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MEETING OF LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL REDISTRICTING  
COMMISSION

Wednesday, July 7, 2021  
Council District 5 Hearing  
Los Angeles, California

STENOGRAPHICALLY REPORTED BY:  
HEATHERLYNN GONZALEZ  
CSR #13646

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COMMISSIONERS IN ATTENDANCE  
  
COMMISSIONER FRED ALI  
COMMISSIONER EDWARD ANDERSON  
COMMISSIONER ELISSA BARRETT  
COMMISSIONER CHARISSE BREMOND  
COMMISSIONER MARIA BRENES  
COMMISSIONER DENIS CAGNA  
COMMISSIONER ROCKY DELGADILLO  
COMMISSIONER SONJA DIAZ  
COMMISSIONER RICHARD KATZ  
COMMISSIONER NAM LE  
COMMISSIONER MIGUEL MARTINEZ  
COMMISSIONER CARLOS MORENO  
COMMISSIONER MICHELE PRICHARD  
COMMISSIONER VALERIE LYNNE SHAW

1 Wednesday, July 7, 2021; Los Angeles, California

2 6:04 p.m.

3 -oOo-

4 COMMISSIONER ALI: Good evening, and welcome to  
5 this public hearing of the Los Angeles City Council  
6 Redistricting Commission. My name is Fred Ali, and I'm  
7 honored to serve as the chair of the commission.

8 Tonight is one of 19 public hearings that the  
9 commission will be conducting through September. We will  
10 be holding hearings in each of the city council districts  
11 as well as four regional hearings to ensure residents of  
12 Los Angeles can have their voices heard during this  
13 important process.

14 Tonight, we're going to concentrate on Council  
15 District 5. We look forward to hearing from residents of  
16 Council District 5 as well as residents of other districts  
17 who might be attending tonight's hearing.

18 In a moment, Commissioner Delgadillo will explain  
19 that we want to hear about your community, your special  
20 needs, and your recommendations for fair and inclusive  
21 political representation. This is really what democracy  
22 is all about.

23 I want to thank the neighborhood councils who  
24 supported our outreach efforts for tonight's meeting, as  
25 well as the staff of City Council Koretz's office. And I

1 also want to thank the efforts of many community-based  
2 organizations who also assisted in spreading the word  
3 about tonight's hearing.

4 Tonight is July 7th, 2021. And it is 6:05 p.m.;  
5 so Betty, will you please take the roll.

6 MS. BUTLER: Yes.

7 Chair Ali?

8 COMMISSIONER ALI: Present.

9 Vice-Chair Hyun? Vice-Chair Diaz?

10 COMMISSIONER DIAZ: Present.

11 MS. BUTLER: Commissioner Anderson?

12 COMMISSIONER ANDERSON: Present.

13 MS. BUTLER: Commissioner Barrett?

14 Commissioner Bremond?

15 COMMISSIONER BREMOND: Present.

16 MS. BUTLER: Commissioner Brenes?

17 COMMISSIONER BRENES: Present.

18 MS. BUTLER: Commissioner Cagna?

19 COMMISSIONER CAGNA: Present.

20 MS. BUTLER: Commissioner Delgadillo?

21 COMMISSIONER DELGADILLO: Here.

22 MS. BUTLER: Commissioner Garsten?

23 Commissioner Katz?

24 COMMISSIONER KATZ: Present.

25 MS. BUTLER: Commissioner Le?

1 COMMISSIONER LE: Present.

2 MS. BUTLER: Commissioner Martinez?

3 COMMISSIONER MARTINEZ: Present.

4 MS. BUTLER: Commissioner Moreno?

5 COMMISSIONER MORENO: Here.

6 MS. BUTLER: Commissioner Polanco?

7 Commissioner Prichard?

8 COMMISSIONER PRICHARD: Here.

9 MS. BUTLER: Commissioner Saldivar? Commissioner  
10 Shaw?

11 COMMISSIONER SHAW: Here.

12 MS. BUTLER: Commissioner Suh?

13 COMMISSIONER ALI: Thank you, Betty. Do we have  
14 a quorum?

15 MS. BUTLER: Yes, we do.

16 COMMISSIONER ALI: Thank you very much.

17 So now I'm going to ask commission members to  
18 disclose ex parte communications.

19 And for members of the public, I want to explain  
20 what ex parte communications is all about. City ordinance  
21 defines ex parte communication to mean any communication  
22 between any member of the Los Angeles City Redistricting  
23 Commission and any elected city officer or member of any  
24 elected city officer's staff regarding a matter before the  
25 commission. By city ordinance, commission members are

1 required to disclose these communications to ensure a fair  
2 and transparent process. Our commission members take  
3 these disclosures very seriously, and a log of ex parte  
4 communications can be found on our website.

5 And at the end of tonight's hearing, I'm -- I'm  
6 going to once again ask for ex parte communications,  
7 disclosures of any communication that may have occurred  
8 during tonight's meeting.

9 So with that, I'm going to begin with some -- an  
10 ex parte -- two ex parte communications that I need to  
11 disclose. And then I'm going to ask commissioners to do  
12 the same.

13 So on June 30, 2021, I sent an e-mail to Deputy  
14 Chief of Staff Brenton Tesler with City Council Member  
15 Lee's office thanking the Council District 12 staff for  
16 their assistance in publishing our July 1st public  
17 hearing.

18 And on July 6th, 2021, I sent an e-mail to Joan  
19 Pelico, Chief of Staff to Council Member Koretz thanking  
20 the Council District 5 staff for their help in our  
21 outreach effort for tonight's hearing.

22 Those are -- that concludes my ex parte  
23 communications. Are there any other communications that  
24 commission members want to disclose at this point?  
25

1 Commissioner Katz?

2 COMMISSIONER KATZ: Nothing to disclose,  
3 Mr. Chairman.

4 COMMISSIONER ALI: Thank you, Commissioner.  
5 Hearing no other requests for disclosures, Betty, can you  
6 read the first and, for tonight, the only agenda item into  
7 our record?

8 MS. BUTLER: Yes, Chair. Discussion of public  
9 hearing format rules of conduct and summary of  
10 redistricting and communities of interest. Public hearing  
11 to gather testimony on communities of interest closing  
12 remarks.

13 COMMISSIONER ALI: Thank you, Betty.

14 Now it's my pleasure to introduce Frank Cardenas,  
15 the Executive Director of the commission.

16 As some of you might know, this is Frank's second  
17 tour of duty in redistricting -- in redistricting. In  
18 2002, Frank was Executive Director of the first City  
19 Redistricting Commission. And we are benefiting greatly  
20 from his experience and commitment to this important  
21 process.

22 So Frank, you have the stage.

23 MR. CARDENAS: Mr. Chair, thank you very much.

24 (Spanish language spoken.)

25 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

1           COMMISSIONER ALI: And now it's my pleasure to  
2 introduce Rocky Delgadillo, who's going to provide an  
3 introduction.

4           Commissioner Delgadillo.

5           COMMISSIONER DELGADILLO: Thank you, Chairman  
6 Ali.

7           Welcome everyone to -- to tonight's -- it's the  
8 second of 19 public hearings of the Los Angeles City  
9 Council Redistricting Commission. I want to thank all of  
10 the people who came out tonight. This process does not  
11 work without your participation. So thank you for your  
12 leadership in your community, and thank you for your  
13 leadership in our city.

14           My name's Rocky Delgadillo, and I'm honored to  
15 serve as the commissioner for Council District 5. The  
16 purpose of tonight's hearing is to listen -- to listen to  
17 you. We want to know how you describe your community. We  
18 want to know what makes your community unique. We want  
19 you and your neighbors to share -- to let us know what you  
20 share in common and what are the special needs of your  
21 community.

22           This is critical to redistricting and in the  
23 creation of new district boundaries and maps for the City  
24 of Los Angeles. As you know, people who have common  
25 interests and needs often benefit from being grouped



1 together in a single district. It enhances their voice  
2 and ultimately their political power.

3 A little bit about who we are. The Los Angeles  
4 City Council Redistricting Commission is an appointed,  
5 21-member body charged by the Los Angeles City Charter  
6 with the responsibility of designing new recommended  
7 boundaries of the City's 15 council districts.

8 The commission's adopted core purpose is to  
9 independently draw proposed Los Angeles City Council  
10 District boundaries based on census data and applicable  
11 law that will allocate constituents proportionately while  
12 also accounting for the unique histories, experiences, and  
13 interests of communities such that those interests will  
14 have the highest probability of being served by elected  
15 representatives and the City of Los Angeles.

16 The commission has further adopted the following  
17 vision and core values to inform and drive its fulfillment  
18 of its legal responsibilities and its core purpose. You  
19 see the vision there, to strengthen the governance of the  
20 City of Los Angeles by empowering its communities to have  
21 their diverse needs served through fair and inclusive  
22 representation.

23 What that says to me is that we're going to give  
24 power to the very people the City serves. We also have  
25 adopted core values -- equity, integrity, transparency,

1 respect, compassion, dignity, data driven, solution  
2 oriented, interdependence.

3 We have some housekeeping issues that you should  
4 be made aware of. The hearing is being broadcast live on  
5 video and is being recorded. Closed captioning is also  
6 being provided during this hearing. Translation services  
7 have been made available for those who have requested the  
8 services. We also have Spanish translation happening  
9 simultaneously during this hearing.

10 If you experience technical difficulties during  
11 this virtual public hearing, please contact us via e-mail  
12 at [redistricting.LACity@LACity.org](mailto:redistricting.LACity@LACity.org) or by calling us at  
13 213-263-5765. That's 213-263-5765. Commission staff will  
14 be standing by. If you have a statement you'd like to  
15 submit to the commission, please do so via e-mail at  
16 [redistricting.LACity@LACity.org](mailto:redistricting.LACity@LACity.org).

17 This is very important. If for some reason you  
18 can't stay on to make your comments and you want to do it  
19 in writing, you can send it to us in writing.

20 Now, the other thing I'm pretty proud of is we  
21 have a lot of people lined up to speak tonight. We have  
22 many, many people. More than we've had in the past.  
23 And we want to accommodate this as efficiently and  
24 effectively as possible.

25 I have one really important suggestion. If you

1 hear someone make the point you want to make, rather than  
2 repeating that testimony, note your agreement with that  
3 person and then allow someone else the opportunity to  
4 speak. This is really important. We have over a hundred  
5 people tonight, and we want to make sure everybody is  
6 heard. But if you're simply repeating somebody else, just  
7 let us know and we'll move on. We'll note the support,  
8 and -- and make it -- make sure it's part of the record.

