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8 MEETING OF LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL REDISTRICTING  
9 COMMISSION  
10 Thursday, July 1, 2021  
11 Los Angeles, California  
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24 STENOGRAPHICALLY REPORTED BY:  
25 HEATHERLYNN GONZALEZ  
CSR #13646

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1 COMMISSIONERS PRESENT  
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3 CHAIR, COMMISSIONER FRED ALI  
4 VICE-CHAIR, COMMISSIONER DAVID HYUN  
5 COMMISSIONER EDWARD ANDERSON  
6 COMMISSIONER ELISSA BARRETT  
7 COMMISSIONER CHARISSE BREMOND  
8 COMMISSIONER DENIS CAGNA  
9 COMMISSIONER ROCKY DELGADILLO  
10 COMMISSIONER SONJA DIAZ  
11 COMMISSIONER ANDREW GARSTEN  
12 COMMISSIONER RICHARD KATZ  
13 COMMISSIONER MIGUEL MARTINEZ  
14 COMMISSIONER CARLOS MORENO  
15 COMMISSIONER MICHELE PRICHARD  
16 COMMISSIONER ELIZABETH SALDIVAR  
17 COMMISSIONER VALERIE LYNNE SHAW  
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3 Thursday, July 1, 2021; Los Angeles, California  
4 6:01 p.m.  
5 -oOo-  
6 COMMISSIONER ALI: So good evening, and welcome  
7 to this public hearing of the Los Angeles City Council  
8 Redistricting Commission.  
9 My name is Fred Ali, and I'm honored to serve as  
10 the chair of the commission.  
11 Tonight is the first of nine-- the first of 19  
12 public hearings that the commission will be conducting  
13 through September. We will hold hearings in each city  
14 council district as well as four regional hearings to  
15 ensure the residents of Los Angeles can have their voices  
16 heard in this important process.  
17 We start tonight with a special focus on Council  
18 District 12. We look forward to hearing the residents  
19 that come from District 12 as well as residents of other  
20 districts who might be attending tonight's hearing.  
21 As Vice-chair David Hyun will be explaining in a  
22 minute, we want to hear about your community and your  
23 special needs and your recommendations for fair and  
24 inclusive -- for a fair and inclusive political  
25 representation. This is really what democracy is all

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1 about.  
2 I want to thank the neighborhood councils who  
3 supported our outreach efforts for tonight's meeting, as  
4 well as the staff of City Council John Lee's office. I  
5 also want to thank the efforts of many community-based  
6 organizations who also assisted us with spreading the word  
7 about tonight's hearing.  
8 Tonight -- today is July 1st, 2021. The time is  
9 6:04 p.m.  
10 And Betty, would you please take the role.  
11 MS. BUTLER: Yes.  
12 Chair Ali?  
13 COMMISSIONER ALI: Present.  
14 MS. BUTLER: Vice-chair Hyun?  
15 COMMISSIONER HYUN: Present.  
16 MS. BUTLER: Vice-chair Siqueiros?  
17 Commissioner Anderson?  
18 COMMISSIONER ANDERSON: Present.  
19 MS. BUTLER: Commissioner Barrett?  
20 Commissioner Bremond?  
21 Commissioner Brenes?  
22 Commissioner Cagna?  
23 Commissioner Delgadillo?  
24 COMMISSIONER DELGADILLO: Here.  
25 MS. BUTLER: Commissioner Diaz?

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1 COMMISSIONER DIAZ: Here. 5  
2 MS. BUTLER: Commissioner Garsten?  
3 COMMISSIONER GARSTEN: Present.  
4 MS. BUTLER: Commissioner Katz?  
5 COMMISSIONER KATZ: Here.  
6 MS. BUTLER: Commissioner Le?  
7 Commissioner Martinez?  
8 COMMISSIONER MARTINEZ: Present.  
9 MS. BUTLER: Commissioner Moreno?  
10 COMMISSIONER MORENO: Here.  
11 MS. BUTLER: Commissioner Polanco?  
12 Commissioner Prichard?  
13 COMMISSIONER PRICHARD: Here.  
14 MS. BUTLER: Commissioner Saldivar?  
15 Commissioner Shaw?  
16 COMMISSIONER SHAW: Here.  
17 MS. BREMOND: Commissioner Bremond --  
18 MR. CARDENAS: Chairman, I believe Commissioner  
19 Bremond is here.  
20 COMMISSIONER ALI: Yes.  
21 And I believe Commissioner Saldivar is here as  
22 well. Is that correct?  
23 COMMISSIONER SALDIVAR: Yes, I'm here.  
24 COMMISSIONER ALI: So, Betty, do we have a  
25 quorum?

1 muted, and I keep hearing a scratching sound. But I have 7  
2 no report at this time.  
3 COMMISSIONER ALI: Okay. Thank you.  
4 Commissioner Moreno?  
5 COMMISSIONER MORENO: Yes, I'm here. But I noted  
6 that when roll call was being taken, I was on mute. So I  
7 just want the record to reflect that I am -- I am present,  
8 and I'm not a cat.  
9 COMMISSIONER ALI: Thank you. Thank you.  
10 Are there -- I'm -- are there any disclosures  
11 that commissioners want to make?  
12 COMMISSIONER ANDERSON: Commissioner Cagna says  
13 he's here but he's part of the general public. He's --  
14 COMMISSIONER CAGNA: Thank you, Commissioner  
15 Anderson. I have joined, Chair Ali.  
16 COMMISSIONER ALI: Okay. Commissioner Cagna.  
17 COMMISSIONER BARRETT: And Elissa Barrett,  
18 Commissioner, I have joined as well.  
19 COMMISSIONER ALI: Thank you, Commissioner  
20 Barrett. Welcome.  
21 I am not seeing any ex parte communication. So  
22 let's -- let's proceed.  
23 Betty, can you read the first, and for tonight,  
24 the only agenda item into the record?  
25 MS. BUTLER: Yes, Commissioner Ali.

1 MS. BUTLER: Yes, we do. 6  
2 COMMISSIONER ALI: All right. Thank you. Thank  
3 you very, very much.  
4 So now I'm going to ask commission members to  
5 disclose ex parte communications that may have occurred  
6 since our last meeting.  
7 And for members of the public, I want to explain  
8 what ex parte communication means. Ex parte communication  
9 means a communication between any member of the  
10 Los Angeles City Council Redistricting Commission and any  
11 elected city officer or member of any elected city  
12 officer's staff regarding the matter pending before the  
13 commission.  
14 We are -- commissioners are required by City  
15 Ordinance to disclose these types of communications. Our  
16 commission members take these disclosures very seriously,  
17 and a log of ex parte communications can be found on our  
18 website. And you'll note at the end of today's hearing,  
19 I'm going to ask once again for commissioners to disclose  
20 any communications that may have occurred during -- during  
21 the meeting.  
22 So before I get started with ex parte  
23 communications, Commissioner Shaw, did you have a  
24 question?  
25 COMMISSIONER SHAW: Pardon me. Somebody is not

1 Item Number 1, discussion of public hearing 8  
2 format, rules of conduct, and summary of redistricting and  
3 communities of interest. Public hearing to gather  
4 testimony on communities of interest. Closing remarks.  
5 COMMISSIONER ALI: Thank you. Thank you, Betty.  
6 And now it's my pleasure to introduce Frank  
7 Cardenas, the Executive Director of the commission. Some  
8 of you might recall, this is Frank's -- actually, his  
9 second tour of duty with redistricting. In 2002, Frank  
10 was the first Redistricting Commission Executive Director.  
11 He did a great job 20 years ago, and we're benefiting from  
12 his experience this time around.  
13 So Frank, welcome. And I know you're going to do  
14 an introduction.  
15 MR. CARDENAS: Thank you, Chair.  
16 (Speaking in Spanish.)  
17 COMMISSIONER ALI: Thank you, Frank. And I  
18 apologize for the dogs in the background. The problems  
19 with Zoom communication.  
20 At this point, it's my pleasure to introduce  
21 David Hyun who is your Vice-chair. David is responsible  
22 for our outreach committee, and he's also -- was appointed  
23 by Council Member John Lee for Council District 12. And  
24 so David, welcome from Maui.  
25 MR. HYUN: Thank you, Chair Ali. Welcome

