERPRETER: She is part of SBC of El
Monte.

MAGDALENA CASALES: I am a resident of El Monte,
California, which is part of the San Gabriel Valley. It’s
located 12 miles to the east of Los Angeles and it is
located between Highway 60 and Highway 10. My city is a
residential as well as an industrial area and we are very
friendly people.
In this community we have a park called Arceo. This is a meeting place for many families to have many activities. One of those activities is to work out and spend time as a family. I am the voice of my community and we have the need of an aquatic park.

Beforehand, we thank all the Commissioners. Have a good evening.

SPANISH INTERPRETER: (Spoken in Spanish).

CO-CHAIR SINAY: Can you ask her what communities she would like to keep together?

SPANISH INTERPRETER: (Translates to Spanish).

(Whereas the following was interpreted from Spanish to English).

MAGDALENA CASALES: So because I’m speaking on behalf of Ms. Veronica, I actually live in East Los Angeles; she’s actually a resident of El Monte. And because she couldn’t be present, I simply read what she wrote for me.

CO-CHAIR SINAY: Muchas gracias, thank you.

SPANISH INTERPRETER: (Spoken in Spanish).

MAGDALENA CASALES: (Spoken in Spanish).

CO-CHAIR SINAY: That was our last caller, right? All right. Well, today was -- this evening was another successful evening. We broke our record today of the number of interpreters and we always have two. I always
say we have ASL and English, but today we had eight
different languages going on.

So thank you everybody, muchas gracias, salamat,
shukran, thank you. Thank you all who called in and
participated in our meeting today. In the next two
weeks -- in the next week, I’m sorry, next week, we have
two more communities of interest meetings, the first is on
August 20th at 2 p.m. focusing on Alpine, Amador,
Calaveras, Inyo, Mariposa, Mono, and Tuolumne. And I know
I pronounced that wrong. I’m sorry. I even looked it up.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Tuolumne.

CO-CHAIR SINAY: Thank you. I looked it up and
everything. Tuolumne County and their surrounding areas.
We will have Spanish listening line and Spanish interpreter
available.

The second meeting is on August 21 at 9 a.m.
focusing on El Dorado, Nevada, Placer, Placer, Sacramento,
Sierra, Sierra, Sutter, Yolo, Yuba Counties and their
surrounding areas and we will also have Spanish listening
line and Spanish interpreters available.

Registration for each meeting closes two calendar
days before, two calendar days before at 5 p.m. The next
Commission business meeting will be on August 19th at 4
p.m. Callers at the communities of interest sessions are
not limited to the specifically mentioned counties. You
can visit the meeting page at our website to see the list of additional upcoming communities of interest input meetings. Our website is wedrawthelinesca.org and if you go to the meetings tab, you’ll find it.

Also we’d like to remind those who didn’t call in today, but now are inspired to share with us their communities, to please use our community of interest tool. It is in 14 languages and it will walk you through the narratives and then allow you to draw the map and it will be submitted directly to us and that can be found on our website, wedrawthelinesca.org or you can go directly to the tool, which is drawmycacommunity.org.

Gracias, salamat, shukran, thank you, thank you everybody. This meeting is adjourned.

(Whereupon, at 7:26 p.m. the session adjourned).
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 15th day of September, 2021.

[Signature]

PETER PETTY
CER**D-493
Notary Public
TRANSCRIBER'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 transcribed by me, a certified transcriber and a disinterested person, and was under my supervision thereafter transcribed into typewriting.

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 15th day of September, 2021.

_________________
Myra Severtson
Certified Transcriber
AAERT No. CET**D-852