9 In closing, I want to thank Los Angeles City  
10 Council Member Paul Koretz for his leadership, Joan Pelico  
11 as chief of staff for her leadership and for their  
12 community outreach and engagement support in promoting  
13 this public hearing throughout Council District 5.

14 I now want to introduce the Executive Director  
15 again of the Los Angeles City Council Redistricting  
16 Commission, Frank Cardenas, who will provide us with a  
17 brief summary of redistricting.

18 Frank?

19 MR. CARDENAS: Excuse me. Commissioner  
20 Delgadillo, thank you very much.

21 So what is redistricting? Every person in the  
22 City of Los Angeles lives in a City Council District which  
23 is defined by certain streets and neighborhoods. We have  
24 the opportunity to elect a City Council member based on  
25 what district we live in. For example, Boyle Heights,

1 Pacoima, Cheviot Hills, and South LA are each in different  
2 council districts, and residents in those communities vote  
3 for different people to represent them.

4 Every ten years, the country goes through a  
5 process called redistricting to redraw the maps that  
6 determine each district. As communities get bigger or  
7 smaller and people move in and out, it is important that  
8 the districts are defined fairly and equally.

9 According to the US Constitution, all the  
10 electoral districts within a given redistricting map must  
11 contain approximately the same number of people. The maps  
12 drawn will determine the allocation of political power and  
13 representation at every level of government -- city,  
14 county, state, and federal across the nation for the next  
15 ten years.

16 So why does redistricting matter? Where district  
17 lines are drawn may determine where residents can vote,  
18 who they can vote for, and even how responsive elected  
19 officials are to your requests. Redistricting should  
20 never result in a person's denial of a right to vote based  
21 on race, color, or language minority status. The voting  
22 rights act ensures minority and enlisted voters the  
23 opportunity to elect representatives of their own choice.

24 Representation is power. Who represents you in  
25 city hall can mean more or less affordable house, cleaner

1 streets, better parks. And making sure that your district  
2 is drawn in a way that gives you fair representation can  
3 make a real big different for you and your family.

4 Now, how does redistricting work? Here in  
5 Los Angeles, the mayor and the City Council have appointed  
6 an advisory commission to advise them on how to draw new  
7 districts that reflect the interests of hundreds of  
8 communities across this city that make us unique.

9 The 21-member commission -- your commission -- is  
10 made of diverse citizens from every part of the city.  
11 This commission is committed to making sure everyone has  
12 equal and fair representation in the city hall.

13 Before the lines are redrawn, this commission  
14 will conduct a series of 19 public hearings. Tonight is  
15 the second one. There will be one for every City Council  
16 district plus four regional meetings, one of which will be  
17 held exclusively in Spanish. At these hearings, we want  
18 people to tell us about shared interests and concerns that  
19 should be considered when drawing the lines for your  
20 council district.

21 In August, the federal government will release  
22 the latest 2020 Census data. Once the commission has  
23 completed the public hearings, they will gather a wide  
24 array of information. Particularly, the information that  
25 you provide and the Census population data from the

1 federal government to draw new maps.

2 Now, as we know, because of the four-month delay  
3 in the release of the 2020 Census population data, we must  
4 begin to redistricting process in the absence of that  
5 data. This delay is unfortunate, but we're all in this  
6 together. So as important as that data is, it's really  
7 only half the equation, because the public's Community of  
8 Interest testimony is the other critical factor in the  
9 redistricting process. And that's the part of the process  
10 that we are here to engage in tonight.

11 For this commission to do it's work, it's got to  
12 listen to the voices of Angelenos as you provide your  
13 Community of Interest testimony. Your testimony and the  
14 Census population data when it's released in August is  
15 what the commission will rely upon to draw new council  
16 districts.

17 A set of maps will be drafted and presented to  
18 the community online and via public hearings to ensure  
19 that the commission gets your feedback. We will then  
20 revise the maps and send them to the City Council for  
21 their consideration.

22 People will also have the opportunity to draw  
23 your own maps and submit them to the commission for its  
24 consideration. More information on how to do this will be  
25 available on the Commission's website within the next

1 week.

2 To help our commissioners actually draw district  
3 boundaries based on Census data and your Community of  
4 Interest testimony, we've engaged one of the premiere  
5 firms of the entire nation, Redistricting Partners.

6 Joining us in our Zoom hearing right now are the  
7 firm's president, Paul Mitchell, his expert line drawer,  
8 Sophia Garcia, and I believe we also have Chris Chaffee  
9 from Redistricting Partners as well.

10 Now, at this point, I would like to introduce  
11 your Commission's Deputy Director, Arianna Bankler-Jukes.

12 Arianna?

13 MS. BANKLER-JUKES: Thank you, Frank. Hello  
14 everyone.

15 So one of the main questions that we have is what  
16 decides district maps and what are some of the rules and  
17 guidelines we have to follow in making these maps.

18 For starters, a big area of importance is Census  
19 data and the fact that each district must be substantially  
20 equal in population; so the amount of people living in  
21 each district should be about the same. Each district  
22 should have parts that are geographically connected to one  
23 another, and we want to try to keep neighborhoods and  
24 communities intact as much as possible. We want to try  
25 not to split a neighborhood in half -- into two different

1 council districts.

2 Another main factor is complying with the Voting  
3 Rights Act. So this means making sure that minority  
4 voters -- be they Latinos, Asian Americans, African  
5 American -- all have equal access in their choosing their  
6 political representation.

7 So a key -- another key part is participation.  
8 How can you participate in this process? One of the  
9 options is what you're doing right now, which is attending  
10 one of our 19 public hearings that are happening from now  
11 until the 25th of September.

12 Another key way is by a program that will be on  
13 our website available soon called Maptitudes. This is an  
14 online software that allows people from the community to  
15 get on and create their own council district maps to be  
16 sent in to the commission for their recommendations.

17 And then, finally, another key way is through  
18 written testimony, which has spoken about a few different  
19 times in this hearing so far. So what this is is in the  
20 same way folks are giving oral testimony in the public  
21 hearing, if you're someone who doesn't want to speak in  
22 front of 116 people or just don't want to wait until the  
23 end of 116 speakers and would like to write in what they  
24 believe their community is, you can either go to our  
25 website or you can go to this link that you see on the



1 page. This is [bit.ly/LACityCOI](https://bit.ly/LACityCOI). And what this will take  
2 you to is our Community of Interest form. Now, Community  
3 of Interest is just the terminology we use, but basically  
4 all that means is your community. And what you'll see  
5 when you go to that website is a form that looks like this  
6 that will ask you questions to help you define how you see  
7 and describe your own community.

8 Some other ways we want to help guide you in that  
9 process is a few key questions that we'll ask for the  
10 speakers tonight, for folks who are going to be giving  
11 public testimony. While we're happy to hear what you have  
12 to say, in particular we'd love to hear these key points.

13 So first off, tell us about your community.  
14 What's your shared culture, if there's some specific  
15 characteristics of it. Tell us your geographic location.  
16 Where exactly are you located in your district, in LA, et  
17 cetera. And, finally, tell us how your community is  
18 impacted by the City of Los Angeles and city policy.

19 An example could be, I'm a student at UCLA. I  
20 spend a lot of time in the Westwood Village. That's, you  
21 know, north of Wilshire and east of Westwood Boulevard.  
22 And that's where I go grocery shopping, I study, and I eat  
23 my dinner with friends. And, you know, every time I go to  
24 Trader Joe's to shop, I -- there's a lot of trash on the  
25 ground and I almost trip and fall, and I would really like

1 that to be different moving forward. So it's key  
2 components like that: The characteristics, the geography,  
3 and how is my community impacted.

4 So we want to hear from you. We want -- the  
5 commission's job is to take all of this testimony and put  
6 it into their recommendations to the City Council. So  
7 tell us about the schools, the places of worship, the  
8 parks, the places you shop. Tell us what makes your  
9 community unique.

10 And with that, I'm going to pass it off to  
11 Robert Battles, the Associate Director of Community  
12 Outreach and Engagement to open up public comment.

13 MR. BATTLES: Thank you, Arianna.

14 And in conforming with the Governor's Executive  
15 Order N-29-20, and due to concerns over Covid-19, the Los  
16 Angeles City Council Redistricting Commission meetings  
17 will be conducted entirely virtually and telephonically.  
18 Members of the public who would like to offer public  
19 comment via Zoom webinar on the item listed on the agenda  
20 should click the raise hand function to request to speak.

21 Members of the public who would like to offer  
22 public comment on the item listed on the agenda over the  
23 phone should call the telephone Number 1-669-254-5252.  
24 That's 1-669-254-5252. And use Meeting ID Number 161  
25 545 4787. That's meeting ID number, 161 545 4787. Then

1 press pound and press pound again when prompted for a  
2 participant ID.

3 Once admitted into the meeting, press star 9 to  
4 request to speak and star 6 to unmute yourself when you've  
5 been identified.

6 Now I'd like to introduce Tanea Ysaguerre from  
7 the City Attorney's office.

8 MS. YSAGUERRE: Sorry. Am I muted?

9 COMMISSIONER ALI: We can hear you, Tanea.

10 MS. YSAGUERRE: I hadn't noticed I was muted.

11 Okay. So you'll have three minutes per speaker  
12 plus additional time to translate comments by non English  
13 speakers. The presiding officer shall make every effort  
14 to notify the public at the beginning of the hearing of  
15 limitations of the time available for public comments.

16 The presiding officer my rule that a speaker is  
17 out of order if the speaker's comments are not germane to  
18 the items or the comments are overly repetitive. If the  
19 speaker remains out of order, the presiding officer may  
20 declare the speaker as impeding orderly conduct of the  
21 meeting and rule the remainder -- rule the remainder of  
22 the speaker's time forfeit.

23 To members of the public calling in to provide  
24 comment to the commission, when it's your turn to speak,  
25 we'll announce the last three digits of the phone number.

1 Or if you're dialing in with a blocked number, we'll  
2 announce you as Caller Number 1 or Caller Number 2 or the  
3 like. When we announce your number or identifying  
4 information, you are live in the meeting and it's your  
5 turn to speak. Please immediately press star 6 to unmute  
6 yourself.

7 To members of the public calling in -- sorry. My  
8 screen is -- one second. Sorry. Okay.

9 Members of the public calling in to speak, we  
10 understand that you might be listening to the broadcast on  
11 the Internet or another site, since there's a time delay  
12 between the live meeting and broadcast, keep one ear on  
13 your phone so that you hear when we announce the last  
14 three digits of your phone number or other identifying  
15 information so that you can immediately press star 6.  
16 Otherwise, we might think you're no longer on the line and  
17 move on to the next speaker.