1 everybody. 9  
2 I'd like to welcome everyone tonight to the first  
3 public hearing of the Los Angeles City Council  
4 Redistricting Commission. My name is David Hyun, and I  
5 have the honor of serving as the Commissioner representing  
6 CD12 on this commission.  
7 The purpose of tonight's hearing is to hear from  
8 you and how you describe your community. We want to know  
9 what makes your community unique and what you and your  
10 neighbors share in common and what are the special needs  
11 of our community. This is vital in redistricting and the  
12 creation of new district boundaries and maps for the City  
13 of Los Angeles. People who have common interests and  
14 needs obviously benefit from being grouped together in a  
15 single district.  
16 We truly value your time and participation in the  
17 redistricting process.  
18 So a little bit about who we are. The  
19 Los Angeles City Council Redistricting Commission is an  
20 appointed 21-member body, charged by the Los Angeles City  
21 Charter with the responsibility of designing new  
22 recommended boundaries of the City's 15 Council Districts.  
23 The commission's adopted core purpose is to  
24 independently draw proposed Los Angeles City Council  
25 District boundaries based on census data and applicable

1 213-263-5765. That's 213-263-5765. Commission staff will 11  
2 be standing by.  
3 If have you a statement you'd like to submit to  
4 the commission, please do so via e-mail at  
5 redistricting.lacity@lacity.org that's  
6 redistricting.lacity@lacity.org.  
7 We have many people that want to testify today.  
8 And we want to accommodate this as efficiently and  
9 effectively as possible. One important suggestion, if you  
10 hear someone make the point you want to make, rather than  
11 repeating that testimony, note your agreement, and then  
12 allow someone else the opportunity to speak.  
13 In closing, I want to thank Los Angeles City  
14 Council member John Lee and the CD12 staff for their  
15 invaluable community outreach and engagement support in  
16 promoting this public hearing throughout CD12.  
17 I will now introduce the Executive Director of  
18 the Los Angeles City Council Redistricting Commission,  
19 Frank Cardenas, who will provide us with a brief summary  
20 of redistricting.  
21 MR. CARDENAS: Vice-chair Hyun, thank you very  
22 much.  
23 So what is redistricting? Every person in the  
24 City of Los Angeles lives in a City Council District,  
25 which is defined by certain streets and neighborhoods. We

1 law that will allocate constituents proportionately while 10  
2 also accounting for unique histories, experiences, and  
3 interests of communities such that those interests will  
4 have the highest probability of being served by the  
5 elected representatives and the City of Los Angeles.  
6 The commission has further adopted the following  
7 vision and core values to inform and drive its fulfillment  
8 of its legal responsibilities and its core purpose:  
9 Our vision is to strengthen the governance of the  
10 City of Los Angeles by empowering its communities to have  
11 their diverse needs served through fair and inclusive  
12 representation;  
13 Our core values are equity, integrity,  
14 transparency, respect, compassion, dignity, data driven,  
15 solution oriented, and independence.  
16 So before we move on, I'd like to just mark a few  
17 housekeeping items. The hearing is being broadcasted live  
18 on video and is being recorded. Closed captioning is also  
19 being provided during this hearing. Translation services  
20 have been made available for those who requested the  
21 services. We have Spanish translation happening  
22 simultaneously during this hearing. If you experience  
23 technical difficulties during this virtual public hearing  
24 please contact us via e-mail at  
25 redistricting.lacity@lacity.org or by calling us at

1 have the opportunity to elect a City Council member based 12  
2 on what district we live in. For example, Boyle Heights,  
3 Pacoima, Chatsworth, or South LA are each in different  
4 Council Districts. And residents in those communities  
5 vote for different people to represent them.  
6 Every ten years, the entire country goes through  
7 the process called redistricting to redraw the maps that  
8 determine each district. As communities get bigger or  
9 smaller and people move in and out, it is important that  
10 the district are defined equally and fairly.  
11 According to the US Constitution, all electoral  
12 districts within a given redistricting map must contain  
13 approximately the same number of people. The maps drawn  
14 will determine the allocation of political power and  
15 representation at every level of government -- city,  
16 county, state, and federal -- across the nation for the  
17 next ten years.  
18 So why does redistricting matter? Where district  
19 lines are drawn may determine where residents can vote,  
20 who they can vote for, and even how responsive elected  
21 officials are to your requests.  
22 Redistricting should never result in a denial of  
23 a person's right to vote based on race, color, or language  
24 minority status. The voting rights act ensures racial and  
25 ethnic minority voters an opportunity to elect

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1 representatives of they are own choice.

2 Representation is power. Who represents you in  
3 City Hall can mean more affordable housing, cleaner  
4 streets, and better parks. And making sure your district  
5 is drawn in a way that gives you fair representation can  
6 make a big difference to you and your family.

7 So how does redistricting work? In LA, the mayor  
8 and City Council have appointed an advisory commission,  
9 our commission here tonight, to advise them with how to  
10 draw new districts that reflect the interests of the  
11 hundreds of communities in Los Angeles that make it  
12 unique. Our 21-member commission is made of diverse  
13 citizens from ever part of the city. This commission is  
14 committed to making sure that everyone has fair and equal  
15 representation at City Hall.

16 Now, before the lines are redrawn, the commission  
17 will conduct a series of 19 public hearings and community  
18 meetings, beginning here tonight. There will be one for  
19 each City Council District, and additionally four regional  
20 meetings, with one being held exclusively in Spanish.

21 At each of these hearings, we want people to tell  
22 us about shared interests and concerns that should be  
23 considered when drawing the lines for your Council  
24 District. In August, the federal government will release  
25 the latest 2020 census population data.

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1 their own maps and submit them to the committee -- to the  
2 commission, excuse me -- for its consideration. More  
3 information on how you can do this will be available on  
4 our commission website in the near future.

5 To help our commissioners actually draw district  
6 boundaries based on census data and your community of  
7 interest testimony, we've engaged one of the premiere  
8 firms in this field, Redistricting Partners. Joining us  
9 in our Zoom hearing right now are the firm's president,  
10 Paul Mitchell, and one of the nation's leading young  
11 spatial analysts and map drawers, Sophia Garcia.

12 I now have the pleasure of introducing the  
13 Commission's Deputy Director, Mrs. Arianna Bankler-Jukes.

14 MS. BANKLER-JUKES: Thank you, Frank.

15 So what helps decide district maps and what are  
16 the rules and criteria. There are a few rules that need  
17 to be followed when designing the map.

18 Council Districts must be substantially equal in  
19 population. Different parts of the district must be able  
20 to connect to one another geographically, and  
21 neighborhoods and communities of interest should be kept  
22 intact as best feasible. Finally, the maps must comply  
23 with the Voting Rights Act, which is a law meant to  
24 protect minority voters -- for example Latinos, African  
25 Americans, Asian Americans -- to ensure that all have an

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1 Once the commission has completed the public  
2 hearings, they will gather a wide array of information,  
3 particularly the information that you provide and data  
4 from the federal government to draw new maps.

5 As we know, because of a four-month delay in the  
6 release of 2020 census population by the census bureau, we  
7 must begin the redistricting process in the absence of  
8 that data. This delay is unfortunate. But we're all in  
9 this together.

10 So as important as that data is, it's only half  
11 the equation, because the public's community of interest  
12 testimony is the other critical factor in the  
13 redistricting process. And that part of the process is  
14 what we're starting here tonight.

15 For the commission to do its work, it must listen  
16 to the voices of Angelenos as you provide your community  
17 of interest testimony. Your testimony and the census  
18 population data, when it's released in August, is what  
19 this commission will rely upon to draw new Council  
20 Districts.

21 A set of maps will be drafted and presented the  
22 community online and via public hearings to make sure the  
23 commission gets your feedback. We'll then revise the maps  
24 and send them to the City Council for approval.

25 People will also have an opportunity to draw up

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1 equal opportunity to elect a representative of their  
2 choice.

3 So how can I participate to make sure my voice is  
4 heard? There are many ways for you to partake in the  
5 redistricting process, one of which is what you're doing  
6 right now, attending one of our 19 public hearings, all of  
7 which will be held virtually in communities throughout  
8 Los Angeles through -- from July 1st to September 25th,  
9 2021.