18 If you're also listening to the broadcast of the  
19 meeting over the Internet or another device, please  
20 immediately turn down the volume of the broadcast on that  
21 device to avoid feedback because of the time delay.

22 Finally, I'd like to warn you, commissioners, and  
23 members of the public that some members of the public will  
24 choose to use modes of expression that are offensive or  
25 vulgar, including the use of racial epithets.

1 Unfortunately, some of that content is First Amendment  
2 protected speech and there is little that we can do but  
3 hear it. Members of the public may choose to turn down  
4 their volume during public comment or choose not to listen  
5 to the racial slurs and vulgarities.

6 And now I'll pass it back to Chair Ali.

7 COMMISSIONER ALI: Thank you, Tanea.

8 And now we're going to open up for -- for public  
9 comment. Before I do, I want to just point out that we  
10 have a number of people who have joined us today. I'm  
11 really thrilled about this as I'm sure my fellow  
12 commissioners are as well. We want to try to ensure that  
13 everyone has an opportunity to talk. Everyone initially  
14 will be provided three minutes, but I will reserve the  
15 right to restrict that down from three minutes if -- if we  
16 have so many individuals lined up to speak. I'm a little  
17 bit concerned about disenfranchising people at the back  
18 end of the queue. So we will attempt to manage this as  
19 best possible to provide everyone an opportunity to speak  
20 tonight.

21 And, again, I want to reiterate something that  
22 Arianna mentioned earlier and our Executive Director,  
23 Frank Cardenas, we are very interested in hearing your  
24 testimony that focuses on your community, how you describe  
25 your community, what's unique about your community.

1 Oftentimes, I tell people when they provide this kind of  
2 testimony, think about describing your community to  
3 someone who doesn't know much about it. How would you  
4 describe the community? That information really helps us  
5 especially as we get to the -- get to the point of  
6 actually drawing maps.

7 So with that, our -- our hearing today is open  
8 for -- for public testimony. And I'm going to turn it  
9 back to Robert Battles.

10 MR. BATTLES: Thank you, Chair Ali. Our first  
11 caller, Caller Number 1, is Bob Anderson. Please unmute  
12 yourself and tell us which neighborhood you're speaking  
13 on.

14 And before you get started, we'll pull up the  
15 neighborhood. And when we do pull it up on the map,  
16 you'll have three minutes to give testimony.

17 SPEAKER: Thank you very much. I'm speaking for  
18 Bob Anderson, Sherman Oaks, California. We're not in CD5.  
19 I'll explain why I'm speaking tonight.

20 I'm Bob Anderson with the Sherman Oaks  
21 Homeowner's Association. SOHA submitted our  
22 recommendations letter on July 5th with maps and details.  
23 Please refer to that letter for more detail.

24 Sherman Oaks is a united, 73,000-person Community  
25 of Interest in the southern San Fernando Valley -- showing

1 the map. SOHA has been a strong voice in Sherman Oaks  
2 since 1964. We are the most vulnerable community in the  
3 Valley during redistricting, located where districts cross  
4 over the Sepulveda Pass.

5 Our residents are concerned that we could be  
6 split between two districts as we were in 2001  
7 redistricting. The 2011 Redistricting Commission made us  
8 whole in CD4, but created LA's most gerrymandered  
9 district. We are an appendage connected by a tiny isthmus  
10 to Hancock Park, Griffith Park, and Silver Lake. We are  
11 disconnected from all our adjacent and natural Communities  
12 of Interest.

13 This must not happen again in 2021. We must be  
14 whole in our council district as we are in our  
15 Congressional, California Senate and Assembly, and County  
16 Supervisor districts.

17 I am speaking at this CD5 hearing because Sherman  
18 Oaks should have been in CD5 in 2011 and must be in CD5 in  
19 2021, not in CD4. This reconnects us to our adjacent  
20 Communities of Interest. Census data should support  
21 Sherman Oaks in CD5, but this won't be affirmed until late  
22 August.

23 SOHA has two critical recommendations. First,  
24 the Valley must have only one, single continuous in the  
25 Valley CD5 shared over the pass. All of the Sherman Oaks

1 must be in this single CD5. Second, Valley district  
2 populations must be fairly balanced with non-Valley  
3 districts. The 2001 commission accomplished this. The  
4 2011 commission did not. As a result, the Valley's two  
5 over-the-hill districts were unfairly short changed by  
6 28,000 residents.

7 If both SOHA's recommendations had been  
8 implemented in 2011, CD5 would have included Encino and  
9 Sherman Oaks and would be 62 percent Valley majority. We  
10 expect 2020 Census data to support this result again, and  
11 urge the commission to implement our recommendations and  
12 rectify the 2011 inequities.

13 Also, once Census data is available, we urge the  
14 commission to publish the City of Los Angeles and Valley  
15 total populations. This will enable us to determine how  
16 many districts the Valley deserves and ensure that we get  
17 our fair share this time around.

18 Thank you very much for all you do.

19 MR. BATTLES: Thank you, Speaker Number 1.

20 Speaker Number 2, your phone number ends in 322.  
21 Please press star 6 to unmute yourself, and tell us which  
22 neighborhood you want to speak on before we start your  
23 three minutes.

24 SPEAKER: Hi, my name is Kaye Hartman (phonetic)  
25 and I live in Palms. I'm a member of the Palms



1 Neighborhood Council and I'm speaking for myself.

2 You know, I've lived in Palms a long time. Palms  
3 has been part of CD5, as it is now. It's been part of  
4 CD11. It's been part of CD10. And it's also been divided  
5 three ways among different CDs, and this makes it really  
6 difficult for the Palms Neighborhood Council to get what  
7 it needs -- if it's divided, to get what it needs from the  
8 City Council.

9 So I don't care which CD we're in. We could be  
10 in 5, 11, 10 or any other CD. The important thing to me  
11 is that the borders of the Palms Neighborhood Council all  
12 lie within one council district. Without it, our job  
13 becomes impossible.

14 Thank you very much.

15 MR. BATTLES: Thank you, Speaker Number 2.

16 Our third speaker is Carol Magnusson (phonetic).  
17 Carol Magnusson, please unmute yourself and tell us which  
18 neighborhood you want to speak about tonight.

19 SPEAKER: I'm here to talk about Westwood and why  
20 it should be kept together as a unified area within a  
21 single council district.

22 Westwood meets the requirements -- a geographical  
23 compactness and strong historical Communities of Interest.  
24 There should be no repeat of the disastrous and  
25 inefficient 1993 redistricting that split our community

1 into three separate districts. Fortunately, that mistake  
2 was corrected. However, now Westwood currently rests  
3 entirely in the 5th Council District.

4 Westwood's boundaries and identity date from the  
5 1920s when the Janss (phonetic) Investment Corporation  
6 undertook to develop an area extending from Beverly Hills  
7 to Sepulveda Boulevard and south from Sunset Boulevard to  
8 Pico Boulevard. The Janss plan provided the new  
9 University of California campus surrounded by  
10 neighborhoods that are now known as Westwood Hills, where  
11 I live, Holmby Westwood, Westwood south of Wilshire, and  
12 Comstock Hills which with UCLA are served by a business  
13 community in Westwood Village.

14 Together, these areas constitute the LA Planning  
15 Department's Westwood Community Plan Area. This area is  
16 replete with institutions, we have schools, churches,  
17 synagogues. we have two parks. We have two Los Angeles  
18 Fire Stations and a Level One emergency trauma center  
19 located at Reagan Hospital.

20 We're fortunate to have UCLA as an economic,  
21 intellectual, and cultural engine providing jobs and  
22 generating billions of dollars in spending.

23 Together, we face common issues -- expansion of  
24 the transportation network, university growth, planning  
25 for the future, dealing with homelessness, and an aging

1 infrastructure. The most effective and efficient way for  
2 us to confront these issues is together. Please keep  
3 Westwood one district within a single council district  
4 preferably located in entirely south of Mulholland Drive.

5 Thank you very much for allowing me to speak  
6 tonight.

7 MR. BATTLES: Thank you very much, Speaker Number  
8 3.

9 Speaker Number 4 is Rete Turtletaub (phonetic).  
10 Rete Turtletaub, please unmute yourself and tell us what  
11 you neighborhood you want to speak about.

12 Speaker: My name is Rhea (phonetic) Turtletaub,  
13 and I'm speaking on behalf of Westwood. I am the Vice  
14 Chancellor for External Affairs at UCLA and I'm speaking  
15 tonight on behalf of our Chancellor and our campus  
16 community.

17 UCLA is one of the world's premiere universities,  
18 a thriving public institution which is symbiotic with the  
19 Westwood community we call home. There are well over  
20 15,000 UCLA undergraduate students living in Council  
21 District 5, along with thousands of graduate students and  
22 a vast majority of our off-campus student housing is also  
23 in Westwood. In addition, scores of faculty and staff and  
24 well over 27,000 alumnae are also Westwood residents. And  
25 our boundaries, like those of Westwood, are compact and

1 contiguous.

2 We have worked and are -- we are working and  
3 building relationships daily for years with our immediate  
4 neighbors across Westwood. It is a top priority for us to  
5 foster these relationships within one council district  
6 that can meet the needs of the university as well as the  
7 needs of our neighbors. We take great pride in working  
8 jointly to address concerns and want to continue being  
9 represented by one council district.

10 Additionally, we work closely with our two  
11 neighborhood councils as just-mentioned, the Westwood  
12 Neighborhood Council and the North Westwood Neighborhood  
13 Council. Together we share Communities of Interest and  
14 help address neighborhood concerns.

15 Our students who live in Westwood are civically  
16 active and have been successful in developing positive  
17 relationships with the district representative. Municipal  
18 Services and representation are an integral part of our  
19 students' experience in Westwood, and we ask that we be  
20 kept within one district.

21 Since the university's move to Westwood in 1929,  
22 we have grown together and we want to continue fostering  
23 this special working relationship in one council district.

24 Thank you.

25 MR. BATTLES: Thank you, Rhea Turtletaub.

1           Our next speaker is Speaker Number 5, Glen Bailey  
2 (phonetic). Please unmute yourself and tell us which  
3 neighborhood you want to speak about, please.

4           SPEAKER: Glen Bailey. Encino.

5           So I participated in the redistricting effort ten  
6 years ago. And although there was a overall compact  
7 include -- including the boundaries of the neighborhood  
8 councils -- or respecting the boundaries of the  
9 neighborhood councils, there were a few exceptions. And  
10 Encino was one of those exceptions.

11           Now, the residential -- we're showing up on the  
12 map there. The residential areas were put into one  
13 district. However, the area adjacent to those residential  
14 districts -- it comprised of the park land and the  
15 Sepulveda basin was not. It was specifically moved for  
16 political purposes because the person who was the council  
17 member at the time, who's now in the US Congress, wanted  
18 to make the statistics look better for their Council  
19 District 6 by having more park land.

20           So that's the wrong reason. The absolute wrong  
21 reason to designate 2,150 acres of this city's  
22 second-largest open-space area in terms of boundaries.  
23 The impact to the Sepulveda Basin, to the adjacent  
24 neighborhoods, can most effectively be dealt with if the  
25 council member represents those neighborhoods. And

1 there's many examples of problems associated with that.

2 Now, this is -- this is not anything new. Long  
3 before there was a Sepulveda Basin created after the 1938  
4 flood -- flood events, long before that, the previous  
5 century, Rancho El Encino -- a survey map that's on public  
6 records, September 1868, shows this entire area including  
7 what's most all of that, Sepulveda Basin up north to  
8 Victory, as part of the Encino community.

9 Encino has suffered prior to the 2000  
10 redistricting by being partly in 6 and the northern part  
11 in Council District 3. In the 2010 -- in the 2000 Census,  
12 2000 redistricting, the northern part of Encino was put  
13 into Council District 12, which is the northwest Valley.  
14 And then currently Council District 5.

15 Encino should be in a majority Valley district.  
16 Neither combined with CD3 or CD6 or if there's a new  
17 district that's -- that includes Sherman Oaks to the east.  
18 But we need to be in a Valley majority district. And the  
19 pieces from CD4, including Toluca Lake, Studio -- Sherman  
20 Oaks and Encino or however they need to be readjusted,  
21 need to incorporate Mulholland Drive as that Community of  
22 Interest and points north for Encino.

23 Thank you.

24 MR. BATTLES: Thank you, Speaker Number 5.

25 Speaker Number 6, Brad King, please unmute

1 yourself and tell us which neighborhood you want to speak  
2 about. Brad King?

3 SPEAKER: Yes. I'm sorry.

4 MR. BATTLES: You're okay.

5 SPEAKER: Thank you.

6 My name is Brad King. I'm president of the South  
7 Carthay Neighborhood Association, which is bordering  
8 La Cienega and Pico Boulevard on the southeast.

9 And one of the things I would like the area to  
10 consider is that Community of Interests to us means  
11 historic preservation. We are bordered also by Carthay  
12 Square, which is another historic preservation area. And  
13 to our north, across Olympic Boulevard is Carthay Circle.

14 The three of us are currently working on a  
15 national register application based upon our historic  
16 construction and architecture. And I think it's very  
17 important that people consider that sense of community.  
18 You know, it -- it may not be along the more traditional  
19 lines, but I think people were all drawn to the area  
20 because of their interest in the architectural features.  
21 And to us it's a very special Community of Interest.

22 MR. BATTLES: Okay. Is that the end of your  
23 comments, Mr. King?

24 Speaker: Yes.

25 MR. BATTLES: Thank you for your comments.

1 Speaker Number 7 is Steve --

2 SPEAKER: Hello?

3 R. BATTLES: Steve Sand (phonetic)?

4 SPEAKER: Yes, can you hear me? Can you hear me?

5 MR. BATTLES: Yes, please.

6 SPEAKER: Thank you very much.

7 MR. BATTLES: You're unmuted.

8 SPEAKER: Yes, thank you very much. First of  
9 all, my name is Steven Sale (phonetic). I'm the Chairman  
10 of the Westwood Community Council. I wish to note that  
11 tonight I'm speaking as an individual because our council  
12 has not yet had an opportunity to weigh in on this issue  
13 due to the shortness of the notice of this meeting, and we  
14 will be doing so in writing.

15 First of all, I wish to thank President Ali. As  
16 you know, I've attended many of your meetings. And I was  
17 to thank you for your leadership. I want to thank all of  
18 the commissioners and particularly Commissioner  
19 Rocky Delgadillo for representing our area.

20 I do not want to repeat many of the comments that  
21 were made. I listened to your admonition. I just wish to  
22 say that I absolutely endorse and support the previous  
23 comments that were made by Carol Magnusson and by Rhea  
24 Turtletaub. I agree with all of those points.

25 I don't want to belabor it, but I just simply



1 want to say that our community does have recognized  
2 boundaries that were noted -- Sunset to Santa Monica, 405  
3 to Beverly Hills. Absolutely want to see those kept  
4 intact. Absolutely want to ensure that UCLA, which is the  
5 anchor institution in our community remains cohesive with  
6 our community and is in no way separated.

7 One point I wish to add that has not been  
8 mentioned is the fact that within the next two to three  
9 years, Westwood is scheduled to be undergoing an update of  
10 our community plan. And it is essential the Westwood  
11 community remain intact over the next several years as we  
12 work closely with the Planning Department and our council  
13 office to update this very important planning document  
14 which will map out Westwood for the next 20 to 30 years.

15 I also want to note that it was mentioned in many  
16 of the subcommunities in our area, and I emphasize the  
17 fact that these boundaries are compact and contiguous.

18 I want to make a new point, and we all know that  
19 one of your principles is to avoid gerrymandering. And we  
20 know that gerrymandering is achieved with three pernicious  
21 techniques -- cracking, packing, and stacking.

22 One, we do not want our community cracked. We do  
23 not want to be separated into more than one district. But  
24 secondly, I want to note that we do not want to be the  
25 victims of packing. And as you know, Commissioner Ali and

1 other commissioners, we have seen a map not prepared by  
2 your commission, but prepared by some map maker who knows  
3 what they're doing. And that map completely packs and  
4 improperly takes large portions of CD5 including Westwood,  
5 Bel Air, Beverly Crest, and Holmby Hills and then packs it  
6 into a combined CD11 including Brentwood and Pacific  
7 Palisades. This must be rejected. It is blatant packing  
8 and it absolutely needs to be rejected.

9 I also want to note that there are natural  
10 geographic boundaries that need to be respected. Some of  
11 them have been mentioned, but I want to add the 405  
12 Freeway is a natural dividing line over the pass. And we  
13 want those boundaries as well. And it was noted that  
14 Mulholland to the north is a logical boundary.

15 Finally, I want to note that there are many  
16 Communities of Interest. I do not have time to name them  
17 all. We'll submit them in writing, but I just want to --

18 MR. BATTLES: Thank you caller. Your three  
19 minutes have ended. I'm sorry. Thank you Speaker Number  
20 7.

21 Speaker Number 8 is James Murez (phonetic).  
22 Please unmute yourself, James Murez, and tell us which  
23 neighborhood you want to speak about this evening.

24 SPEAKER: Thank you and good evening.

25 So my name is James Murez. I was recently

1 elected to be the new President for the next two years of  
2 Venice Neighborhood Council. I'm a lifelong resident of  
3 the City of Los Angeles, born and raised in Westwood.

4 Back in the early '50s, before the 405 Freeway  
5 was actually built, I remember the Sepulveda Pass the  
6 previous man was speaking about. I lived in Venice for 35  
7 years.

8 And I've learned over the 35 years that I've been  
9 here, that it's an extremely unique community. It's a  
10 community that was first created back in 1904 by a guy  
11 named Abbot Kinney. And during his time, he created it to  
12 be originally a place for the arts. And after a couple of  
13 years after not being able to -- to succeed at an arts  
14 central area, he turned it into a visitor serving  
15 destination by making it more of an amusement area.

16 But there's a lot of very interesting  
17 characteristics that a lot of people don't realize about  
18 this community. For instance, he created the first black  
19 community by the coast -- by the -- by the ocean.

20 And the area today is considered a coastal zone.  
21 In Los Angeles, the City of Los Angeles has three coastal  
22 zones -- Venice, Pacific Palisades, and San Pedro. So I  
23 think it's important that we try to keep the coastal zones  
24 together, because we all retain a common requirement of  
25 visitor access under the Coastal Commission, which is a

1 state law.

2 But I also want to note that in 1925, when the  
3 City of Los Angeles took over the City of Venice, that the  
4 City of Venice became very neglected. And by neglected, I  
5 mean that when the railroad tracks were abandoned -- or  
6 the railroads that went through the city back in the  
7 1950's, we in Venice still have railroad tracks in our  
8 sidewalks and streets, and they've never been removed.

9 So I would like to make sure that in the next go  
10 around for the election, as I pointed out at the rack  
11 meeting when one of your commissioners spoke there, that  
12 one of the things that needs to happen is we need to make  
13 sure that Venice gets the opportunity to vote in 2022.  
14 And that the redistricting does not prevent us from having  
15 an election.

16 We need representation that hears the stake  
17 holders requests and that allows us to vote. And our  
18 community has seen a lot of changes. And I'm sure that  
19 everybody has heard about all of the impacts we're having  
20 with homeless and with many of the other issues -- Silicon  
21 Valley -- or Silicon Beach is down here now. And we need  
22 to be able to address these. And to do that, we need to  
23 be able to be represented in 2022 by a vote of the people  
24 and not be squeezed into somebody else's district.

25 Thank you very much.

1 MR. BATTLES: Thank you giving testimony, Speaker  
2 Number 8.

3 Speaker Number 9, John Gresham (phonetic), please  
4 unmute yourself and tell us which neighborhood you want to  
5 speak to this evening.

6 SPEAKER: Yes. Can you hear me okay?

7 MR. BATTLES: Loud and clear.

8 SPEAKER: Okay. My name is John Gresham. I am  
9 with the Greater Wilshire -- Greater Wilshire Neighborhood  
10 Council, which is bounded by -- generally by La Brea  
11 Boulevard on the west, Western Avenue on the east, Melrose  
12 Avenue on the north, and Olympic Boulevard on the south.

13 In -- we are -- we are a neighborhood of  
14 community interests of residential -- residential  
15 properties, primarily single, multifamily. It's about  
16 50,000 population.

17 In 2010, we were very much consolidated into only  
18 two council districts, which is good -- CD5 and CD4. We  
19 really would prefer to be all in one unified -- like,  
20 unified council district as the other speakers alluded to  
21 this evening.