10 Another way is to submit written testimony to the  
11 commission describing your communities interests and  
12 concerns, and you send this to  
13 [redistricting.lacity@lacity.org](mailto:redistricting.lacity@lacity.org). And in the very near  
14 future, as Frank just mentioned, you will be able to go to  
15 our website and use a program called Maptitude where  
16 communities are able to draw their own lines to show what  
17 their maps should -- what they want their maps to look  
18 like.

19 The commission's job is to take input -- your  
20 input into consideration when developing recommendations  
21 on how to draw the district maps. We need to hear about  
22 what you believe makes up your community. Tell us about  
23 the schools, churches, parks, and shopping centers. Tell  
24 us about the people. Tell us about what neighborhoods  
25 need to be included and what makes your community unique.

1 Now I have the honor of introducing our Associate 17  
2 Director of Community Outreach and Engagement,  
3 Robert Battles.  
4 MR. BATTLES: Good evening, everyone. In  
5 conformity with the Governor's executive order N-29-20 and  
6 due to concerns over Covid-19, the Los Angeles City  
7 Council Redistricting Commission meeting will be conducted  
8 entirely virtually and telephonically.  
9 Members of the public who would like to offer  
10 public comment via Zoom webinar on the item that's on the  
11 agenda should click on the raise hand function and -- to  
12 request to speak. Members of the public who would like to  
13 offer public comment on the item listed on the agenda  
14 should call telephone Number 1 (669) 254-5252. That's 1  
15 (669) 254-5252. Use the meeting ID Number 1615454787.  
16 That's meeting ID Number 1615454787. Press pound, and  
17 press pound again when prompted for participant ID. Once  
18 admitted into the meeting, press star 9 to request to  
19 speak.  
20 At this time, I would now like to introduce Tanea  
21 Ysaguirre from the City Attorneys' Office.  
22 MS. YSAGUIRRE: Thank you, Robert.  
23 So the commission shall provide an opportunity  
24 for members of the public to address the commission on the  
25 public input item agenda for three minutes per speaker

1 meeting on the Internet or other device. Because there's 19  
2 a time delay between the live meeting and the broadcast,  
3 please keep one ear on your phone so that you hear when  
4 announce the last three digits of your phone number or  
5 other identifying information so that you can immediately  
6 press star 6, otherwise we might think you are no longer  
7 on the line and move on to the next speaker.  
8 Also, if you are listening to the broadcast of  
9 the meeting over the Internet or other device, please  
10 immediately turn down the broadcast on that device to  
11 avoid feedback and confusion because of delay.  
12 Finally, I'd like to warn you commissioners and  
13 members of the public that some members of the public will  
14 choose to use modes of expression that are offensive or  
15 vulgar, including the use of racial epithets.  
16 Unfortunately, some of that content is First Amendment  
17 protected speech, and there is little that we can do but  
18 hear it. Members of the public may choose to turn down  
19 their volume during that part of the public comment if  
20 they choose not to listen to racial slurs and vulgarities.  
21 All right. Now we'll pass it back to Chair Ali.  
22 COMMISSIONER ALI: Thank you, Tanea, very, very  
23 much. And now I want to open the meeting to public  
24 testimony.  
25 Robert, I pass it to you.

1 plus additional time to translate comments by non-English 18  
2 speakers. The presiding officer may allot fewer than  
3 three minutes per speaker if the number of the members of  
4 the public wishing to speak is too many to allow for  
5 others to speak. Presiding Officer shall make every  
6 effort to notify the public at the beginning of the  
7 hearing for limitations on the time limits on the public  
8 hearing.  
9 The presiding officer may rule that a speaker's  
10 out of order if the speaker's comments are not germane,  
11 meaning on topic, to the item in this commission or overly  
12 repetitive. If the speaker remains out of order, the  
13 presiding officer may declare the speaker's impeding  
14 orderly conduct of the meeting and rule the remainder of  
15 the speaker's time forfeit.  
16 To members of the public calling in to provide  
17 comment to the commission, when it's your turn to speak we  
18 will announce the last three digits of your phone number.  
19 Or if you're dialing in with a blocked phone number, then  
20 we will announce you as caller Number 1 or caller Number  
21 2, et cetera.  
22 When we announce, or you think it's your turn to  
23 speak, please immediately press star 6 to unmute yourself.  
24 To members of the public calling in to speak, we  
25 understand that you might listen to the broadcast of the

1 MR. BATTLES: Thank you very much, Chair Ali. We 20  
2 are now open for public testimony. We'll be calling our  
3 callers on the phone by the last three digits of the phone  
4 number or their other identifying name that they put on  
5 the Zoom rename. The first caller is 006.  
6 Unmute yourself by pressing star 6 and begin to  
7 speak.  
8 SPEAKER: Yes. It's time poster. It's all the  
9 general public comment.  
10 How much time do I get Tanea? You like to abuse  
11 public speakers, I hear.  
12 MS. YSAGUIRRE: You have three minutes, caller.  
13 SPEAKER: Yes, that's right. The famous Tanea,  
14 who's going to get sued (unintelligible).  
15 Now we get to redistricting. We have a  
16 distinguished panel of experts. The honorable Rock-tard  
17 Delgadillo who hails off the street (unintelligible)  
18 neighborhood council. Thank you for that, sir.  
19 And then we have David Hyun. Okay. Who's that?  
20 I lied. I don't even know who he is.  
21 And then we have Liz Saldivar. Fred Ali, and he  
22 doesn't listen to anyone, which is good. And then the  
23 honorable ambassador to Belize, Carlos Moreno, who sits  
24 here with these criminals asking himself how can I turn  
25 them all into the FBI and (unintelligible).

21

1 Well, this is what we all want to know, the FBI  
2 wants to know, and I want to know as an animal. So next  
3 time, Tanea. The (unintelligible) my friend, sister.  
4 (Unintelligible) and he called back (unintelligible) we  
5 were supposed to get the majority Asian district and  
6 Koreatown. And we were going to merge the West Valley  
7 with CD11 with the late (unintelligible) who said, quote,  
8 "I love you, Wayne."  
9 Okay. And at the end of the day, behind the  
10 closed doors, behind every body (unintelligible) junior, a  
11 great man, took it all and accepted the payoff and changed  
12 the map to the current map you have today. The worst  
13 gerrymandering in 211 years. It's been called by the  
14 British Parliament the worst scandal since the beginning  
15 of the (unintelligible).  
16 So we ask Ambassador Moreno to use his judicial  
17 power de-seat all of you, assert federal jurisdiction over  
18 this issue, and draw his own map using a pencil and a  
19 ruler. And then we will have a better district than all  
20 of you.  
21 Thank you, criminals, and the honorable  
22 ambassador.  
23 No, thank you. Thank you, sir.  
24 MR. BATTLES: Yeah. No. It's -- yes. There's a  
25 problem there. All right.