22 Many of our neighborhoods -- the boundary between  
23 CD4 and CD5 does not honor the compact, major street  
24 boundary ideal. It actually runs down small neighborhood  
25 streets so that neighbors directly across the street from

1 one another are in different districts. And we would like  
2 to be able to be unified as we vote and -- and along --  
3 along shared interests.

4 And anyway, our direct neighbors to the west are  
5 the Miracle Mile; and to the south Pio Pico and Mid city;  
6 to the west, Koreatown; and to the North, Hollywood. All  
7 -- all -- all areas that are more dense and have different  
8 -- have different interests than we.

9 Anyway, I would like to speak to that and hope  
10 somebody else weighs in as well.

11 Thank you, bye.

12 MR. BATTLES: All right. Thank you so much,  
13 speaker Number 9.

14 Speaker Number 10, Puppet. Please unmute  
15 yourself and tell us which neighborhood you want to speak  
16 about this evening.

17 SPEAKER: (Noise.) Which a neighborhood.

18 (Noise.) Yes, the Encino Neighborhood Council. Yes.

19 Now -- well, my colleague here -- and he -- he  
20 doesn't want to identify himself because he's afraid that  
21 he'll get lynched for testifying about this. But what was  
22 the secret deal that was made? Oh, come on. No. I'm  
23 sorry. We've got to clear the air here, folks. The FBI  
24 is listening; so the puppet must snitch. (Noise.)

25 Yeah. (Unintelligible.) Who's going to taken

1 Encino and place it into the 11th District. And a deal  
2 was forged behind the barn at the Pierce College at the  
3 next to the last meeting.

4 And then what happened? Her boss and junior and  
5 José Huizar said "No. No. No. No. No. No. You can't  
6 do that."

7 And so not only did Encino get stuck as the  
8 appendage of CD5 because Paul (unintelligible) Koretz  
9 wanted to keep Encino, but Phil Rosenthal lost  
10 Westchester.

11 Oh, I remember that.

12 Yes. So finally, he had to grab it back.

13 So the point is, people, this is not going to be  
14 done the way they're telling you. It's going to be done  
15 behind closed doors. It's going to be done over cigars at  
16 the cigar store. It's going to be done in garages with  
17 the dimly lit lights and make sure the cameras are off.  
18 It's going to be done with bags of cash. Maybe even  
19 cryptocurrency this time. The real deal will be made when  
20 the payoffs are made.

21 And I know there's only one of you here. I know  
22 Ambassador Moreno says no. But Rocky Delga- dip shit and  
23 the rest of them say yes. Because hundreds of thousands  
24 of dollars in payoffs are going to be made.

25 So remember everybody -- yes.

1           So in the end, none of what you say will mean a  
2 goddamn fucking thing to anybody. None of your ideas are  
3 going to matter.

4           So the puppet has made a decision. Go  
5 (unintelligible) of the current boundaries of CD5 remain  
6 exactly the same because do you want Nithya Raman noodle?

7           Hell no.

8           Do you want Bob blaven blale as your  
9 representative?

10          Oh, fuck no.

11          Well, do you want Nury Martinez?

12          Hell no.

13          Right. The best we can do is Paul Peppa Pig  
14 Koretz. And he's termed out. And, of course, the next  
15 council member has already been appointed. Jeffrey  
16 Eppenstein will now take over as he's purchased CD5. And  
17 it was in escrow and closed yesterday.

18          So congratulations Councilman Elect Jeffrey  
19 Eppenstein. Let's keep the boundaries the same. And --

20          MR. BATTLES: All right. Your three minutes is  
21 up. Thank you, Caller Number 10.

22          Speaker Number 11, Walter Dominguez. Please  
23 unmute yourself and tell us what neighborhood you want to  
24 speak about this evening.

25          SPEAKER: Hello. Thank you for this commission



1 meeting. I am the Chairman of the Joint Committee of  
2 three Carthay neighborhoods in the southeast hook or bend  
3 in Council District 5.

4 Brad King spoke earlier about our desire to  
5 remain together, and I wanted to expand on the historic  
6 aspects.

7 We were developed at the same time in the 1920's  
8 and '30s, and our neighborhoods are recognized for  
9 outstanding city planning, which was innovative at the  
10 time and also for the architecture.

11 But we also have transportation projects coming  
12 through -- the purple line extension on Wilshire, the new  
13 Crenshaw line which is proposed to come through our  
14 neighborhood, and also we are also in the middle of a lot  
15 of development pressures.

16 We very, very much consider it very important to  
17 be able to keep our three Carthay communities together in  
18 whatever new district we're designated to be part of.

19 So thank you very much. And good luck.

20 MR. BATTLES: Thank you, Speaker Number 11.

21 Speaker Number 12, Robin Greenburg (phonetic).

22 Please unmute yourself and tell us which neighborhood  
23 you're speaking about.

24 SPEAKER: Hi. My is name is Robin Greenburg.  
25 I'm President of the Bel Air/Beverly Crest Neighborhood

1 Council, and I'm speaking for myself because we haven't as  
2 yet had time to write our comments from the neighborhood  
3 council.

4 I love coming home at night. We all do. We are  
5 neighborhoods in the hills. We live south of Mulholland  
6 from the 405 going east to Laurel Canyon. We love nature.  
7 We love the environment. We love the trees. We love to  
8 come home and hike, to walk, to enjoy the air from the  
9 trees, the beautiful climate with wildlife abounding  
10 everywhere. We are landscaping-oriented, tree-oriented.  
11 We are education-oriented. Many of our homes are owned by  
12 professors.

13 The professors come from UCLA and they are in our  
14 hills. We have so many educational institutions in our  
15 hills. We have the American Jewish University, Steven  
16 Weiss (phonetic).

17 We enjoy protecting the trees. We are very  
18 conscious of the environment and the climate because we  
19 are aware that we are in a fire-prone area and we could  
20 catch on fire. We're very careful of not smoking nor  
21 allowing others in our neighborhoods to smoke, such as  
22 people that come in to do work during the day. We do not  
23 park on a fire-prone windy day in certain areas of our  
24 neighborhoods.

25 We respect each other. We respect the

1 environment. We respect the quiet, the canyons, the  
2 ridges, the hillsides, the walks, the hikes, the biking.

3 We wish you all to come to visit us because we  
4 love where we are and we want to stay together as a  
5 Community of Interest within Council District 5. And we  
6 thank you for what you are doing to help us to do that.

7 Thank you.

8 MR. BATTLES: Thank you, Speaker Number 12.

9 Speaker Number 13, Steve Roade (phonetic) or  
10 Steve Roade. Please unmute yourself and tell us which  
11 neighborhood you're speaking about this evening.

12 SPEAKER: Good evening. Can you hear me?

13 MR. BATTLES: Loud and clear.

14 SPEAKER: Great. Thank you very much.

15 Steven Roade. I am President of the Westwood  
16 Hills Property Owners Association. However, like many  
17 others, I speak today as a resident of Westwood in two  
18 periods for over 35 years. Our association will have an  
19 opportunity to submit written comments to elaborate.

20 But I'd like to take advantage of associating  
21 myself with the comments of Carol Magnusson who was very  
22 clear in expressing the fact that Westwood must stay  
23 together as one district south of Mulholland Drive. In  
24 addition to the Westwood Community Plan area, which is  
25 Sunset to Santa Monica Boulevard and LA Country Club to

1 the 405, we should all -- also be kept together with the  
2 Westside Neighborhood Council area which is -- roughly  
3 runs from Santa Monica Boulevard to the 10 Freeway from  
4 Century City to the 405.

5 This entire area, because of its history, its  
6 experience, schools, shopping, parks, and common  
7 interests, must remain contiguous and in a single council  
8 district, Council 5 if that's the number that's eventually  
9 chosen.

10 I appreciate the efforts of all of you as  
11 volunteers on this commission. We understand the kind of  
12 time and effort that it takes to put in this work. We  
13 regret that the Census data is not yet available and as  
14 soon as it is we will supplement our remarks and we thank  
15 you for your efforts tonight.

16 MR. BATTLES: End of your comments, sir? Speaker  
17 Number 13.

18 Speaker Number 14, Sandy Brown. Please unmute  
19 yourself and tell us which neighborhood you want to speak  
20 on. Sandy Brown, you are the next speaker, Speaker 14.  
21 Please unmute yourself and tell us which neighborhood  
22 you're speaking about.

23 SPEAKER: Sandy Brown. I'm speaking on behalf of  
24 Westwood. I'm President of the Holmby Westwood Property  
25 Owners Association, which is 1,100 single family homes in

1 Westwood. And Vice President of the Westwood Neighborhood  
2 Council.

3 Tonight, I'm speaking as an individual inasmuch  
4 as we have not had time to agendize this item.

5 I strongly request that Westwood remain within  
6 its existing compact and contiguous boundaries, Sunset on  
7 the north to Santa Monica Boulevard on the south,  
8 Sepulveda on the west to the Beverly Hills City limit.

9 Our Community of Interest includes UCLA, the 405,  
10 the new metro purple line anticipated to carry 25,000  
11 passengers daily, the Expo line that feeds into major  
12 arteries to Westwood, and most important, the Westwood  
13 Community Plan update which is soon to commence.

14 Our four Homeowner Associations that cover the  
15 entire Westwood area, our neighborhood councils, both of  
16 them, the community council, UCLA, the Westwood Village  
17 Improvement Association, and the West LA Chamber have been  
18 represented by a single council district and have forged  
19 strong ties over many years.

20 As we are on the cusp of planning for Westwood's  
21 future with our plan update, this is a critical time for  
22 us and important that we remain as one and represented in  
23 City Council with one voice.

24 We work very closely with communities to our  
25 south from Santa Monica Boulevard to Pico and from the 405

1 to Beverly Glen. They are contiguous to Westwood and play  
2 a huge role in addressing transportation and housing  
3 issues.

4 We urge the commission to keep Westwood and our  
5 contiguous neighbors to the south together. Our efforts  
6 over the years have undoubtedly contributed to a  
7 healthier, greener, more accessible and livable  
8 Los Angeles.

9 And I do support the testimony of  
10 Carol Magnusson, Steve Roade, Rhea Turtletaub and -- and  
11 any other speakers that agree with us as we move down your  
12 list of speakers.

13 Thank you very much. We do appreciate the work  
14 that you are doing.

15 I'm finished.

16 MR. BATTLES: Speaker Number 15 is Travis  
17 Longcore (phonetic). Please unmute yourself and tell us  
18 which neighborhood you're speaking about this evening.

19 SPEAKER: My name is Travis Longcore. I'm the --  
20 a member of the task force of the Bel Air/Beverly Crest  
21 Neighborhood Council. We're looking at redistricting.

22 As a neighborhood council, we are interested in  
23 our entire area being placed within CD5 as one Community  
24 of Interest. We have natural boundaries in the form of  
25 405 Freeway, Mulholland Boulevard to Sunset and Laurel.

1           We in the district share many things in common,  
2 including concerns about development pressure, traffic  
3 from the four Westside to Valley canyon roads, risk of  
4 wildfire and landslide in a very high-fire hazard severity  
5 zone, issues with party houses, construction impacts, our  
6 community plan coming up, and being part of the wildlife  
7 pilot area. All these -- I'll endorse the comments of our  
8 President, Robin Greenburg -- are things that this  
9 community cares about, and creating a shared cultural  
10 experience in living in the hillside that binds life  
11 together for the BA/BC/NC territory.

12           We should share representation with the foothill  
13 communities where our residents shop and work, including  
14 Westwood, Century City, and Fairfax District. We don't  
15 want our hillsides and foothills packed into a single  
16 district as we have relationships with our adjacent areas.

17           Speaking for the most part here as an individual,  
18 these are the issues that we're discussing. And we as a  
19 council and task force will be sure to submit our final  
20 comments to you in writing from the neighborhood council.

21           Thank you for your time. That concludes my  
22 testimony.

23           MR. BATTLES: Thank you, Speaker Number 15.

24           Speaker Number 16, Terry Tegnasian (phonetic),  
25 please unmute yourself. Terry Tegnasian speaker 16,

1 please unmute yourself.

2 Do you --

3 SPEAKER: Here I go. Yes.

4 Can you hear me now?

5 MR. BATTLES: Loud and clear.

6 SPEAKER: Okay. Terry Tegnasian, Westwood. I  
7 want to just endorse the comments that have been  
8 previously made by Carol Magnusson, Rhea Turtletaub, Steve  
9 San, Steve Roade, Sandy Brown.

10 I think it's important that the Westwood -- the  
11 Westwood Community Plan area be kept together in one  
12 district. And I would suggest also that we bring in the  
13 Westside Neighborhood Council area immediately to our  
14 south which was, in fact, part of the original Janss  
15 Development of Westwood. And I also believe that we  
16 should be -- I assume this is not going to be enough  
17 people for one district, and that we should be kept  
18 together with other Westside districts south of  
19 Mulholland.

20 I think it's a mistake to have a cross-mountain  
21 district where certainly it sounds like previously we  
22 would be in the distinct minority. And I don't think that  
23 serves us or the Valley, frankly.

24 Again, due to the shortness of notice for this  
25 hearing and the fact that we don't have any demographic



1 information, we will be submitting more detailed comments  
2 in -- by -- in writing in the future.

3 Thank you.

4 MR. BATTLES: Thank you Caller 16.

5 Caller Number 17, you are identified by Number  
6 719. Please press star 6 to unmute yourself, and tell us  
7 which neighborhood you're speaking about.

8 SPEAKER: It was Travis Longcore. I connected on  
9 both. You can pass over me now.

10 MR. BATTLES: Gotcha. Okay.

11 Our actual Caller 17 is now going to be David  
12 Kaden (phonetic). David Kaden, please unmute yourself and  
13 tell us which neighborhood you want to speak about.

14 SPEAKER: Thank you. I would like to speak about  
15 the Benedict Canyon neighborhood, which is bordered by  
16 Sunset Boulevard on the south, Mulholland on the north,  
17 Beverly Glen on the east, and Coldwater Canyon -- I'm  
18 sorry. Beverly Glen on the west, and Coldwater Canyon on  
19 the east.

20 My wife and I have lived in Benedict Canyon for  
21 30 years, and have raised our son there. And we have  
22 grown to love the beautiful nature there, the trees, the  
23 protected oak trees, and other trees that are there. The  
24 canopies that -- that looms over Benedict Canyon from one  
25 side of Benedict Canyon Drive to the other side of the

1 street. The wildlife there, the deers that come with  
2 their young deers as they walk along the hills. The --  
3 even the coyotes there, the foxes, the hawks.

4 It's something that is -- attracts people who can  
5 live there for many, many years. I've been privileged to  
6 be the President of the Benedict Canyon Association, which  
7 was started in 1948, and is a voluntary Homeowner  
8 Neighborhood Association dedicated to the preservation of  
9 the canyon, the love of it that everybody who moves there  
10 has for it.

11 And despite some of the inconveniences that  
12 people who live and those of us who lived in the city  
13 before such as having to drive further to the market,  
14 further to work, et cetera, we all find that it is very,  
15 very worth it in order to be able to experience this and  
16 be part of a community that shares the same values.

17 The people who live here stay for many years.  
18 They're children. Grow up, maybe go away to college. Go  
19 for work, and then new, younger residents come in.  
20 So it's just something that attracts people and has for  
21 many years.

22 By the way, as President of the Benedict Canyon  
23 Association, I'm not speaking in the official capacity.  
24 Because like other representatives of associations, we  
25 intend to submit a written proposal. But this is personal

1 for myself.

2 The -- it is important to keep a single council  
3 district, and specifically District 5 because of the  
4 concerns that residents have. Fire -- living in the  
5 community. Living in the neighborhood. Fire, emergency  
6 preparedness, that bind the residents together. And the  
7 City is able to address those concerns and we are able to  
8 communicate unitedly with our council member, Council  
9 Member Koretz, over the years and his great staff.

10 And so I would like to thank all of the members  
11 of the commission for their consideration. And please  
12 keep Benedict Canyon Neighborhood united in one, single  
13 District 5.

14 Thank you, and good evening.

15 MR. BATTLES: Thank you.

16 Speaker 18, Jodi Francisco (phonetic). Please  
17 unmute yourself now and share with us which neighborhood  
18 you're speaking about.

19 SPEAKER: I would like to speak about Encino.  
20 And I would like to speak as a realtor and concerned --  
21 concerned citizen of Encino or resident of Encino.

22 This is my first time being involved in the  
23 redistricting. But from -- from my perspective, I believe  
24 that it would make sense for Encino to be combined with  
25 Sherman Oaks as the gentleman from Sherman Oaks had so

1 succinctly proposed. But I also believe that we should  
2 potentially go over the Sepulveda Pass and share with  
3 those communities, Bel Air, and I guess it would be  
4 Beverly Hills Post Office. I'm not exactly sure where the  
5 lines are drawn.

6 But because we are a mountain-based community as  
7 well as we have people in the flats, it makes sense,  
8 because of the fire hazards and things like that, from a  
9 real estate perspective, we get a lot of people coming  
10 over the hill and into the Encino Sherman Oaks area  
11 because of the proximity to the West Side, because of the  
12 ease of access to getting to the West Side, you know, and  
13 because the housing stock is not quite as expensive as the  
14 West Side.

15 I also agree with Glen Bailey that the Sepulveda  
16 Basin should be a part of the CD5, because that aligns  
17 with the Neighborhood Councils Districts which go to  
18 Victory Boulevard.

19 And we have not had an opportunity to really  
20 study this matter that much because of the shortness of  
21 the notice. And I apologize. My dog is barking in the  
22 background. But that is my -- my thoughts for right now,  
23 and I thank you for your time.

24 MR. BATTLES: Great, Speaker Number 18.

25 Speaker Number 19. Lori Kelson (phonetic).

1 Please unmute yourself and tell us which neighborhood you  
2 are speaking about.

3 SPEAKER: Hi. Lori Kelson from Encino. And I  
4 live west of the 405, just north of Mulholland.

5 I liked some of the comments, in particular Robin  
6 Greenburg. We have a lot in common with the people of the  
7 Sherman Oaks hills and of the hill communities in  
8 protecting our environment. I'm also concerned of our  
9 Sepulveda Basin and our open space.

10 We've been, I think, very successful in CD5.  
11 I've lived here a long time, over 40 years. And  
12 originally we were in CD11.

13 I would like to see us as Bob Anderson mentioned.  
14 We could certainly work with people from Sherman Oaks with  
15 common interests.

16 Thank you very much.

17 MR. BATTLES: Thank you, Speaker Number 19.

18 Speaker Number 20 is Patricia Bates (phonetic).

19 Patricia Bates, please unmute yourself and tell  
20 us which communities and which neighborhoods you're  
21 speaking about tonight.

22 SPEAKER: Thank you. I'm representing --  
23 speaking about Encino. I am the President of the Encino  
24 Neighborhood Council. We have not had time to weigh in on  
25 this; so I am speaking on my own behalf. I want to echo a

1 hundred percent what Glen Bailey had to say.

2 The people of Encino have a stewardship interest  
3 in the Sepulveda Basin. It was removed from Encino for no  
4 good reason. It needs to be put back. Secondly, Encino  
5 -- it's very clear, if you listen to the comments, we've  
6 had for the most part people south of the foothill area  
7 have absolutely no community interest in Encino  
8 whatsoever. So if you need any better argument to get  
9 Encino in the Valley-only district, I think that's it.  
10 And I think you're seeing it tonight.

11 And again, Glen just totally summarized the  
12 history of this. Thank you. I yield my time.

13 MR. BATTLES: Thank you, Speaker Number 20.

14 Speaker Number 21 is the Westside Neighborhood  
15 Council Land Use Mobility Group.

16 Would you please unmute yourself and tell us  
17 which neighborhood you want to speak about?

18 SPEAKER: I am Barbara Brady (phonetic), and I am  
19 speaking as an individual. Our neighborhood council has  
20 not yet adopted a formal statement, but we will be  
21 corresponding with you in the future.

22 I am an elected residential representative on the  
23 Westside Neighborhood Council, as well as President of the  
24 Westwood South of Santa Monica Boulevard Homeowners  
25 Association, which is one of seven homeowner associations

1 within the Westside Neighborhood Council boundaries.

2 Our boundaries are on the north, Santa Monica  
3 Boulevard. On the west, the 405 Freeway. On the east,  
4 Century City. And what am I missing? On the south, the  
5 10 Freeway and National Boulevard, depending on where we  
6 are exactly.

7 We are a community of common interests having  
8 grown up very much at the same time as Westwood Village  
9 and the Westwood community, to which we relate very  
10 strongly. Part of our area was developed by the Janss  
11 brothers as housing for UCLA faculty and staff.