23

1 council members in Koreatown. I was there yesterday, I  
2 picked up trash and three encampments. Mitch O'Farrell,  
3 CD10, CD13, CD11. And we have all of these little  
4 carve-outs. And why does CD4 stretch from all the way to  
5 Hollywood over the mountains of Hollywood Hills east, over  
6 to Sherman Oaks? This is madness. This has got to stop.  
7 You know, this was all brokered because of  
8 payoffs. And half the people are in federal prison or  
9 under investigation by the FBI.  
10 So we're just hoping this time that my  
11 suggestions in 2011, that the other individual referred  
12 to, will be done as follows: A congressional district map  
13 drawn to reflect a new CD10 for Koreatown, stretching from  
14 Olympic Boulevard and Vermont Avenue up to the 101 and  
15 Vermont Avenue. And then we will make an extra Valley  
16 district made up strictly of everything in the 101 pocket  
17 outside of Hollywood hills. So that we have effective  
18 representation.  
19 Then, God willing, we will have the FBI indict  
20 the city, eliminate its charter, and then we will form  
21 three new cities -- LA, the city of San Fernando Valley,  
22 and God love it, Venice, which was stolen by the City by  
23 annexation in 1908.  
24 So let's keep it going. Again, we're all out  
25 there praying to God that this works out. Thank you,

22

1 Next caller. You are caller 00 -- let's see.  
2 Puppet. Sorry. Next caller is identified as "Puppet."  
3 You have three minutes. Max.  
4 SPEAKER: What a privilege and an honor  
5 (unintelligible). I am so honored. That's wonderful.  
6 Yes.  
7 So because my friend is bipolar, you are  
8 recognizing our rights as bipolar people to have multiple  
9 personalities  
10 MR. ALI: Can we move on to the next speaker?  
11 This speaker has already testified.  
12 SPEAKER: Thank you so much. This is amazing. A  
13 civil rights breakthrough for the first time ever.  
14 So as we were going forward, I will turn it over  
15 to my friend.  
16 Oh, thank you so much. Well, what can I say  
17 about what (unintelligible). Scholar, food critic,  
18 emancipator of human rights. I mean, it makes me so  
19 proud. We all started with just animals and we  
20 genetically moved them to speak. Thank you to the Wu-Han  
21 lab.  
22 So speaking of labs, now, are we going to get a  
23 majority Asian district in Koreatown? 18 percent of the  
24 city is Asian American. Are we going to get Koreatown one  
25 council member instead of -- we have four. We have four

24

1 Agents Sorelli (phonetic) and thank you --  
2 MR. BATTLES: Okay. Thank you, sir. Your time  
3 is up.  
4 Next caller is --  
5 MS. YSAGUIRRE: Robert, can I just interject for  
6 a second. I just want to remind the commissioners and  
7 members of the public that even though some of the  
8 material that the speakers will spew in the meeting, as  
9 long as they are on topic, we have to allow them to use  
10 the language they use and to make the comments that they  
11 make. And they can be offensive. Again, I'm sorry. But  
12 unless they're clearly not on topic, we have to let the  
13 speakers continue.  
14 This is actually -- I mean, if you've ever  
15 watched a City Council meeting, you'll know that this  
16 happens regularly there.  
17 COMMISSIONER ALI: Thank you, Tanea.  
18 Robert, please proceed.  
19 MR. BATTLES: Thank you. Our next caller is  
20 phone number ending in 616. Please unmute yourself by  
21 pressing star 9. You have three minutes.  
22 SPEAKER: Greetings. It's Eric Breman (phonetic)  
23 from Studio City and I think it's star 6 for the caller to  
24 unmute. Star 9 is to raise your hand.  
25 What a nice presentation about how this

1 redistricting works; so I want to thank Cardenas. I heard  
2 his name. And I don't know who else made the  
3 presentation, but very helpful to kind of get a high, wide  
4 shot of what we're doing and why we're doing it every ten  
5 years.  
6 I remember in CD2 how it was done. And it's --  
7 it's a very sneaky activity. Let's not kid a kidder.  
8 Everybody knows the history of LA is drawn in these lines.  
9 And Herb Wesson pulled a coup and Bernard Parks was cut  
10 out. And everybody knows the stories. They're great  
11 stories.  
12 But going forward what's the question for CD12?  
13 Well, CD12 is a great district out on the west. And they  
14 like to march to their own drum. And therefore, the lines  
15 have been to drawn in a certain way. Everybody remembers  
16 that -- well, Mitch Englander got a job as a lobbyist, as  
17 everybody recalls. But the job as a lobbyist was really  
18 his job as a federal prisoner, because the FBI had figured  
19 out that he was doing naughty things with his position of  
20 power for CD12.  
21 So what they did is they brought in the great  
22 Greg Schmidt (phonetic) who drew the lines earlier on to  
23 help out -- very helpful guy that works for Waste  
24 Management. Now, you're not supposed to lobby. Here's  
25 the problem with that. You're not supposed to lobby when

25

1 minutes are up, caller.  
2 Our next caller is --  
3 SPEAKER: Well, I'm also on point.  
4 MR. BATTLES: Our next caller is Chris Rowe  
5 (phonetic). Please press star 6 to unmute yourself.  
6 SPEAKER: Hi. This is Chris Rowe, and I live in  
7 West Hills. It would be nice if we could see the map.  
8 So West Hills, in my opinion -- I was involved  
9 with redistricting the last time around. I was on the  
10 West Hills Neighborhood Council at the time. We had voted  
11 to be exclusively either in CD3 or split.  
12 And for me, when you're asking about communities  
13 of interest, I live in the far southeast -- I'm sorry.  
14 Southeast portion of West Hills. One half mile from  
15 Canoga Park, and Woodland Hills boundaries. Vanowen and  
16 Shoup is the boundary between West Hills, Canoga Park, and  
17 Woodland Hills.  
18 So when you're looking at my community, I am  
19 closer to what is Warner Center, which is a part of the  
20 Woodland Hills/Warner Center Neighborhood Council. And  
21 our communities share -- for example, my named school  
22 would be a Canoga Park High School. My closest elementary  
23 is Hamlin, is two to three blocks away from me. Shadow  
24 Ranch Park is within feet of me. And that's where West  
25 Hills holds our Fallfest and our Springfest.

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1 you've been a council member and you wired up all the  
2 waste contracts. But he got permission from Heather Holtz  
3 and David Tristan; so they sort of signed off.  
4 Now, he did it -- now Wesson brings him back to  
5 the be Jefe in command while Englander is escorted out.  
6 Now, the great news was that they agreed to have  
7 a special election. Now, John Lee did a high five with  
8 Mayor Garcetti and Herb Wesson at that moment, because he  
9 (unintelligible). And he was on his way out, frankly, if  
10 any of the realities came out in a way that could be  
11 effective. But because they had a special election where  
12 the turn-out was low and the turn-out was high -- it's a  
13 district that is wired up with folks who love Englander.  
14 They coughed up in a noncompetitive year something like  
15 \$300,000 in contributions just to hold off any  
16 competitors.  
17 So the lines on CD12 are very important. They're  
18 very important because Lundquist got extremely close, and  
19 holding off further attacks is going to be very, very hard  
20 in this world, especially when you've got so much 180ism  
21 where people are willing to hate John Lee, even if he's  
22 doing a good job, which he's not. But if he were, you  
23 know, they could hate him just because he's on one side or  
24 the other --  
25 MR. BATTLES: Thank you, caller. Your three

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1 But people from Canoga Park go to Fallbrook Mall,  
2 Platte Village to shop. I, in turn, go to West Hills and  
3 to the Village and Topanga Plaza and other things.  
4 For public transportation, you know, we all share  
5 the same bus lines. And we would all take the Orange  
6 Line, whether it's Canoga Park -- so we are -- West Hills  
7 is contiguous, compact, and communities of interest with  
8 Woodland Hills and Canoga Park more than Chatsworth.  
9 So while you look at your map of how you see West  
10 Hills at the very far end of the map, which I can't see  
11 because it's not on the screen. I feel like we were  
12 gerrymandered out of CD3. I've looked at the maps on your  
13 website -- historic maps. And the part of West Hills that  
14 I am in was always in Council District 3. There's that  
15 arbitrary dividing line at Roscoe Boulevard.  
16 I wrote an article for City Watch that's  
17 currently on the website on redistricting to draw  
18 attention to your meeting. I sent it to one of your  
19 staff, I believe it's your public relations person, and  
20 asked him to share it and to make people aware of all  
21 three different restricting meetings.  
22 So basically I believe that West Hills should not  
23 be a part of CD12. We are contiguous and compact and  
24 should be in CD3 with Woodland Hills, Canoga Park,  
25 Winnetka, Tarzana, and Reseda. And I think I covered them

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1 all. And I will be coming back to your CD3 meeting as  
2 well. And I will be submitting my comments. But just  
3 finally, you should be using --  
4 MR. BATTLES: Okay, caller. Your three minutes  
5 have ended.  
6 SPEAKER: Thank you so much.  
7 MR. BATTLES: Our next caller is identified is  
8 Pastor William D. Smart, Jr. Please press star 6 to  
9 unmute yourself.  
10 SPEAKER: Greetings. I'm Pastor William D.  
11 Smart, Jr. I am -- I am president and CEO of Southern  
12 Christian Leadership Conference of Southern California.  
13 We have a serious interest in this because --  
14 maybe you don't know, but we are the organization that  
15 Martin Luther King, Jr., set up even here in Los Angeles  
16 in 1962. Voting rights, census, and redistricting are the  
17 vehicles which communities receive power. And the African  
18 American power community has been centrally located in  
19 Districts 8, 9, and 10.  
20 And in those areas, you see a wide range of  
21 neighborhoods that have been there for a long time. You  
22 have various other entities like Leimert Park and other  
23 neighborhoods and centers that are very important.  
24 We are very concerned to make sure that coming  
25 out of this process, that African-Americans have power,

1 I'm president of the Northridge East Neighborhood council,  
2 which is wholly contained within Council District 12, but  
3 we have not taken a position on redistricting; so I am  
4 speaking as an individual.  
5 I do expect that we will be taking official  
6 action and will want to file a community impact statement.  
7 The last time I checked the City Clerk's online filing,  
8 just know that the Los Angeles City Council Redistricting  
9 Commission was not listed on the drop down menu. I  
10 checked last week; so just be aware that that hasn't been  
11 implemented again as of last week.  
12 So comments. Number 1, I think it's very  
13 important to very seriously recognize the boundaries of  
14 neighborhood councils. In Council District 12, there are  
15 ten neighborhood councils. The boundaries of all of them  
16 are consistently -- they're not broken up with regards to  
17 the boundaries of Council District 12, except for one, and  
18 that's the Reseda Neighborhood Council, which is mostly in  
19 Council District 3.  
20 I guess there's a slight exception in that the  
21 Platte Branch Library is a shared facility. It's located  
22 in CD3, but it's a shared facility with the West Hills  
23 Neighborhood Council. And this is important because I  
24 know that over the past two redistrictings, the boundary  
25 lines have adjusted and the southerly boundary --

1 the continuation of power in this city.  
2 We want to make sure, and we will be submitting  
3 information throughout this process to ensure that the  
4 cohesiveness of our communities remains intact, that --  
5 that all the historic neighborhoods are not separated, but  
6 they are there in places so that we can have voting power  
7 in this city.  
8 You'll hear more from us, but we are really  
9 concerned about this during this day and time when we see  
10 so many opportunities where people, particularly  
11 African-Americans, are losing power. We think, through a  
12 proper, efficient redistricting, we can continue to  
13 represent this city, and those districts where  
14 African-Americans are can be represented by  
15 African-Americans. We are voters. We have experts  
16 working with us on voting rights, alignment, and other  
17 things to ensure that our comments will be very factual,  
18 efficient, and effective.  
19 So I'm going to be short, because we're not long  
20 with it. Thank you.  
21 MR. BATTLES: All right. Thank you, caller, for  
22 making your comment.  
23 The next caller is identified as Glen Bailey  
24 (phonetic). Please unmute yourself and begin to speak.  
25 SPEAKER: Good evening. My name is Glen Bailey.

1 southerly -- southerly of Roscoe. And there was a portion  
2 of Northridge that drops down south of Roscoe down to  
3 Saticoy. That is Northridge 91325. It's part of  
4 Northridge South Neighborhood Council. I just want to  
5 make sure if you're drawing a line that you're aware of  
6 that southerly protrusion of Northridge.  
7 Also it's important for community planning  
8 purposes that the Northridge Community Plan Area be intact  
9 and all within the same council district. There is an  
10 exception to that, and that's that portion of Northridge  
11 that drops out of Roscoe.  
12 Also, we have one of the largest universities in  
13 -- in the state, and that's California State University.  
14 It has impacts greatest within Council District 12. And  
15 so -- and within the Northridge -- surrounding Northridge  
16 communities; so it's important that that all be maintained  
17 and together into the same community of interest.  
18 MR. BATTLES: 30 seconds left.  
19 SPEAKER: And that's all for now. Thank you very  
20 much.  
21 MR. BATTLES: Thank you.  
22 Our next caller is Lee. Please unmute yourself  
23 and begin speaking. You have three minutes.  
24 SPEAKER: Thank you for taking the time. My name  
25 is Lee Blumenfield (phonetic). I'm on the Encino



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1 Neighborhood Council. I'm speaking on behalf of myself  
2 this evening as Encino has not officially taken a  
3 position. However, we did find it worth merit to list on  
4 our agenda this evening to form an ad hoc commission to  
5 study redistricting.

6 I can speak to you on Next Door polls that I've  
7 conducted in my specific area in Encino. And 71 percent  
8 voted to have Encino remain together with folks in the  
9 valley, as opposed to being the northern appendage of CD5.  
10 Not that we have not had great relations with CD5.  
11 However, our character being in the Valley and the massive  
12 geographical barrier between communities -- I.E. The  
13 Sepulveda Pass -- which everyone can agree is quite a  
14 barrier, has presented issues in terms of community  
15 relations, folks on the Valley side having issues  
16 attending events on -- over the hill.

17 Lastly, I'd also like for you guys to reconsider  
18 having another NC focused group. A lot of the  
19 Neighborhood Councils are getting their seated folks --  
20 elections just happened. And so the boards are sitting;  
21 so hopefully we can go ahead and draft something and give  
22 you guys better recommendations.

23 Additionally, things that you guys want to  
24 consider -- that I urge you to consider is to keep  
25 neighborhood council boundaries in one CD, specifically

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1 come back to Anita.

2 MR. BATTLES: Caller Marian King. Please unmute  
3 yourself, and you have three minutes to speak.

4 SPEAKER: Hi. Good afternoon. Can you hear me?  
5 MR. BATTLES: Yes. Loud and clear.

6 SPEAKER: Thank you. It's my first time  
7 participating in a redistricting hearing. And I've -- I'm  
8 a resident of Chatsworth. I've lived here for 25 years.  
9 And I'm also a newly elected board member for the  
10 Chatsworth Neighborhood Council speaking on behalf of  
11 myself and my experience as a resident.

12 So I think what we share -- and I can't speak for  
13 all of CD12, but I am familiar with some of the  
14 neighborhoods and communities. For Chatsworth, some of  
15 you may know, there is -- we're very into -- it's a  
16 semirural area, still hanging on by a thread. And we have  
17 a lot of animal keeping, horse -- you know, equestrian  
18 uses, larger single-family lots. A lot of single-family  
19 neighborhoods. Our main commercial area is Devonshire.  
20 That's where we have a lot of community events as opposed  
21 to Topanga, which is more like a freeway now.

22 And I think -- I think now -- just trying to  
23 think out loud about, you know, the topography of the  
24 community of Chatsworth in particular, and the west and  
25 north boundaries are, you know, it's Susana Mountains to

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1 for Encino. And just to give you an example for Encino.  
2 Encino shares a community plan with Tarzana, our neighbors  
3 to the west. And we are in the southwest Valley overall  
4 geographic area -- community planned area. It would be,  
5 in general, a lot more difficult for council members to  
6 have multiple community plans and what have you as opposed  
7 to giving that one-on-one attention for fewer ones. So if  
8 you can group those together -- and generally those  
9 community plan boundaries do not change very often. It  
10 will add for more stability as well as community cohesion  
11 in the different areas.

12 Again, I want to thank you for you guys' time,  
13 and I will look forward to speaking with you at a future  
14 date.

15 MR. BATTLES: Okay. Thank you caller.  
16 Our next caller is identified as Fran. Please  
17 unmute yourself and begin to speak.

18 We're going to the next caller named Anita.  
19 Please unmute yourself and begin to speak. You  
20 have three minutes.

21 The next caller is named Anita. Anita, please  
22 unmute yourself and go ahead and talk.

23 MS. YSAGUIRRE: Try pressing star 6 to unmute  
24 yourself.

25 Robert, why don't we go on to the next caller and

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1 the west and 118 to the north. And beyond that is Simi  
2 Hills. So it's really a very pretty area.

3 I -- we also have a very large industrial area.  
4 Large industrial lots as well. So I think that our  
5 community has pretty much stayed intact. And I echo what  
6 other people have said as far as the Neighborhood Council  
7 boundaries. Please keep those intact.

8 And same with CD12. We have a history where  
9 we've fought hard for, you know, maintaining open space  
10 and equestrian uses. And I would also -- so my -- my --  
11 I'm less connected with the south and east. It's nothing  
12 personal, I just don't feel the same connection there.

13 I think that's all I can share right now. I'd  
14 like to also know how many attendees do we have tonight?  
15 I'm just curious.

16 MR. BATTLES: 30 seconds.

17 SPEAKER: That's it. If you can just answer that  
18 questions, I'd appreciate it. I want some transparency.  
19 How many attendees do we have?

20 MR. CARDENAS: The last I checked, we have 59.  
21 MR. BATTLES: All right. Thank you, caller.

22 Our next caller is identified as Oscar Jimenez  
23 (phonetic). Please unmute yourself and speak. You have  
24 up to three minutes.

25 SPEAKER: Good evening, ladies and gentlemen.

1 It's actually Karen Waters from Granada Hills North  
2 Neighborhood Council. Good evening. I'm speaking as an  
3 individual this evening since our neighborhood council has  
4 not taken a position.  
5 Our community is a beautiful bedroom community.  
6 And we do have to -- I would say 95 percent of the time  
7 travel to our Granada South as well as Porter Ranch as  
8 well as other parts of the Council District 12 because we  
9 do not have major super markets. We do have a small  
10 specialty plaza. We have two small strip malls, drive  
11 through dairy, and two gas stations.  
12 And we -- we do have some horse properties. But  
13 overall, we are a large bedroom community. And we -- I do  
14 want to say that Council Member Lee does an excellent job.  
15 There are some things you all may not know, and many that  
16 may not know when there are crises, his office responds  
17 immediately. So many crises, including the families that  
18 were burned out due to fireworks last 4th of July. So I  
19 did want to make a note of that.  
20 And we do have one high school, one middle  
21 school, a continuing alternative high school, and three  
22 elementary schools. So overall, it's -- it's -- we would  
23 definitely, as other callers have said, like to keep all  
24 the neighborhood council boundaries intact. And have some  
25 focus on some racial profiling and hate crimes. I think

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1 North Hills West Neighborhood Council has been  
2 verbally in District 12. And we think we associate with  
3 District 12. Perennially, the freeway and Roscoe  
4 Boulevard are our boundaries, and they seem to be natural,  
5 particularly the 5 Freeway seems to be a natural boundary,  
6 which puts us into Council District 12.  
7 We are a residential -- mainly residential  
8 community. We have exactly one apartment building, and  
9 all the rest, mostly, houses. And we -- and therefore, we  
10 associate with Granada Hills and Northridge and Chatsworth  
11 and the other neighborhoods that are in Council District  
12 12.  
13 And I think that's all I have to say, but we  
14 would like to stay in Council District 12 because we feel  
15 that we belong there totally.  
16 MR. BATTLES: Thank you, caller.  
17 We're going to now move on to caller Gary Fordyce  
18 (phonetic). Gary Fordyce, please unmute yourself and  
19 speak. You have three minutes.  
20 SPEAKER: Thank you. My name is Gary Fordyce. I  
21 serve on the North Hills West Neighborhood Council,  
22 speaking as an individual, and a 45-year resident of North  
23 Hills West.  
24 North Hills West is primarily a single family  
25 residential community. We have absolutely nothing in

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1 that's very important, because that does occur out here.  
2 And a focus on the northbound Balboa Boulevard  
3 traffic, is an overflow to the 405 Freeway, which tends to  
4 be extremely heavy even as early as 2:30 in the afternoon.  
5 I was actually stuck in it last week going to post an  
6 agenda. So that's one week old information.  
7 And some more focus on elder services and the  
8 drag racing problem. We have had some major injuries and  
9 a fatality because of that.  
10 So thank you very much for your time this  
11 evening, ladies and gentlemen.  
12 MR. BATTLES: All right. Thank you very much,  
13 caller.  
14 Our next caller, we're going to try to give  
15 caller identified as Anita another chance to speak. So  
16 Anita, you can unmute yourself and speak up. You have up  
17 to three minutes.  
18 Okay. We're going to move on to the next caller  
19 identified as Pat Crohn (phonetic).  
20 Pat Crohn, can you please unmute yourself and  
21 speak you have three minutes.  
22 SPEAKER: My name is Pat Crohn. I am Vice  
23 President of North Hills West Neighborhood Council, but  
24 I'm speaking -- as other people did, I'm speaking as an  
25 individual tonight.

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1 common with cities east of the San Diego 405 Freeway, east  
2 of the 405 Freeway presents many obstacles including  
3 drugs, prostitution, crime in general, commercial  
4 businesses, massive apartments, economics, and language  
5 barriers.  
6 CD12's eastern boundary must remain unchanged  
7 utilizing the San Diego 405 Freeway natural dividing line.  
8 If CD12 redistricting is to change, one neighborhood  
9 council already divided is the Reseda Neighborhood  
10 Council. Any adjustments necessary make the most sense  
11 within this Reseda Neighborhood Council.  
12 The current CD12 is very compatible in every  
13 socio-economic aspect and must remain intact for community  
14 planning.  
15 Community planning is a serious forthcoming issue  
16 that will be dealt with significantly different east of  
17 the 405 Freeway. And again, quite differently west of the  
18 405 Freeway.  
19 So I implore you to take these thoughts seriously  
20 and appreciate your consideration.  
21 Thank you very much.  
22 MR. BATTLES: All right. Thank you very much.  
23 Our next caller is -- we'll go with caller ending  
24 in Number 024. Please press star 6 to unmute yourself.  
25 You have three minutes to speak.

40

1 SPEAKER: Can you hear me, sir? 41  
2 MR. BATTLES: Yes.  
3 SPEAKER: Okay. I want to talk about --  
4 MS. YSAGUIRRE: I'm sorry. This speaker has  
5 already spoken.  
6 SPEAKER: Hey, bitch. Don't interrupt me.  
7 MS. YSAGUIRRE: This speaker has already spoken.  
8 MR. BATTLES: The next speaker on our list, Rob  
9 Kwan (phonetic).  
10 Rob Kwan, please unmute yourself and proceed to  
11 speak. You have three minutes.  
12 SPEAKER: Hi. I do not have any interest in  
13 fighting for Mr. Herman's time, but that actually was not  
14 Wayne Spindler. You let Wayne Spindler speak twice at the  
15 beginning of the meeting. And that was actually his  
16 friend, Armando Herman. So I did want to just note that  
17 for fairness's sake.  
18 I thank you for your time. I just wanted to  
19 highlight two things that I brought to the attention of  
20 commission staff, and some other coalition partners have.  
21 I know they're hoping to work towards this, and I just  
22 hope that we can ensure these modest changes are ready for  
23 the CD5 community hearing.  
24 One, it would be extremely helpful for some  
25 people who aren't as familiar with Zoom and public comment

1 minutes. 43  
2 SPEAKER: Hello. My name is Angeline Ocampo. I  
3 live in CD12. I'm down the street from the Sepulveda VA  
4 Hospital. We had the VA Hospital in our community that  
5 used to be the Number 1 training hospital for all of our  
6 doctors. And many people have told us this.  
7 My family and I have lived in the community  
8 almost 35 years. We are RA Zoned, last of the Mohicans as  
9 we say. We appreciate having the horses in our area.  
10 We're family oriented.  
11 We have a great rapport with our councilman. We  
12 have all the way back to Joel Wax (phonetic). And also, I  
13 see on your screen you have Mr. Richard Katz. He was our  
14 State Assembly back then, and he was very, very involved  
15 in your community when we were called Sepulveda.  
16 And approximately 25 years ago we petitioned to  
17 become North Hills and then North Hills West, because the  
18 other side of the freeway wanted to become that.  
19 And also, Mr. Cardenas, I've come to many of his  
20 events. And a very grateful person to speak to us.  
21 But my main point is please keep us in CD12. our  
22 dividing line Has always been the freeway. And I'm 16  
23 miles to West Hills. I'm 16 miles to Valencia. It's a  
24 great community. We're very involved. If we need  
25 something, I can call any of the council people to help

1 to have detailed call-in and comment instructions both for 42  
2 phone and for Zoom. You know, visual guides. Just so  
3 it's really clear. Raising your hand isn't as intuitive  
4 for other people as it is for some of us.  
5 The second thing is maps. If you go tune in to  
6 Long Beach or LA County or the State of California and  
7 their commission hearings, they actually pull up a map  
8 with the demographer and they are able to talk about the  
9 exact area they are describing. So I think that's just  
10 something -- you know, ask yourself right now. How many  
11 of you currently have a tab open on your computer with a  
12 map of Council District 12. How many of you are getting  
13 very familiar all of a sudden with the geography and the  
14 neighborhoods in Council District 12.  
15 And I think it just makes it so much easier for  
16 commenters to describe their neighborhoods, their  
17 neighborhood councils, and makes it easier for  
18 commissioners, our staff and demographers to follow along  
19 and understand exactly what the commenter is trying to  
20 convey. I'll leave it at that. Thank you so much for  
21 your time.  
22 MR. BATTLES: Thank you very much, caller.  
23 We are now going to ask caller identified as  
24 Angeline (phonetic) to speak.  
25 You can unmute yourself, and you have up to three

1 us. 44  
2 We're always having community cleanups. My  
3 husband and I are always cleaning up Plummer and that's a  
4 main street to go to CSUN. We cleaned up Nordhoff. We're  
5 a very good community -- and I'm not saying you're saying  
6 we're bad. But we do have big properties. Not as big as  
7 Chatsworth. And we do patronize Chatsworth -- many great  
8 restaurants and stores up there.  
9 But please keep our communities the way it is.  
10 And I hope -- I hope to call in on your next meetings.  
11 But I thank you again for all of your time. And please  
12 consider us again to keep us in your district. And  
13 Devonshire is absolutely wonderful. We miss those pancake  
14 breakfasts too. They're fantastic. If you ever get a  
15 chance to do that, the fire department has an open house  
16 there.  
17 I thank all of you again. Thank you.  
18 MR. BATTLES: Thank you, caller, for your public  
19 testimony.  
20 We have -- we're going to give caller Anita one  
21 last chance to unmute herself and speak.  
22 So caller Anita, you have up to three minutes.  
23 SPEAKER: Can you hear me?  
24 MR. BATTLES: Yes.  
25 SPEAKER: Oh, thank you.

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1 MR. BATTLES: There's a bit of an echo. If you  
2 could turn down -- if you're listening on multiple  
3 devices, that will help.

4 SPEAKER: Okay. Thank you. North hills West is  
5 an area mainly of single-family homes. There are several  
6 employers in our area like FedEx, The Valley Sod Farm.

7 It is a compact with natural boundaries -- the  
8 405 San Diego Freeway on the east, Cold Creek on the west,  
9 Roscoe Boulevard on the south, and Devonshire on the  
10 north.

11 Our community is diverse and inclusive. I know  
12 my neighbors and have very dear friends who are also my  
13 neighbors. We live in an area in the North San Fernando  
14 Valley. Our suburban area has low crime, good schools,  
15 and is very walkable. People stay in the community  
16 because it is peaceful and stable. We have community  
17 interests with our neighboring neighborhood councils, and  
18 have had community meetings which address local issues and  
19 are supported by Council District 12.

20 Our North Hills West Neighborhood Council is  
21 active and committed to strengthening our community  
22 involvement and provides information related to emergency  
23 preparedness, public safety, planning, and land use.  
24 City, state, and federal elected officials  
25 representatives attend the monthly meetings to keep us up

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1 MR. BATTLES: Yes, Chair.  
2 There are no other speakers in the public comment  
3 section.

4 COMMISSIONER ALI: Okay. Thank you. Thank you  
5 for facilitating that, Robert.

6 And so I -- I want to bring -- Robert, can you  
7 just -- can you just double check and make sure we have no  
8 other speakers?

9 MR. BATTLES: I'm going to say that we just see  
10 -- we have one hand.

11 Amal Shahib (phonetic), please unmute yourself  
12 and you can give three minutes of public testimony.

13 COMMISSIONER ALI: And we may have a second; so  
14 please check that.

15 MR. BATTLES: Okay.

16 MR. BATTLES: So Amal Shahib?

17 SPEAKER: Okay. Can you hear me now?

18 MR. BATTLES: Yes. Loud and clear.

19 SPEAKER: Thank you.

20 My name is Amal Shahim (phonetic). I live in the  
21 North Hills West area. I want to agree completely with  
22 what Anita said. We would like to remain in the  
23 boundaries of District 12.

24 We have had very pleasant responses by John Lee.  
25 He has been responsive to all of our needs. Speaking for

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1 to date on important issues.

2 Council District 12 includes Northridge, Granada  
3 Hills, Chatsworth, Porter Ranch, and North Hills West. We  
4 are all similar in composition and layout as communities.  
5 And we are served by Devonshire Division Police Station.

6 North Hills West fits perfectly in Council  
7 District 12 and is exactly where it should continue to  
8 remain and stay. We are compact, we are contiguous, and  
9 we are a community.

10 Thank you. And thank you for redoing me again.  
11 Something happened to my computer.

12 MR. BATTLES: No problem. Thank you very much  
13 for giving public comment.

14 We are now asking caller ending in 024 to unmute  
15 themselves by pressing star 6 and begin speaking.

16 SPEAKER: Am I on now again?

17 MR. BATTLES: Correct. You have up to three  
18 minutes.

19 SPEAKER: This is Herman. Mr. Bailey's right. I  
20 love CD12 because white niggers have beautiful man --

21 COMMISSIONER ALI: Excuse me. I think this  
22 caller has already provided public testimony, if I'm not  
23 mistaken. I think this is the third time. So can we  
24 please move on.

25 SPEAKER: Let me finish speaking.

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1 myself and a good number of neighbors on my block,  
2 everything we do we tend to do to the west of the area.  
3 And redistrict -- to change the boundaries to the east  
4 would completely change our lives.

5 Like Anita said, we have a diverse community of  
6 many cultures and ethnicities, and we are very active, and  
7 we hope to remain active. And we are much suited with the  
8 west side of the freeway. Just the composition of our  
9 neighborhood, we've had several developments happening in  
10 the past five years, and they've all been -- the majority  
11 of them have been single-family residences.

12 So there is some growth, and it's the growth that  
13 we want it to be. We would like to remain the way that we  
14 are in the district that we are in. And I appreciate the  
15 time you have given me. Thank you.

16 MR. BATTLES: Thank you, caller. Appreciate  
17 that.

18 We are now asking caller Poonam Gohel (phonetic)  
19 to unmute themselves and give three minutes of -- up to  
20 three minutes of public testimony. Poonam Gohel.

21 Poonam, you can go ahead and speak.

22 SPEAKER: Can you hear me?

23 MR. BATTLES: Yes.

24 SPEAKER: Thank you very much.

25 We are located very naturally separated by the

1 405 on the east side. West side is okay. We are  
2 community of united, working together. We don't want to  
3 separate ourselves. As Anita say, we are where we are and  
4 we -- we -- we want to be same place. We don't want us to  
5 separate us. Thank you.

6 MR. BATTLES: All right. Thank you very much.  
7 And we are going to acknowledge caller ending in  
8 Number 024.  
9 You can go ahead and unmute yourself and proceed.  
10 Caller ending in 024, please press star 6.

11 SPEAKER: Yeah. Can you hear me now?  
12 MR. BATTLES: Yes.  
13 SPEAKER: Sir, can you please tell that fucking  
14 bitch to mind her own fucking business? That fucking  
15 changa. Who the fuck she think she is cutting me off on  
16 the phone, fucking bitch. I get three fucking minutes  
17 like everybody else. I'm a white nigger and I have the  
18 same amount of time as everyone else.

19 MS. YSAGUIRRE: Mr. Herman, we'll give you your  
20 time if you speak to the agenda item.  
21 SPEAKER: Yeah. Yeah. Yeah. Yeah, you fucking  
22 bitch. You're going to give me my time.  
23 MS. YSAGUIRRE: So you need to get on topic.  
24 SPEAKER: The interesting thing is, CD12 is  
25 beautiful countryside. They've got horses, and they got

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1 even livestock like pigs and sheep. But the problem is  
2 nobody fucking takes care of the homeless people. And  
3 those niggers are being kicked up and down every fucking  
4 community looking like eyesores.  
5 So you tell that fucking Jinn Gene King Lee get  
6 his ass on the J-o-b. Anybody but that fucking loser 15  
7 year SLO cop for mayor, Mr. Butt anus, Joey buckets.  
8 Can't stand the dumb, grandstanding, liar, mother fucker.  
9 What's wrong with you niggers? How long have we  
10 been seeing homeless people on the goddamn, mother fucking  
11 streets with tents and now all of a sudden ADA compliance?  
12 Fuck you. Fuck all of you. You're so fucking white and  
13 stupid you don't understand what's happening in our world.  
14 You've got a goddamn liar for a mayor. You've got a  
15 goddamn liar for a president. And you've got a goddamn  
16 Mr. Fauci telling you to wear your fucking mask.  
17 You ought to wear a hood. That way -- that way  
18 we know what true colors look like up in -- in Chatsworth.  
19 Besides, Simi Valley is a lot more beautiful than  
20 Chatsworth, mother fuckers. And there's less pollution up  
21 that 118 Freeway.  
22 So the next time you build a building maybe on  
23 behalf of Wayne Spender for governor and Armando for the  
24 new mayor fool.  
25 (Series of nonverbal sounds.)

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1 MS. YSAGUIRRE: The speaker's being repetitive.  
2 You can cut their time.  
3 COMMISSIONER ALI: Okay. Rob, is there any more  
4 people in the queue?  
5 MR. BATTLES: We will check one last time.  
6 Yes. We will want to give Bonnie Cockerel  
7 (phonetic) an opportunity to give public testimony. So  
8 Bonnie Cockerel, you have three minutes.  
9 SPEAKER: Yeah. Hi. This is her husband,  
10 Jim Cockerel. Just, you know, I'm sorry for the last  
11 caller that called in and everything. That's so, you  
12 know, inappropriate and everything for anybody to have to  
13 -- you guys are giving up your time and everything else,  
14 you know, as everyone else is. It's just -- it's not  
15 right.  
16 But anyway, our concern is we selected the area  
17 we moved into 12 years ago. And we did not choose the  
18 other side of the freeway for numerous reasons. And I  
19 don't want to have to be connected with that and watch our  
20 property values depreciate.  
21 Are you guys going to reduce our taxes when our  
22 property values go down? Because they will. There's --  
23 there's no other way that you guys can stop it. Once we  
24 get located in a district over there, we are dead in the  
25 water. Nothing we can do about it.

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1 We fixed up our homes. We've done everything in  
2 the neighborhood like everyone else has in our district  
3 here, and we love it. We don't want to be associated on  
4 the other side of the freeway for obvious reasons. I  
5 don't think I need to really explain it to all of you. I  
6 don't know how many of you guys live in this area, but I  
7 doubt if hardly any of you are.  
8 And you are going to be making the decisions.  
9 But we get to do or don't do. And I don't think it's  
10 right. I don't think it's right for what the government  
11 does every ten years. And all they've done is screwed  
12 things up. They have not, you know, benefited other  
13 people like they claim. They get all the lobbyists in  
14 there. They rake in the money. And they do nothing for  
15 the individual people.  
16 So anyway, that's my comment. And, you know,  
17 please don't -- don't go forward with this. Thank you.  
18 MR. BATTLES: Thank you for your public comments,  
19 sir.  
20 We are going to look at the list. And we have no  
21 one else in the list, Chair.  
22 COMMISSIONER ALI: Okay. Thank you, Rob, for  
23 your facilitation. And Tanea, thank you for your  
24 assistance as well.  
25 And I'm going to bring the public comments and

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1 public testimony to an end now. I want to thank members  
2 of the public today for turning out to our hearing and  
3 expressing their views. This is -- the information we  
4 received tonight is -- is -- will be extremely valuable in  
5 our process.

6 A couple things that I noted that I just want to  
7 point out -- so many individuals tonight talked about why  
8 they felt district lines and CD12 should stay the way they  
9 are, you know, providing social, economic, and topographic  
10 reasons for taking that position. And this is exactly the  
11 kind of information we want. We want to hear from  
12 communities and how they feel about their current lines.

13 I also want to note that we had a couple callers  
14 -- West Hill callers, for example, that, you know -- that  
15 noted that they felt a little bit more contiguous with  
16 CD3. So there were those differences as well. Again,  
17 this is the kind of testimony that we are -- we are  
18 looking for.

19 I want to acknowledge Pastor Smart for  
20 acknowledging the importance of voting rights and  
21 redistricting as a way communities gain power. And I  
22 think that's a great reminder for all of us; so I -- I  
23 appreciate this -- that.

24 And -- and I also want to acknowledge a  
25 recommendation we got from one of our callers that talked

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1 other quantitative data to inform our decisions.

2 In August, the census data, as Frank pointed out,  
3 is going to be released. And that data, of course, will  
4 be a big contributor to the maps that will eventually be  
5 drawn. And the commission will look at that -- look at  
6 that information. And in late September, we will release  
7 draft maps.

8 And at that point we will go back out and have --  
9 hold four public hearings to have the public respond to  
10 the draft maps that we have developed.

11 And then in late October, the commission will  
12 approve a final maps based on all the testimony and the  
13 data we've reviewed, and submit that information -- our  
14 recommendations to the City Council which will have the  
15 final authority in this matter.

16 And I should mention that once the City Council  
17 has this information, they will also hold hearings, and  
18 then ultimately an ordinance will be drafted and presented  
19 to the mayor for final approval.

20 So that's the process. And there's more  
21 information about our process on -- on the website. And  
22 I'd invite you to take a look there. We want you to stay  
23 engaged in the process, continue to take a look at our  
24 website going forward. For those of you who are  
25 interested in where our next public meetings are, our next

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1 about -- because we're always, by the way, looking for  
2 ways to improve this process. This is our first hearing.  
3 Going forward, we'll continue to make improvements.

4 But I want to acknowledge the idea, maybe we  
5 should have maps available. I think that's a great  
6 suggestion. We'll look into that. And also maybe better  
7 instructions for people trying to access the Zoom  
8 platform.

9 So a lot of good information received today.

10 I'm always distressed when I hear the racial epithets and  
11 the vulgarities. As Tanea pointed out, this is  
12 unfortunately protected speech. But I want to apologize  
13 to the commissioners and members of the public who may  
14 have found that offensive. I certainly did.

15 So going forward, what happens? So as I just  
16 tried to point out, the testimony we heard today  
17 describing your communities and your interest in keeping  
18 communities intact, for example -- this will be -- this  
19 will be entered into a database that -- that we will  
20 consider when we get to the map-drawing process.

21 We can't promise that we're going to be able  
22 satisfy everyone's concerns and recommendations, but it  
23 certainly -- we're certainly going to try to do this in as  
24 fair and transparent of a process, using data both  
25 community of interest data and census data and other --

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1 public meeting is CD5 on July 7th. That's followed by a  
2 public hearing in CD -- for CD11 on July 12th. And then a  
3 third upcoming meeting is on July 15th for CD3.

4 At these hearings, obviously, we want to focus on  
5 information from that particular Council District, but  
6 also individuals from other districts are -- are able to  
7 take part in those hearings as well.

8 So I want to just once again thank commissioners  
9 for your attendance today. We had a -- we had an  
10 overwhelming number of commissioners present at tonight's  
11 hearing. I think it indicates their commitment to this  
12 process.

13 Again, I want to thank members of the public for  
14 taking time out of your busy schedule to be with us -- to  
15 be with us tonight. And I would be remiss if I didn't  
16 thank the staff who spent a light of time in preparing for  
17 tonight's hearing. I mentioned earlier we received great  
18 assistance and help from community based organizations and  
19 neighborhood council, and certainly the staff of CD12.  
20 That's really appreciated. So thanks for all that.

21 And as I -- as I noted we will -- to the public,  
22 as is our practice, I will now ask if there are any ex  
23 parte disclosures that need to be -- that need to be made  
24 at this point in time. These would be ex parte  
25 communications that may have occurred during the meeting.