12 We hope that we will be brought together with our  
13 Westwood neighbors when this area is redistricted. We  
14 share religious institutions together. We share  
15 commercial districts. We share very common interests  
16 around development, how to increase density in population  
17 while still preserving our trees, our neighborhood  
18 character. We probably share a characteristic we're not  
19 terribly proud of, which is traffic. We have major  
20 arterials through our area. Not only the 10 Freeway on  
21 our southern boundary, but we have Olympic, Pico, Santa  
22 Monica Boulevard, and often refer to ourselves as the  
23 doorway to Century City, UCLA campus, and other regional  
24 resources.

25 We have 20th Century Fox, now Disney studios, in

1 our backyard. Their back lot became Century City which  
2 has created a new urban center -- did create a new center  
3 -- urban center for Kathryn Hamilton (phonetic) in the  
4 planning department back when the city was planned.

5 We are rich in jobs. Our -- we have a high  
6 professional population, which works in Westwood, works in  
7 Century City. I personally have three neighbors on the  
8 UCLA staff and faculty on my block, and a retired  
9 professor as well.

10 We want to remain as a neighborhood council area  
11 intact in a single community in a -- in an intact  
12 district. We believe that we belong with our northern  
13 neighbors. And looking at different communities, what we  
14 could be aligned with. And we're concerned that because  
15 we do not have an incumbent council member, that we may  
16 get lost in the shuffle, and hope that this commission  
17 protects our community and acts to do what's best and  
18 resist whatever political forces may be seeking to tear us  
19 to pieces.

20 Thank you for your time.

21 MR. BATTLES: All right. Thank you, Speaker  
22 Number 21.

23 Speaker Number 22. Lee. Please unmute yourself.  
24 Hello, Lee? Lee, do you want to unmute yourself? Do you  
25 need a second?



1           Okay. We're going to move on to Speaker Number  
2 23.

3           SPEAKER: Can you hear me?

4           MR. BATTLES: Bezelor (phonetic). Bezelor,  
5 please unmute yourself and tell us what neighborhood you  
6 want to speak to this evening.

7           SPEAKER: Thank you.

8           I am Don Rhoads (phonetic) and I live in Benedict  
9 Canyon. I have -- I speak for myself, although I'm  
10 representative of Benedict Canyon Association and Bel  
11 Air/Beverly Crest Association, and I support the  
12 impressions that have been given by other of our  
13 representatives.

14           But I think there's a commonality of interest  
15 that we have within our community plan and within our  
16 neighborhood council, which is that single-family  
17 residences, we're affected by all the things that are  
18 around us and we're impacted by the City.

19           Among the things that concern us greatly are fire  
20 and safety. And safety itself is related to City  
21 planning, those plans that are used to develop in the  
22 hills, ignore the nature of the hills -- they're not flat  
23 maps.

24           There's a different atmosphere and character that  
25 needs to be retained as it was stated by the original City

1 Attorney who became Mayor, which is the mountains are the  
2 greatest asset in this City of Los Angeles.

3 Our interests as single-family residents is to  
4 protect that City asset and have it consistent as a place  
5 where people go work and play.

6 I very much appreciate the efforts of  
7 redistricting, but we should be retained in a district  
8 consistent with the community plan that we've had for over  
9 -- since 1998. We've existed as a community neighborhood  
10 council for over 20 years. One of the original ones that  
11 was okayed under City Charter. And we'd like to make sure  
12 that our Community of Interest, which reflects those  
13 people who live in the hills, is respected and -- and  
14 dealt with as a Community of Interest.

15 Thank you very much.

16 MR. BATTLES: Thank you very much, caller -- I  
17 mean, Speaker 22.

18 Speaker Number 23, we're going to ask Lee one  
19 more time to unmute themselves.

20 SPEAKER: Can you guys here me now?

21 MR. BATTLES: Loud and clear.

22 SPEAKER: Awesome. Thank you very much for  
23 taking the time. I really appreciate it.

24 My name is Lee Blumenfeld. I am on the Encino  
25 Neighborhood Council, speaking on behalf of myself for the

1 community of Encino.

2 I do want to echo everything that Glen Bailey and  
3 Patricia Bates spoke about, and I wish to also agree with  
4 the gentleman from Sherman Oaks Homeowners Association  
5 with one caveat, and a small little part in their thing  
6 said, hey, you know, the numbers don't really work well.  
7 Encino needs to, kind of, go over the hill. And I'm going  
8 to make you an argument of why Encino should stay within  
9 the Valley.

10 So using Mulholland as the border between Encino  
11 -- the edge of Encino and the rest of CD5, Encino shares  
12 with the Valley two specific plans, zero with the rest of  
13 CD5. One community plan with the Valley. Zero with CD5  
14 -- the rest of CD5. One LAPD Bureau. Zero with CD5. One  
15 LAPD division. Zero with CD5. Two maintenance districts.  
16 Zero with CD5. One tree maintenance district. Zero with  
17 CD5. One engineering district. Zero with CD5. One  
18 Contract Administration Inspection district. Zero with  
19 CD5. One sanitarial district. Zero with CD5. One  
20 congressional district. Zero with CD5. One LADOT  
21 Engineering district. Zero with the rest of CD5. One  
22 parking enforcement. Zero with the rest of CD5. One  
23 LAUSD local district. Zero with the rest of CD5. One  
24 neighborhood services area. Zero with the rest of CD5.  
25 One LA Sanitation Maintenance district. Zero with the

1 rest of CD5. One Solid Collection district. zero with  
2 the rest of CD5.

3 We also have an Encino/Tarzana library that  
4 happens to fall outside of our current boundaries of not  
5 only the neighborhood council, but also our CD5 at whole.

6 Encino should remain part of the Valley,  
7 considering our representation, interests from a wide  
8 range of areas from education to parks to climate. All  
9 those things we share with our neighbors in the Valley.  
10 And unfortunately none with the folks south of Mulholland.

11 And as far as time commute. The time commute  
12 down the 405 which is probably the world's worst and  
13 heavily congested area -- that by itself is a separation  
14 of communities.

15 I strongly urge you to keep the borders of Encino  
16 in -- Encino in one CD, whichever that CD may end up  
17 being. But definitely not 5. Thank you.

18 MR. BATTLES: Thank you, Speaker.

19 Speaker Number 24, Robert Schlesinger (phonetic).  
20 Please unmute yourself and tell us which community you're  
21 --

22 SPEAKER: My name Robert Schlesinger. I've been  
23 a member of the Benedict -- I am a member of the Benedict  
24 Canyon Association. I've lived in this area for more than  
25 50 years. I'm a member of the Bel Air/Beverly Crest

1 Neighborhood Council, but I'm speaking for myself. As my  
2 predecessors have said, we have not put something together  
3 from the neighborhood council yet.

4 I agree with Robin Greenburg, I agree with Travis  
5 Longcore, who both testified before you. Don Lowes and  
6 David Kaden.

7 There are things we share in common within our  
8 area, which is from the 405 to Laurel Canyon, from Sunset  
9 Boulevard north to south -- south Mulholland Drive. We  
10 share with another council district, but we have in common  
11 the number of myriad of things that we do together.

12 We have -- we have hillside construction  
13 regulations which we adopted in 2017. We're working on  
14 the Ridgeline SUD at this point together. We're looking  
15 on the wildlife corridor. We're working on ADUs and party  
16 houses -- which is a tremendous problem -- from Laurel  
17 Canyon to the 405 in our area. We are geographically  
18 attached. We have challenges in this hillside that we  
19 have in common.

20 So what I -- what I want to say beyond that is  
21 with the number of things that we share in common, it's a  
22 little more difficult to work with two council districts.  
23 We'd like to see the possibility of them coming together,  
24 but I am not speaking for the Bel Air/Beverly Crest  
25 Neighborhood Council as I said earlier this evening. But

1 there's just a number of things we share, that -- or a  
2 myriad of things that we would like to see take place with  
3 one council.

4 That's all I have to say. Take it back.

5 MR. BATTLES: Thank you very much, Speaker Number  
6 24.

7 Speaker Number 25. Their name is Steven.

8 Please unmute yourself and tell us which  
9 neighborhood you're speaking about.

10 SPEAKER: Hi. Good evening. Can you hear me?

11 MR. BATTLES: Loud and clear.

12 SPEAKER: Great. Thank you very much. It's --  
13 I'm speaking about the Westwood area. It's -- this is  
14 Steven Resnick (phonetic). I'm president of the Westwood  
15 Homeowners Association and Secretary of the Westwood  
16 Neighborhood Council.

17 My association has not been -- being in a  
18 compressed time frame, has not been able to take this up;  
19 so I'm speaking as an individual. And I would -- no need  
20 to take up everybody's time. I would simply echo my  
21 previous Westwood colleagues and community leaders  
22 indicating that we -- the entire Westwood/Westside area  
23 needs to stay together as a contiguous council district  
24 from Mulholland Drive south, which includes UCLA and all  
25 the Westwood districts.

1 Thank you very much.

2 MR. BATTLES: I'd like to inform Chair Ali that  
3 we have no more members of the public raising their hands  
4 to make public comment.

5 COMMISSIONER ALI: So thank you very, very much.  
6 I want to just give a minute. And, Robert, if you would  
7 check one more time and make sure there's no one else in  
8 the queue?

9 MR. BATTLES: Okay. Chair, seems like someone  
10 has taken advantage of this opportunity.

11 Mr. Arturo Martinez.

12 COMMISSIONER ALI: Thank you, Robert.

13 MR. BATTLES: You're now allowed to speak. Go  
14 ahead and tell us which neighborhood you want to speak on  
15 tonight.

16 SPEAKER: Hello. Are you able to hear me?

17 MR. BATTLES: Loud and clear.

18 SPEAKER: I'm speaking regarding the Rancho  
19 Park/Cheviot Hills area, which is the southern portion  
20 that's covered by Santa Monica to the north, the 405  
21 Freeway to the west, Century City to the east. And the 10  
22 Freeway to the south. That residential community is also  
23 known as Westside Neighborhood Council.

24 And the request is that that neighborhood council  
25 be kept within one council district and not separated. My

1 neighbor, Barbara Brody, already spoke as to the reasons  
2 of the commonality in that region, as well as the  
3 commonality with the areas north of it, which would be  
4 Westwood proper as we know it.

5 So the simple request is to please keep the  
6 neighborhood council intact so that everyone everybody is  
7 represented by the same council member.

8 Thank you.

9 MR. BATTLES: Thank you, Speaker Number 26.

10 We now have Speaker Number 27. Nicky Minor  
11 (phonetic). Go ahead and tell us which neighborhood  
12 you're talking about this evening before we start your  
13 time.

14 SPEAKER: Hello. Thank you for your time. I'm  
15 calling about the -- speaking about the neighborhood from  
16 Laurel Canyon, including Laurel Canyon west to the 405,  
17 from Mulholland all the way to the 10, including the flats  
18 below Laurel Canyon.

19 All that area has always been in an unspokenly --  
20 a contiguous community. And it needs to be kept within  
21 one council district, Council District 5.

22 I realize that there are various permutations of  
23 a council district, but whatever else would be added to  
24 it, the central portion of CD5 should be 405 up to and  
25 including Laurel Canyon, Mulholland, all the way to the



1 10.

2 I appreciate your consideration of this. I'm  
3 speaking for myself although I'm a member of the Beverly  
4 Canyon Association and of the Bel Air/Beverly Crest  
5 Neighborhood Council.

6 Thank you for your time.

7 MR. BATTLES: Thank you very much, Speaker Number  
8 27.

9 Speaker Number 28 is identified as Nancy.

10 So Nancy, please unmute yourself and tell us  
11 which neighborhood you're speaking about this evening.

12 Nancy? Can you hear us?

13 SPEAKER: Yes. Can you hear me?

14 MR. BATTLES: Loud and clear. Go ahead.

15 SPEAKER: I'm speaking about the Westwood area.  
16 Specifically, the area south of Santa Monica Boulevard.

17 We have been affiliated with the Westwood area,  
18 as many speakers have already mentioned, for decades. And  
19 we have many, many ties with the Westwood community,  
20 Century City, with the neighborhoods all the way south to  
21 Pico and all the way west to the 405.

22 I just want to echo the sentiments that have been  
23 expressed to keep the Westside Neighborhood Council  
24 District and Westwood area all together with all of the  
25 neighborhood councils as we have many, many similar

1 concerns about our neighborhood.

2 Thank you, and I yield the floor.

3 MR. BATTLES: Thank you, Speaker Number 28.

4 Speaker Number 29. Valerie (phonetic) M. Please  
5 go ahead and --

6 Okay. We're actually going to identify Speaker  
7 Joseph Roth first. Joseph Roth, please unmute yourself  
8 and tell us which neighborhood you're speaking about.

9 SPEAKER: Yes. Can you hear me?

10 MR. BATTLES: Yes. Loud and clear.

11 SPEAKER: Great.

12 My name is Joseph Roth, and I'm on the board of  
13 directors of the Westwood South of Santa Monica Boulevard  
14 Homeowners Association, which represents, as Barbara  
15 mentioned earlier, residents north of Pico, east of  
16 Sepulveda, south of Santa Monica, and west of Beverly  
17 Glen. I also represent this area on the Westside  
18 Neighborhood Council.

19 And like some of the other callers have said, I'd  
20 like to voice support for the concept of keeping the WNC  
21 whole within the council district currently comprising  
22 CD5.

23 Also, since many of these residents in our  
24 neighborhoods are employed in Westwood or actually by UCLA  
25 or with long-standing ties to the UCLA-related businesses

1 and services of the campus community, I think as some of  
2 the other Westwood-similar neighborhoods like those from  
3 Westwood and the north side of Santa Monica Boulevard seem  
4 to have similar positions and are similarly affected by  
5 local LA decisions and policies.

6 Thank you.

7 MR. BATTLES: Thank you very much, Caller Number  
8 28.

9 Caller Number 29, we are going to -- oh, there is  
10 no more callers in the queue right now, Chair Ali.

11 Oh, there she is. Okay.

12 So we're going to give Valerie M. an opportunity  
13 to give testimony. Valerie. You can unmute yourself --

14 SPEAKER: Yeah.

15 MR. BATTLES: -- and tell us which neighborhood  
16 you're speaking about.

17 SPEAKER: Hello. Thank you for letting me speak.  
18 And I'm speaking regarding CD5, which I believe this  
19 meeting is regarding.

20 And I just wanted to say that this district has  
21 260,000 residents within it. And yet we only got close to  
22 30 people giving public comment. So I really would urge  
23 the commission to do more on their outreach and not just  
24 to Homeowner Associations, which seem to dominate the  
25 public commenting period.

1           So I just want you to make sure that you're  
2 keeping this process as inclusive and accessible as  
3 possible. And I look forward to attending all of the  
4 other meetings.

5           Thank you.

6           MR. BATTLES: All right. Do we have any other  
7 members of the public in the queue? No.

8           COMMISSIONER ALI: Okay. Thank you. Thank you,  
9 Robert. Excellent job tonight.

10          And so I think with that, I'm going to bring the  
11 public -- the public testimony to an end.

12          Tonight was really another example of sort of  
13 democracy in action. And we had over a hundred people in  
14 attendance today. And if I got the count right, over 29  
15 speakers.

16          And I want to also comment on our last speaker.  
17 We take our outreach efforts very, very seriously, and  
18 we're learning more about outreach as we go. And we will  
19 continue to reach out as inclusively as possible to all  
20 aspects of the communities we're -- we're -- we're hoping  
21 to hear from. So I appreciate that comment.

22          I also want to comment on a number of speakers  
23 mentioned the shortness of hearing notice. It's -- it's  
24 sort of one of the disadvantages of being one of the first  
25 districts that was chosen for -- for our public hearings.

1 I wanted to remind individuals, though, that you can  
2 submit written testimony. I understand -- we received a  
3 lot of comments from neighborhood councils, for example,  
4 that they had not had a chance to adopt formal resolutions  
5 or formal testimony. I'm sure that will be forthcoming,  
6 and we look forward to receiving that.

7 We heard a significant amount of compelling  
8 testimony regarding how people -- how you describe your  
9 communities, and how you would like to be represented. We  
10 heard, for example, much testimony from Encino, Sherman  
11 Oaks, and Palms. For example, we heard Communities of  
12 Interest described in many ways. For example, from the  
13 perspectives of education, historic preservation, fire and  
14 safety, topography and climate, consistency with existing  
15 plans. This is exactly the kind of testimony that we were  
16 hoping to hear. And so -- and so I want to thank you for  
17 your -- for your participation tonight.

18 I also want to make one additional comment, and  
19 -- because it was mentioned by one of our speakers -- at  
20 least one of our speakers. And that is that there are  
21 maps circulating within the community.

22 I just want to note that Los Angeles City  
23 Redistricting Commission has not released any maps. That  
24 will not come until later in the process. So I wanted to  
25 -- I know some of the maps that are circulating can be

1 confusing; so I just wanted to make clear that those are  
2 not maps that have come from -- from this commission.

3 So again, thank you for your participation  
4 tonight. The testimony you provided will really help us  
5 as we continue our deliberations.

6 So what happens next? So all the testimony  
7 tonight will be put in the database for purposes of -- of  
8 line drawing that will come later in the summer. This  
9 testimony will certainly inform the creation of draft maps  
10 that the commission will be developing. While we can't --  
11 we can't promise that we will be able to satisfy everyone  
12 through this difficult and complex process, we will do our  
13 best to use the data that is being provided through  
14 testimony and the data that -- that's yet to come from,  
15 for example, the Census Bureau. We will use that data and  
16 make decisions to the best of our ability.

17 In August, we will be receiving Census data  
18 finally from -- from the Census Bureau. As I think a lot  
19 of people on this call understand, this data is coming to  
20 us very, very late, and we will have a relatively  
21 compressed time period to take that data along with the  
22 testimony we're receiving between July and September, and  
23 -- and draw -- draw maps that will eventually be submitted  
24 to the -- in late October to the City Council. And the  
25 City Council -- and by the way, I should say once we draft

1 our maps, there will be -- we will go out and hold four  
2 public hearings for community response to those maps.

3 And then finally, we will present our  
4 recommendation to the City Council in -- in late August.  
5 And they will have the authority to make the -- make the  
6 final -- final decisions. And with the mayor making a  
7 final approval by the -- by the end of December.

8 So with that, I want to once again thank you all  
9 for your participation, and I want to encourage you to  
10 continue to stay involved in this process. Go to our  
11 website frequently. And -- for updates and other  
12 engagement opportunities.

13 I want to -- I want to point out that we have  
14 some additional hearings coming up. On July 12th, we have  
15 a hearing in CD11 -- for CD11 residents. July 15th for  
16 CD3 residents, and July 21st for CD -- for Council  
17 District 2 residents.

18 I want to thank you, the commissioners, for your  
19 attendance tonight.

20 MR. CARDENAS: I wanted to point out that  
21 Commissioner Barrett has her hand raised.

22 COMMISSIONER ALI: I understand, and I'll get to  
23 her.

24 I want to thank the commission staff for the work  
25 they did in putting -- putting this hearing together, as

1 well as to the City Attorney's office, our translators,  
2 our stenographers, and others that made this hearing  
3 possible.

4 And Commissioner Barrett, you have a question?

5 COMMISSIONER BARRETT: I just joined after the  
6 roll call; so at around 6:10. And I wanted to note that  
7 I'd been on the hearing since then.

8 COMMISSIONER ALI: Thank you, Commissioner.

9 With that, I want to thank you all for your  
10 participation. And I hope people stay safe. And we look  
11 forward to hearing from you in the future.

12 So with that, I want to ask if there are any ex  
13 parte communications from commissioners. And these will  
14 be communications that were received during this meeting.

15 It does not appear that there are any.

16 So can I have a motion from one of our  
17 commissioners to adjourn -- to adjourn the meeting?

18 COMMISSIONER DELGADILLO: I move to adjourn.

19 COMMISSIONER ALI: Thank you, Commissioner  
20 Delgadillo.

21 COMMISSIONER LE: I second.

22 COMMISSIONER ALI: Thank you, Commissioner Nam.

23 Signify -- all in favor signify by saying "Aye."

24 COMMISSIONERS: (Affirmative response.)

25 COMMISSIONER ALI: Thank you very much, and we



1 now bring this meeting to a close. And, again, thank you  
2 all for your participation tonight. Thank you.

3 (At 7:52 p.m. the meeting was adjourned.)  
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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Heatherlynn Gonzalez, a Certified Shorthand Reporter for the State of California, License Number 13646, do hereby attest that:

The preceding is a true and accurate transcription of the meeting of the organization named herein;

The meeting was taken down stenographically and transcribed into English under my supervision and authority;

I have no interest, financial or otherwise, in any of the parties, issues, or individuals who are involved in this organization.

Attested to on this 21st day of July 2021.

DocuSigned by:

*Heatherlynn Gonzalez*

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CERTIFIED SHORTHAND REPORTER

FOR THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA