

ARIZONA INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

Friday, September 23, 2011
9:10 a.m.

Location

**Wild Horse Pass Hotel & Casino
(Ocotillo Conference Room)
5040 Wild Horse Pass Boulevard
Chandler, Arizona 85226**

Attending

Colleen C. Mathis, Chair
Jose M. Herrera, Vice Chair
Scott Day Freeman, Vice Chair
Linda C. McNulty, Commissioner
Richard P. Stertz, Commissioner

Ray Bladine, Executive Director
Buck Forst, Information Technology Specialist
Kristina Gomez, Deputy Executive Director

Mary O'Grady, Legal Counsel

Reported By:
Marty Herder, CCR
Certified Court Reporter #50162

Phoenix, Arizona
September 23, 2011
9:10 a.m.

P R O C E E D I N G S

(Whereupon, the public session commences.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Good morning.

This meeting of the Arizona Independent
Redistricting Commission will now come to order.

Today is Friday, September 23rd. The time is
9:10 a.m.

Let's begin with the Pledge of Allegiance.

(Whereupon, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: I'll start with roll call.

Vice Chair Freeman.

VICE-CHAIR FREEMAN: Here.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Vice Chair Herrera.

VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: Here.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Commissioner McNulty.

COMMISSIONER McNULTY: Here.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Commissioner Stertz.

COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Here.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: We have a quorum.

Other folks at the table today, starting down

1 here, we have our court reporter Marty Herder, who will be
2 transcribing every word that's spoken.

3 Mary O'Grady, our legal counsel.

4 And then our mapping consultant, Ken Strasma and
5 Willie Desmond.

6 And around the room, Kristina Gomez is our deputy
7 executive director, and Buck Forst who is our chief
8 technology officer.

9 And I think Ray Bladine, our executive director,
10 will be coming along shortly.

11 So, with that, I think that takes us to item two
12 on the agenda, map presentations.

13 And we have -- maybe -- I know we have one. I
14 don't know if we'll have two today or not.

15 But, State Representative Richard Miranda, from
16 Arizona Minority Coalition, is up first.

17 So we want to make sure his presentation is
18 loaded.

19 RICHARD MIRANDA: Thank you very much. I'm glad
20 I'm here first.

21 Richard Miranda. Want me to spell my name?

22 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Sure.

23 RICHARD MIRANDA: R-I-C-H-A-R-D, M-I-R-A-N-D-A.

24 I'm a state representative. Do you need my
25 address?

1 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: No.

2 RICHARD MIRANDA: Okay. I am here representing
3 the Arizona Minority Coalition. And just for the record
4 we've been working on these redistricting maps, in fact,
5 since November of last year, speaking with the Department of
6 Justice, Bob Rubin is the director there of the Department
7 of Justice Voting Rights Act.

8 So we've kind of prepared ourselves as far as
9 knowing the redistricting process.

10 In fact, I have a handout that we've been giving
11 out at community meetings. And I don't have -- I'm sorry, I
12 don't have one.

13 But this is how the redistricting process works.

14 And so we've been having community meetings and
15 talking to folks and making sure they understood -- is that
16 better?

17 And so we've been trying to make people understand
18 what the redistricting process is, because it was a
19 education process for people in our communities. They're
20 not familiar with redistricting, and quite rightly so,
21 because it only comes around every ten years.

22 I also wanted to let everyone know that the
23 Arizona Minority Coalition is made up of people elected,
24 non-elected, community, business people, community leaders.
25 And they include from the town of Guadalupe, the mayor, city

1 council, city manager has been involved, all the way across,
2 going west, all the way to the city of Avondale, which --
3 Stephanie Karlin, which is on the city of Av -- city council
4 of Avondale.

5 Marie Lopez Rogers is the mayor of Avondale.
6 She's been quite involved in this whole process.

7 It includes the town of Tolleson. The mayor, some
8 of the folks on the city council.

9 A few folks -- Lupita Hightower, which is
10 superintendent of Tolleson Elementary School District, and
11 several other folks there in Tolleson.

12 It also involves some folks in Glendale.

13 Mari Alvarado, she's also very much involved with
14 LULAC.

15 LULAC has been at some of our community meetings
16 and been involved. Daniel Nieto, he's president of the
17 chapter there.

18 And, so that area of old Glendale has been very
19 much involved.

20 In Maryvale area, we have Steve Gallardo.

21 We have Harry Garewal, which is on the school
22 board for Isaac School District.

23 We have some other folks.

24 Also just -- I'm trying to recall some of the
25 folks there.

1 We have myself.

2 I'm actually southwest, kind of close to, to
3 between Tolleson, Avondale, and the Maryvale area, kind of
4 live right in between there.

5 MARY O'GRADY: Madam Chair, if you could disregard
6 any information regarding candidate locations or
7 incumbencies. And so that needs to be disregarded and --

8 RICHARD MIRANDA: I'm sorry.

9 Oh, I apologize.

10 That was just an accident. I didn't mean to do
11 that.

12 You have myself, Representative Anna Tovar, and
13 Senator Steve Gallardo is involved in this process.

14 Isaac Serna from Laveen School Board has been
15 involved.

16 We have some other folks that are outside some of
17 our communities.

18 Lorenzo Sierra that has been involved in the
19 process.

20 And many, many others.

21 Oh, I also want to include that -- I'm sorry,
22 Senator Leah Landrum Taylor is also co-chair of this Arizona
23 Minority Coalition. I believe they gave a presentation in
24 South Mountain Community College.

25 I was out of town at the time, so I could not

1 attend. But several folks, if you can recall, at that
2 meeting came and were in support of the Arizona Minority
3 Coalition and the maps that we presented.

4 And I want to go over some of the things that we
5 included.

6 And we included maybe -- I'm sorry, we included
7 education. We included communities of interest in drawing
8 these maps.

9 We included socioeconomic factors, household
10 income, those types of things.

11 We included also some business points that are in
12 these maps that we drew.

13 We have the Cricket Pavilion Mall there. That's a
14 large part of the community out in west Phoenix.

15 And we included also the 51st and Baseline
16 shopping mall that's become an important part of south
17 Phoenix and Laveen area.

18 We included, you know, some of the infrastructure
19 there, major highways, major roads there, in these maps.

20 And we included historical Glendale, which is
21 largely a Latino community.

22 We have community centers which we included,
23 Glendale Community Center.

24 Several of the parks and community centers in west
25 Phoenix and south Phoenix.

1 We included, you know, some pretty important
2 established businesses. Fairlane in Glendale, which has
3 there been for many, many years. That's part of a, part of
4 a -- it's sort of like a restaurant where people go and see
5 other folks in the area and talk about things. It's been
6 there I want to say at least 50 years.

7 So that is part of that old Latino neighborhood
8 there in Glendale.

9 We included some infrastructures here.
10 Grand Avenue, which is sort of a dividing line that we use
11 in our maps.

12 We also use some geographical boundaries. We use
13 part of the Salt River to divide some of these maps that we,
14 that we drew.

15 And so, anyway, those are some of the things that
16 we, we took into consideration, part of -- we also took into
17 consideration some of the school districts.

18 We took in, for the map in south Phoenix, the
19 district of -- there's something -- we considered keeping
20 whole Roosevelt School District and the Laveen School
21 District.

22 And so when people naturally think of south
23 Phoenix, they think about those, that entire geographical
24 area.

25 So we did want to make sure that we kept Laveen

1 and Roosevelt whole.

2 And there's a large African American community
3 there in south Phoenix.

4 We also, in that boundary which we did, we stopped
5 at Van Buren.

6 We wanted to include Carter High School, because
7 it was the African American Black high school in Phoenix for
8 years before African Americans were allowed to go into the
9 Phoenix Union High School District. That was an important
10 thing for them, and so that's why we wanted to make sure we
11 included that area just south of Van Buren.

12 And Carter High School, for you folks that don't
13 know, is off of Eighth Avenue.

14 So we wanted to make sure that was included. That
15 was important to them, so we wanted to make sure that we got
16 that -- that location in our maps.

17 On the west side, we wanted to make sure we kept
18 Tolleson Elementary whole, Littleton School District whole,
19 and that would be in what I would call the lower half
20 district map on the west side.

21 You have one that's upper.

22 We wanted to make sure that we included parts of
23 old Avondale. And old Avondale is what is Buckeye Road,
24 north and south for about, I would say, all the way up to
25 Van Buren and all the way just a little bit south past

1 Lower Buckeye Road. That community has been there for many,
2 many years.

3 If you talk to Latinos that are familiar with the
4 west valley, they'll mention Cashion. They'll mention
5 Avondale, old Avondale.

6 They'll mention Los Lagos, which is that area just
7 north of Lower Buckeye -- actually just south of
8 Lower Buckeye. Along from El Mirage Road to Litchfield
9 Road.

10 And so that community there has been there for --
11 since, I would say, 60, 70 years, at least.

12 We wanted to make sure that we included those
13 communities, because it's so similar to the communities that
14 are just west of it. And, and if those areas were put in
15 areas that are identified as such as Goodyear,
16 Litchfield Park, it would disenfranchise those communities
17 there.

18 The whole population, economic and socio values
19 and comparisons are so vastly different, it would just be
20 disenfranchising those communities there.

21 So that's why we wanted to make sure that we kept
22 them with other parts of similar, like those communities.

23 We also wanted to make sure we kept Fowler school
24 district, which is in southwest Phoenix, that's on the lower
25 district map there.

1 And that that community has been around for a very
2 long time.

3 Santa Maria is another old neighborhood that's
4 been there for many, many years, 50, 60 years. That's off
5 of 67th Avenue and Lower Buckeye Road.

6 That community there, there's been a lot of growth
7 around it, but it is a large Latino population still, but
8 Santa Maria has been there for many, many years before any
9 construction of new homes was done in the last 10 to
10 15 years.

11 So we wanted to make sure we included that area in
12 with population that was quite similar with them.

13 We then want to make sure that Isaac School
14 District remained whole.

15 Now, I believe there's been some conversation with
16 Isaac School District, they're requesting a letter from the
17 Arizona Minority Coalition so that they can officially
18 approve the map that -- this most recent revised map that we
19 have.

20 So we're going to get to doing that.

21 We're also going to try to seek official approval
22 from some of the other school districts.

23 Isaac, Fowler School District, Laveen and
24 Roosevelt, Tolleson Elementary, Pendergast, Alhambra, some
25 of those other school districts that are within these

1 boundaries on these three maps.

2 Going to the other district that is just north of
3 Thomas, we wanted to make sure that we kept as much of
4 Cartwright School District whole.

5 The entire Pendergast School District is in, is in
6 the upper map, I believe.

7 I believe there may be a small portion that's not,
8 but I don't believe it's a, it's a major issue.

9 Pendergast, all of you know, has been out there --
10 I believe that school is at least 40, 40 to 50 years old.

11 That started off as a school -- the building is
12 probably old -- as -- there were a lot of migrant farm
13 workers that went out there, and myself, because I was a --
14 I used to do that when I was younger.

15 All those -- all that area was agricultural, but
16 we did have a population base there. And so we want to make
17 sure that Pendergast remained in a community that was
18 similar to what it used to be.

19 And then there is a large Latino population in
20 that area. The census, you know, obviously shows that.

21 We wanted to make sure that Alhambra School
22 District remained as whole as we could. And I believe that
23 we've done that. There may be a small section east of
24 Grand Avenue that's not in there.

25 But Mari Alvarado is on the Alhambra Elementary

1 School Board as well, has been on LULAC, as well as being a
2 member of the Arizona Minority Coalition. And she's very
3 much in support of these maps.

4 And I believe we kept a portion of Glendale
5 Elementary is in the historical Glendale area.

6 I think -- I think that's all that we -- I have
7 for today.

8 I also wanted to state, I know that the Hispanics
9 For A Better Government proposed a congressional map for the
10 Phoenix area, and we are very much supportive of that.

11 It's not by coincidence that if you took that
12 congressional map and put it over these three districts,
13 it's almost similar.

14 And that's because, you know, of the nature of the
15 communities there. They're largely Latino. They're largely
16 the same communities of interest that we've been talking
17 about to the Commission about the legislative maps. It is
18 the -- an area that such as the west side in south Phoenix
19 that see themselves as communities.

20 And so it's not, it's not surprising to me that if
21 you did put the congressional map over, over these three
22 districts, the latest ones, that it's very much similar.

23 So with that, I think we -- I think I've covered
24 everything that we wanted to cover.

25 We used, we used compactness. As you can see,

1 these maps have no little fingers sticking out trying to
2 include, or just blocks, or whatever.

3 We -- if you look at it, the district in south
4 Phoenix uses 48th Street.

5 But it does include the town of Guadalupe, because
6 the town of Guadalupe feels more in common with south
7 Phoenix than it does with the communities that are east of
8 it.

9 The long squiggly line along the bottom is
10 South Mountain, South Mountain Park.

11 And so, you know, that's why, so, so, up and down,
12 up and down on the side.

13 And then it just follows straight up 48th Street,
14 goes across Van Buren, and then goes down, because quite
15 frankly that area -- you know, we needed to make sure that
16 we kept the districts of similar population, which is part
17 of the criteria that you have to use.

18 Then on the west side we used 19th Avenue. We
19 just cut straight down along Thomas more or less, and then
20 just went west all the way to Avondale. And, and we kept,
21 kept part of the Agua Fria River there on the west side on
22 that northwest corner.

23 So we did use geographical boundaries on that, on
24 that location.

25 And then for the other largely Latino community,

1 we still kept west of 19th Avenue and, and just went
2 straight until we got to Grand and just went up Grand.

3 And so we used, you know, those types of
4 infrastructure dividing lines, such as Grand Avenue, and
5 then included historical Glendale, and that went straight
6 across and straight down.

7 And those, those populations are very similar.
8 There's not much difference in population.

9 I think it meets the criteria that the
10 Redistricting Commission is going to have to consider. So
11 with that, that's the end of my presentation.

12 I'm so sorry, I didn't mean to do that, but, but
13 I'm open to questions. I'm not sure if you have questions.

14 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you very much. I'll
15 check.

16 Commissioners, do you have any questions on the
17 presentation or comments?

18 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Madam Chair.

19 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Mr. Stertz.

20 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Mr. Miranda, thank you very
21 much for all of your hard work and for what the Arizona
22 Minority Coalition has been doing.

23 Does the Arizona Minority Coalition have a
24 website?

25 RICHARD MIRANDA: No, we do not.

1 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Is there a list of -- you
2 gave us a pretty long laundry list of folks that have been
3 involved in this over the course from November through
4 currently and going forward. Is that possibly something
5 that you could prepare --

6 RICHARD MIRANDA: Absolutely.

7 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: -- and submit that
8 through --

9 RICHARD MIRANDA: I can get that to you the early
10 part of next week.

11 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: That would be very helpful.
12 There was an article that was published a couple
13 of days ago where you were mentioned regarding -- and I
14 wanted to see whether or not you read the article. It was
15 an op-ed piece.

16 RICHARD MIRANDA: Was it the Daily Star?

17 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: It was in the Daily Star,
18 and I think it was in the Republic as well.

19 It had to do with percentages of population in
20 these districts.

21 I wanted to see whether or not you'd read it and
22 had any comments on whether or not the logic behind the
23 article is correct or --

24 RICHARD MIRANDA: I didn't read the article, but I
25 know more or less what the article is about.

1 I think it quoted something around 66 percent at
2 least to try, to try to get these majority-minority
3 districts, especially in the Phoenix urban area.

4 Now, if I can just go back just a little bit,
5 obviously we are one of nine states that have to get
6 precleared.

7 And in our talks with the Department of Justice,
8 they obviously are going to be looking at the ability for a
9 minority population to select a candidate of their choice.

10 I think the -- it's not only population, but
11 voting performance, I think, is at the -- the Redistricting
12 Commission has to take into consideration.

13 I think if you're looking at 58, 59 percent, I
14 don't think is going to get the job done.

15 If you look at, if you look at the districts that
16 we have now, there's truly only two majority-minority
17 districts, and that's District 16 in south Phoenix and
18 District 13.

19 The minority population has, has not been able to
20 select candidates of their choice. It's, it's
21 disenfranchised a large Latino population in west Phoenix.
22 And, of which Isaac School District is part of.

23 And so with that in mind, I would think, I would
24 think at least 66 percent is what you are going to be
25 looking at, if not higher.

1 Now, my district went from 61 percent, 62 percent,
2 and now it's almost 71 percent.

3 Latinos tend to naturally stay within communities
4 that are similar to us.

5 And so in trying to draw district -- legislative
6 district maps, it would be hard to not keep -- have a high
7 percentage of Latino population given the fact that we're so
8 compact, that -- and that we are communities of interest,
9 that it would -- it would be very hard not to do that.

10 And, keep in mind that the Department of Justice
11 still has to preclear these maps.

12 It's just -- I think that we can also look at the
13 maps that were objected to by the Department of Justice that
14 was in Texas just this week.

15 It -- their objections were raised the question
16 about the ability for a minority population to select a
17 candidate of their choice.

18 And so with that, I think the minority coalition
19 is trying to make the members of the Commission understand
20 the communities of interest out there, and understand we are
21 going to be at a high percentage, just simply because, you
22 know, we don't tend -- we're not a population that is in
23 high numbers in rural Arizona, some other part.

24 But we have high concentrations in the Phoenix
25 urban area. And we have high concentrations in the Tucson

1 area.

2 And we do have some high concentrations in Yuma
3 and Somerton, but I'm not here to speak on them. I'm here
4 to speak on the Phoenix urban area.

5 You're going to find it's almost -- I don't know
6 how the Commission is going to not have high concentrations
7 of Latinos in some of the, some of the, some -- and to the
8 point where it is going to be possibly 70 percent.

9 Because we're just that high in concentration in
10 small areas. And we feel we are communities of interest.
11 And, and so, I -- you know, the 66 percent, you know, I
12 think because of the way we have drawn these communities,
13 you're going to looking at 70 percent.

14 In south Phoenix alone, these maps have 15 percent
15 African American, plus 55.4, something like that, of Latino
16 population, which is over 70 percent.

17 And you're going to find that in these two other
18 districts, simply because of the compactness of the Latino
19 population.

20 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Madam Chair.

21 As a follow-up to that, am I reading the chart
22 correctly that in District 16 you're currently, as it's
23 currently designed, you've got 59.75 percent HVAP
24 populations, in 13 71.62, and 14 70.38?

25 RICHARD MIRANDA: Yes, you are right.

1 I apologize. I think I was speaking -- I was
2 referring to voting age population.

3 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Okay.

4 RICHARD MIRANDA: But, yes, you're right on those
5 figures.

6 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: And what would the voting
7 age population of those -- you've got of a gross population
8 of 71.62 percent in 13, in your district. What would the
9 HVAP population be?

10 RICHARD MIRANDA: Well, in the southern district,
11 the voting age population would be somewhere around
12 69 percent, I believe.

13 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Okay.

14 RICHARD MIRANDA: And it would be similar in that
15 northern district on the west side.

16 You've got the north-south district.

17 It would be pretty similar.

18 Again, it's compactness.

19 It's -- we're a minority population there.

20 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: In regards to -- you are a
21 sitting legislator.

22 RICHARD MIRANDA: Yes.

23 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Do you think that it's --
24 and you are also a participant in the Arizona Minority
25 Coalition.

1 RICHARD MIRANDA: Yes.

2 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Do you think that it would
3 be positive for other sitting legislators -- because this,
4 this -- the district that you're talking about is the
5 district you currently hold.

6 RICHARD MIRANDA: Uh-hmm.

7 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Correct?

8 Do you think that it would be positive for the
9 other legislators to be bringing testimony in regards to
10 mapping of their own areas and districts to the Commission?

11 RICHARD MIRANDA: I believe everybody has a right
12 to come and speak on behalf of their communities.

13 And I don't know who you're referring to, but --

14 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: I'm not referring to anyone.

15 I'm just wondering whether or not you would think
16 that would be a -- something that would be positive for
17 other sitting legislators to bring forward their comments
18 and maps.

19 RICHARD MIRANDA: I think as someone that's from
20 those communities, I think they're entitled to come and
21 speak about their communities.

22 I was born and raised here in Phoenix, so I kind
23 of know pretty much --

24 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: I'm sure that you know your
25 neighborhood very, very well and that your testimony is

1 invaluable and the work that you guys put together is
2 invaluable.

3 Is this the same minority coalition that sued the
4 previous Commission?

5 RICHARD MIRANDA: You're talking about a coalition
6 ten years ago. No.

7 It's -- it may have some folks in it, simply
8 because they might be around at the time. But it's a
9 different dynamics of people.

10 No, it's -- there may be a few folks in it, but,
11 in my opinion, this is more inclusive.

12 COMMISSIONER McNULTY: Madam Chair.

13 I'd just like a point of clarification from legal
14 counsel.

15 I'm not sure if these -- some of these are mapping
16 questions. And I'd like legal counsel to be cognizant of
17 the issue, please.

18 Thank you.

19 I do have a question for Mr. Miranda.

20 RICHARD MIRANDA: Yes.

21 COMMISSIONER McNULTY: As I look at the data that
22 you've given us, the HVAP is the first, second, third,
23 fourth, fifth, sixth column over.

24 District 16 is shown as 54.79 percent HVAP.

25 District 13, 67.1.

1 District 14, 64.4.

2 So I think it is -- I think you do have -- I think
3 you have given us the information here.

4 RICHARD MIRANDA: Okay.

5 COMMISSIONER McNULTY: Do you have any sense of
6 how that relates to the current benchmarks for comparable
7 districts in Arizona?

8 RICHARD MIRANDA: I would --

9 COMMISSIONER McNULTY: Is that something you have
10 looked at in the analysis?

11 RICHARD MIRANDA: I'm not sure about the current
12 percentage, in my community right now, what the Hispanic
13 voting age population is.

14 I would think it's very, very similar. Like I
15 said, my community has increased almost up to 71 percent,
16 total Hispanic population.

17 So I think you'll find the numbers quite the same.

18 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Any other questions or
19 comments?

20 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Madam Chair.

21 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Mr. Stertz.

22 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: This is a question for legal
23 in regards to meeting of the existing baseline numbers.

24 In looking at current baseline for District 13, as
25 I read the map, it's 68.27 percent.

1 Would it be -- would there be a -- in your
2 opinion, for to prevent retrogression, would we actually be
3 looking at increasing the HVAP percentage for District 13?

4 As it's been presented by the Coalition.

5 MARY O'GRADY: Commissioner Stertz, and just to
6 clarify, your 13 corresponds with the present 13, more or
7 less. And so your 13 is at 67 -- excuse me.

8 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: 67.1.

9 MARY O'GRADY: 67.1 HVAP. And current 13, if it's
10 the same basic geography, is 68.27 HVAP.

11 In terms of whether it needs to go up or down to
12 avoid retrogression, again, the general standard that we're
13 meeting is that we have to preserve the opportunity to elect
14 the preferred candidate of choice.

15 And I don't know sitting here what that number is
16 going to be to preserve, because, again, as we talked
17 yesterday, it requires an analysis of, you know, which
18 voters are in that district, and what's the degree of
19 racially polarized voting, what's the turnout.

20 And so I can't tell you sitting here whether that
21 number might be able to go down and still preserve the
22 opportunity to elect or whether it needs to be increased to
23 preserve the opportunity to elect.

24 And in addition to Hispanic, you look it at
25 coalition voting among the minority voters in the area to do

1 the analysis.

2 And I don't know if the mapping consultants want
3 to supplement those comments at all.

4 KENNETH STRASMA: If I may, and to that end, if I
5 may direct the question to Representative Miranda, do you
6 know if the file is available electronically of this map?

7 RICHARD MIRANDA: Yes. I did send it in, and
8 don't have my flash drive with me.

9 KENNETH STRASMA: I beg your pardon?

10 RICHARD MIRANDA: I did send it in. I did e-mail
11 this in.

12 And, but I didn't, I didn't bring my flash drive
13 if that's what you're asking.

14 KENNETH STRASMA: Okay. If we could work with you
15 to get a copy electronically to --

16 RICHARD MIRANDA: I thought I had, but I'll resend
17 it.

18 KENNETH STRASMA: Mr. Desmond, would you clarify?

19 WILLIE DESMOND: Like, we were wondering if it
20 would be possible to get the shapefile or a block
21 equivalency file, so that we can load the plan on
22 Maptitude --

23 RICHARD MIRANDA: I'm not sure, but I'll work on
24 it.

25 WILLIE DESMOND: Not just like the picture, but

1 the actual --

2 RICHARD MIRANDA: Okay.

3 WILLIE DESMOND: So we can put it on our
4 maps and --

5 RICHARD MIRANDA: Sure. I'll try to get that to
6 you by Monday or so.

7 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Any other questions or
8 comments?

9 VICE-CHAIR FREEMAN: Madam Chair.

10 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Mr. Freeman.

11 VICE-CHAIR FREEMAN: Representative Miranda, thank
12 you for this information and helping us construct these
13 districts.

14 Your group constructed three minority-majority or
15 so-called benchmark legislative districts.

16 Did you look at -- look into creating any other
17 districts in the state, either Phoenix, Yuma, or Tucson
18 area?

19 RICHARD MIRANDA: We did look at the old east
20 Phoenix area.

21 And old east Phoenix, for those of you that don't
22 know, and I grew up in that area, it's become -- it wasn't
23 heavy Latino, but over the last 25, 30 years, it's become --
24 and we're talking about Creighton School District.

25 We're talking about Phoenix Elementary School

1 District 1.

2 It's the Kenilworth and some of the others.

3 But we decided to concentrate on these
4 three districts.

5 VICE-CHAIR FREEMAN: Are you aware of people,
6 community leaders, people out there who we could reach out
7 to in other parts of the state to help us construct these
8 minority-majority maps?

9 RICHARD MIRANDA: I will certainly try to
10 volunteer some names so they can come and speak.

11 VICE-CHAIR FREEMAN: Thanks.

12 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Any other questions or
13 comments?

14 (No oral response.)

15 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Okay. Thank you very much.

16 RICHARD MIRANDA: Thank you very much. Thank you
17 for having me first.

18 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: We actually have a member of
19 the public who would like to comment on this particular
20 presentation.

21 And just to let everyone know, if there are -- if
22 you would like to comment on this presentation only, you are
23 welcome to do so at this time. But we're only taking
24 comment on this presentation.

25 David Cantelme, Fair Trust, from Cave Creek.

1 DAVID CANTELME: Madam Chair, members of the
2 Commission, I'm Dave Cantelme from the town of Cave Creek
3 representing Fair Trust.

4 I'm sorry, let me adjust that.

5 I rise to speak in support of the process that
6 Legislator Miranda has gone through in developing these
7 maps.

8 I want to reserve comment on the substance until
9 we can study the numbers. Like Ms. O'Grady, we believe that
10 it's essential to do the comparisons to benchmarks to make
11 sure that the Latino members of these districts actually can
12 elect the candidate of their choice.

13 And as you all know from earlier presentations,
14 the Department of Justice will focus on not just results but
15 also on process.

16 And on process I do want to make some comments on
17 what Representative Miranda's group has done, because I
18 commend it.

19 It sounds to me as though they've done an awful
20 lot of outreach. And outreach is critical.

21 Second, it appears that they have followed the
22 neutral criteria in drawing their maps.

23 And by that I mean, of course, compactness,
24 contiguity, community of interests.

25 It's clear from the discussion that they focused

1 substantially on communities of interest in these old and
2 well-established parts of the Valley.

3 And in that respect, they appear to have followed
4 the Department of Justice guidelines. I know Mr. Miranda
5 said that they had been in contact with the Department of
6 Justice, and it appears evident to the process that they
7 followed.

8 I want to point out from the guidelines that were
9 published by the Department of Justice in the Federal
10 Register, Volume 76, No. 27, on February 9, 2011, the
11 factors that seem to coincide with what Mr. Miranda and his
12 group has done, one is to look at, quote, differing rates of
13 electoral participation within discrete portions of the
14 population and how they impact the ability of voters to
15 elect candidates of choice.

16 Second, whether minority populations have been
17 reduced.

18 And third, and this is the one in which I want to
19 give emphasis because I think sometimes it's not given
20 enough emphasis in consideration of voting rights
21 compliance. And that is whether the proposed plan, quote,
22 departs from objective redistricting criteria set by the
23 submitting jurisdiction, ignores other relevant factors such
24 as compactness and contiguity or displays a configuration
25 and inexplicably disregards available natural or artificial

1 boundaries, and whether the plan is inconsistent with the
2 jurisdiction's stated redistricting standards, end quote.

3 And that means, to me, that it is critical that
4 the state constitution's neutral criteria be followed, as
5 well as an analysis of benchmarks and ability to elect and
6 all the rest of that.

7 Because process matters to DOJ as well as actual
8 results.

9 In that respect, I think Mr. Miranda's group has
10 done quite well, and I do rise in support of him.

11 Again, reserving comment on actual results until
12 we've had a chance to study the numbers.

13 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

14 Okay. I think that's our only comment that we
15 have on that presentation.

16 And I don't know if there's any other
17 presentations to give.

18 Is that right?

19 (No oral response.)

20 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Okay.

21 So, that takes us to item three on the agenda.
22 And I'm just looking at this to see what we have.

23 Okay. So review, discussion and direction
24 of mapping consultant regarding ideas for possible
25 adjustments to congressional grid map based on

1 constitutional criteria.

2 So it seems like we were only together a short
3 time ago.

4 And I'm not sure how much our mapping consultant
5 had time to do any additional mapping for us.

6 WILLIE DESMOND: I do not have any additional
7 congressional since yesterday.

8 I spent several hours working on some of the
9 legislative things.

10 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Uh-hmm.

11 WILLIE DESMOND: Unfortunately I don't have a
12 finished product, because there was a lot of changes to do
13 to the legislative.

14 I guess, what we could do for congressional,
15 review some of the previous plans. You know, I'd be happy
16 to work through anything anyone might be curious of right
17 now, or, or we could go and take a look at some of the
18 legislative stuff too.

19 And I guess I would just like to say that for next
20 week we've been talking, and just to handle the capacity
21 and, you know, for the pace that we're planning on going
22 next week, I think our tentative plan is to continue with me
23 doing all the mapping, just as I've kind of learned how
24 these things have progressed and makes sense to try to keep
25 that consistent.

1 A lot of my time so far has been spent getting the
2 packets ready, getting the layouts, creating the support
3 tables and charts.

4 So I think what we're planning on doing is having
5 some other people on our staff handle all those things once
6 the maps are created.

7 They'll work late into the night after I'm, after
8 I'm done having everything ready for the next morning.

9 And then they'll send it off to the IRC staff who
10 will be able to then print it and get it all ready to go for
11 the meetings the next morning.

12 So I'll hand it off to them around midnight,
13 they'll work from midnight to the early morning, and then
14 the staff will come in and get everything ready to go for
15 meetings that day.

16 I just, I guess, to let you know that there will
17 be -- there is a plan in place to make sure we're able to
18 get everything done next week that we need to.

19 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: That's great. Thank you.
20 And you'll be here all week next week; is that right?

21 WILLIE DESMOND: Yes.

22 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Here? Okay.

23 So do commissioners have any thoughts on anything
24 we talked about yesterday with congressional grid maps or
25 new ideas that we want to discuss now?

1 Or anything you'd like Mr. Desmond to pull up and
2 go over?

3 COMMISSIONER McNULTY: Madam Chair, I don't at
4 this time.

5 I think it's important that he have the time to
6 pull these maps together for us.

7 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Right.

8 I see many heads nodding in agreement. Okay.

9 So, and given that legislative, I know you've
10 gotten direction from some commissioners, and you're working
11 hard on those, and there's a lot to do on those since
12 we've --

13 WILLIE DESMOND: My process so far has been to
14 just work on them in the order in which they were presented.

15 So, as a result, I've been working on some changes
16 that Commissioner Freeman has asked for. I've made a lot of
17 progress on that, but we're not quite there. On some of the
18 Maricopa districts.

19 So, if you'd like to see where it is in progress,
20 we could do that.

21 If not, I understand the directions going forward.
22 It might be better just to look at it once it's completed so
23 as not to confuse anyone with the halfway done plan.

24 VICE-CHAIR FREEMAN: Particularly me.

25 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Yeah, I'd like to just note

1 that on these congressional grid maps, I mean, there are
2 great elements in all these versions. And to the extent
3 practical, to borrow a phrase from our Constitution, I would
4 like to combine into one, take the best of all the maps, and
5 try to begin looking at, you know, one map that we can all
6 then start to adjust lines from.

7 So I'm going to be looking at that this weekend
8 and sending something to Mr. Bladine that can go to
9 Mr. Desmond and the rest of the commissioners.

10 Okay. On that, is there anything else then on
11 agenda items three and four that anyone wants to raise at
12 that time?

13 (No oral response.)

14 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Okay.

15 Lunch time.

16 It's 9:54, so we're early for lunch.

17 Executive director's report? Is Mr. Bladine
18 around?

19 I guess he's right outside the door.

20 We'll need him to do that.

21 And then also the future meetings and agenda
22 items.

23 We could ask counsel, is there any update on the
24 attorney general inquiry?

25 MARY O'GRADY: Not today.

1 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Okay.

2 So it looks like this really will be a snow day,
3 because we have the executive director's report and then
4 public comment. And then I think we'll adjourn and get to
5 work individually.

6 RAY BLADINE: Sorry. I was out there catching up
7 on e-mail.

8 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: No problem.

9 RAY BLADINE: I thought the first thing we might
10 do is Kristina and I have been working on setting up as much
11 as we can for second round public hearings.

12 And I thought we would it just give you a quick
13 briefing of some of the things going on.

14 And then perhaps we could also fill you in on some
15 statistics that we have in terms of public input and finally
16 just confirm the agenda for next week.

17 Kristina.

18 KRISTINA GOMEZ: Thank you.

19 So far we've had several cities who have contacted
20 the office and have offered their facilities, so it's mostly
21 from cities around the state.

22 We've had the city of Chandler, Bullhead City,
23 Eastern Arizona College, Flagstaff, the Navajo Nation, and
24 recently we've also been in contact with the folks in
25 Prescott as well.

1 So different parts of the state have really come
2 together to help us get started on the second round of
3 public hearings. So hopefully it will be easier the second
4 time around.

5 As far as with videoconferencing, I have been in
6 contact with ASU. And we, myself, Buck, and Ray, had a
7 telephone conference with them.

8 And unfortunately they won't be able to help us
9 during the second round of public hearings with
10 videoconferencing.

11 Right now they informed us that their staff is
12 stretched really thin so they won't be able to help out.

13 I did contact U of A, and they are doing some
14 research right now to see what they can do to help out.

15 We've also been in contact with a streaming
16 company. With this company, we, Buck and I, we spoke with
17 them briefly.

18 And the problem with this company is that they
19 need advance notice a few weeks. So we're not sure if
20 that's going to work out.

21 But the cities and towns that I have spoken to
22 have mentioned that they do have video recording
23 capabilities and streaming as well. So that will help us
24 out.

25 As far as round two, staff has plans on having a

1 packet. And I've spoken to some -- I've spoken to the
2 mapping consultants as well as legal counsel. And what we
3 plan on having is a welcome letter from our chair, a summary
4 of the time line of events that have happened with the
5 Commission, such as the grid map -- I'm sorry, the first
6 round of public hearings, the grid map, where we are in the
7 process currently, and so forth.

8 The next item in this packet would be the actual
9 draft plans, so it would be a draft congressional and
10 legislative plan, followed by our public input form, which
11 may have to be revised to accommodate folks' input regarding
12 the draft plans.

13 And, finally, the last page will be information on
14 our website.

15 So that's in process right now.

16 Lastly, our outreach/media plan, Stu and I are
17 planning on developing a plan for publicizing second round
18 public hearing schedule.

19 The last time people asked if we can give them
20 some notice of these second round of public hearings, so
21 Stuart and I will work on giving some notice to the public
22 so that they can share this information with their
23 communities.

24 So that's where we are right now.

25 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Great. Sounds like you're

1 giving a lot of thought to this.

2 Do we have any questions or comments on what
3 Ms. Gomez just presented?

4 VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: Madam Chair.

5 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Mr. Herrera.

6 VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: The company that you
7 mentioned that you were trying to coordinate with that
8 needed advanced notice, is this a local company?

9 KRISTINA GOMEZ: I think it's a private company.
10 It's a government streaming company.

11 They work with federal agencies, and they work
12 with state and cities as well.

13 VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: But you don't know if it's a
14 local company.

15 KRISTINA GOMEZ: No, it's not.

16 VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: Is there any way you can --
17 is there a local company that does similar work being
18 considered?

19 KRISTINA GOMEZ: We can check.

20 VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: I would appreciate that.
21 Again, I would appreciate that when we spend taxpayers'
22 money, if we can be as local as possible whenever possible.

23 KRISTINA GOMEZ: And Ray just informed me that
24 Buck is researching that right now.

25 VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you.

1 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: At one of our last meetings
2 we talked about the start date for the second round of
3 public hearing.

4 And I know that's a moving target. It's very
5 difficult to commit right now to different dates. But,
6 to the extent practicable or possible, I would like to do
7 that.

8 I know that we talked about October 3rd initially,
9 but then it -- well, we first talked about September 26th.
10 But then we moved for October 3rd, that week, but we weren't
11 sure we really have draft maps that we felt enough analysis
12 had been done to go out and present to the public.

13 So then it also become clear the 7th and 8th, it
14 sounds like, are holidays.

15 And that means the week of the 10th, that's a
16 Monday, would be our start.

17 And what -- one idea could be that we aim for that
18 date, starting the 10th, and just start scheduling those
19 hearings.

20 If by chance we are done and feeling comfortable
21 and confident earlier and have draft maps to present, and
22 all the public input packets are ready and everything, we
23 could begin, you know, earlier, that week of the 3rd, just
24 put in, you know, one or two hearings that week, like the
25 5th and 6th I was thinking.

1 So Wednesday, Thursday.

2 But those would have to be hearings that could be
3 easily kind of, you know, on schedule that pretty late
4 notice.

5 And I know that doesn't allow for a lot of time
6 then for advance press.

7 So it's really, it's a challenging situation.

8 Do other commissioners have thoughts on that start
9 date?

10 KRISTINA GOMEZ: Excuse me, can I make one more
11 point?

12 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Sure.

13 KRISTINA GOMEZ: October 10th is a holiday.

14 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Oh, is that -- that's
15 Columbus Day.

16 KRISTINA GOMEZ: Yeah.

17 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Okay. So it would be
18 starting October 11th, which is a Tuesday.

19 KRISTINA GOMEZ: Right.

20 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: And, oh, and by the way, I
21 don't know if I wanted to raise this, if other commissioners
22 saw this. I think Mr. Drechsler sent around a revised
23 timeline, because if we are going to push it back this far,
24 that obviously affects the timeline for completion.

25 So we should have received an e-mail, I believe,

1 from Mr. Drechsler that went out that shows kind of that
2 revised timeline, if this is what we do.

3 RAY BLADINE: Madam Chair, that is correct. I
4 think last week Andrew updated the schedule, and if it was a
5 delayed start, here's what it would do.

6 And I think that went to all of you, if I remember
7 right.

8 And I just wanted to comment.

9 I think if we set a date, we could do the vast
10 majority of planning for whatever that is.

11 But you're right, if something gets decided
12 earlier, then we can try to find some easy locations to get
13 some hearings set and do the best we can on that.

14 We've also talked when it comes time to
15 actually setting the meetings to try to get a couple other
16 people in the office to help make those calls and
17 arrangements. So we'll try to compress as we can, getting
18 meetings set up.

19 Probably the hardest part would be getting public
20 information out.

21 But, again, we should be able to get it -- if we
22 have a date, we should be able to get it out for the vast
23 majority of the hearings long, you know, long before we get
24 there.

25 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Any thoughts from other

1 commissioners on this?

2 COMMISSIONER McNULTY: I think that would work
3 well. That makes a lot of sense to me.

4 And I like the idea of if we did -- if we do
5 finish earlier than that and we have draft maps ready, it
6 seems as though, you know, we can't have too many hearings
7 in the metropolitan areas.

8 We're working hard to get all over the state in
9 the rural areas, and those are hard to set up. But if we
10 started earlier with something in the Phoenix metro area, or
11 the Tucson metro area, or the Casa Grande area, even if we
12 did, you know, those hearings again, later in the process, I
13 don't think that that would be redundant in any way.

14 I like that idea.

15 RAY BLADINE: I think the other thing that I'm
16 more hopeful that will make life easier for us this time is
17 we really have had a lot of cities come forward early on and
18 offer their facilities and indicate that they have
19 streaming.

20 And then also having this connection, it appears
21 that it's going to work in eastern Arizona, to link us, some
22 of the smaller cities, so if we can start working on those
23 on a fixed schedule, I think that will, that will help a
24 lot.

25 If we can do that, we might be able to do double

1 meetings.

2 But I -- so far we haven't quite figured out how
3 to make that work. But we're not giving up on that.

4 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: So, could we aim for, as
5 commissioners, October 11th as a sort of official start
6 date, but if, you know, we do actually finish earlier we
7 actually could possibly have something the 5th or 6th? Does
8 that sound reasonable?

9 VICE-CHAIR FREEMAN: Yes.

10 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: I see one thumbs up and I
11 heard -- okay.

12 And Mr. Herrera is nodding.

13 Okay.

14 So that's -- so if that would work for you guys
15 then, October 11th, which is a Tuesday, would be the
16 official start.

17 RAY BLADINE: And we'll keep tracking, and if it
18 looks like we can do something earlier, then --

19 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Right.

20 RAY BLADINE: -- we'll do it, but we'll prepare
21 for the 11th.

22 COMMISSIONER McNULTY: Madam Chair, could I ask
23 Ms. O'Grady a question, just remind me the 30-day comment
24 period starts when we release the maps or when we starting
25 hearings?

1 MARY O'GRADY: When you approve the draft maps.

2 COMMISSIONER McNULTY: When we approve the draft
3 maps. Okay.

4 So if we were to approve one map before the other
5 map, the 30 days would really begin when we approve the
6 second map, because it's when we approve both maps, I mean,
7 from a practical perspective?

8 MARY O'GRADY: I don't think the constitution is
9 really explicit on that --

10 COMMISSIONER McNULTY: But that's the way it would
11 work because --

12 MARY O'GRADY: As a practical matter, it seems
13 like we're having one round of hearings.

14 And I can look at the language and see if we can
15 run the clock separately for the two plans.

16 COMMISSIONER McNULTY: I don't think we need to do
17 that. I'm just thinking that that's how it would have to
18 work, because we couldn't, you know, have a 30-day comment
19 period on only one map. Right.

20 We'd have to do both.

21 So the later we start, the later the 30 days ends,
22 or the later we release the draft maps, the second of the
23 two, if we didn't release them both together.

24 MARY O'GRADY: I'm not sure that the clock
25 couldn't run separately, because they are two independent

1 maps.

2 COMMISSIONER McNULTY: Okay. Thanks.

3 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: I think that's an interesting
4 concept too is decoupling those, and I'm wondering if that's
5 something in the Commission what your thoughts are, have --
6 you know, say we get the congressional map done first, and
7 would we want to go ahead and get that moving down the track
8 and submit it separately from the legislative.

9 I would think the election director folks around
10 the state would be pretty excited about that. But, just so
11 they could at least have a sense on the congressional.

12 But I don't know what the legal ramifications are,
13 or what are your thoughts.

14 VICE-CHAIR FREEMAN: Madam Chair, sounds like a
15 good idea, but I do think we need to look at the
16 constitutional language. If it says 30 days runs after the
17 publication of the draft maps, if it's plural, to me that
18 means both maps.

19 But if the language is a little different, then it
20 could be interpreted different ways, then maybe we can do
21 that.

22 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Maybe legal counsel can
23 advise their thoughts.

24 MARY O'GRADY: Sure.

25 And even if the 30 day -- and I didn't have the

1 language in front of me, if it says draft maps, then it does
2 sound like we need to run it once.

3 But even if the 30-day comment is simultaneous,
4 you can certainly approve them after the 30-day comment on a
5 different time line. If you're done with congressional, you
6 could approve it. We could, you know, get that preclearance
7 going and then you can begin to work on legislative.

8 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Okay.

9 Any other comments or questions on that, or for
10 the executive director?

11 Well, he has other items, I think, he'd like to
12 present.

13 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Madam Chair.

14 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Mr. Stertz.

15 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: The clock ticking on the
16 30 days, it's an interesting concept, but from the public's
17 perspective, we may be having -- we may be setting ourselves
18 up for having a public hearing, receiving public comment,
19 and only having one set -- one map actually produced and
20 approved.

21 I'd hate to have -- I'd hate to begin that trip
22 and then omit the first group of public hearings from being
23 able to have any public comment at that location about
24 whatever the map was at the time.

25 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Well, my thinking was that

1 we'd have the two draft maps for sure that would go out to
2 the second round of public hearing locations around the
3 state and people could comment on them.

4 I was wondering after that, depending on how much
5 adjustments and input we receive and what we decide we want
6 to do to those draft maps, if it seemed like the
7 congressional one was somehow able to move forward sooner,
8 and I'm only saying that just because there's nine
9 congressional districts versus 30, that it might be a
10 simpler proposition and maybe that could get sent out the
11 door sooner. But I didn't know.

12 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: But your intent would be
13 then, Madam Chair, to not begin public comment until both
14 draft maps were approved.

15 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Correct.

16 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Okay. Just for a point of
17 clarification. Thank you.

18 MARY O'GRADY: Madam Chair I do have the
19 constitutional language in front of me now.

20 It says the Independent Redistricting Commission
21 shall advertise a draft map of congressional districts and a
22 draft map of legislative districts to the public for
23 comment, which comment shall be taken for at least 30 days.

24 And then it has some language about the
25 legislature being able to submit comments during that

1 period.

2 And that that, you know, the comments would then
3 be considered by the Commission.

4 The Redistricting Commission shall then establish
5 final district boundaries.

6 So it seems to talk about a -- you know, it does
7 talk about separate maps, but particularly when you look at
8 it in light of the legislature's comment period, it talks
9 about a single comment, a single comment period during which
10 the legislature can comment.

11 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Okay.

12 Okay. Any other comments?

13 And then otherwise, Mr. Bladine, continue with
14 your executive director report.

15 RAY BLADINE: All right.

16 I thought I'd -- as you requested to be updated on
17 public input, I'll give you a quick update and then I'll get
18 the material I have here put in a short memo so you can all
19 look at it and have it available.

20 From the electronic media, 182 people like us on
21 Facebook.

22 207 are fans, non-fans, so 207 people have visited
23 as from August 20th to September 18th. So I guess if you
24 subtract 182 from 207, I don't think I want to know that
25 number.

1 Ninety-three follow us -- people follow us on
2 Twitter, and we've tweeted 175 items to date.

3 Online mapping, 115 online mapping users. One
4 online mapping user submitted a plan to date.

5 Eighty-nine people registered for the webinar. I
6 have that 50 webinar participants.

7 For outreach activity, 479 people have signed in
8 to your Commission meetings and/or public hearings to date.

9 181 have completed the request to speak form,
10 85 have completed public input form, and 2,100 people have
11 submitted public written comment as of September 15th.

12 And we've had 16 requests for the production of
13 documents under the public records request.

14 In terms of all meetings, total sign in to date is
15 479.

16 181 requests to speak, 85 public input forms, and
17 26 maps submitted to you from the public, not including
18 e-mails and letters.

19 And that all is up to yesterday.

20 Having said that, I'll get this written up in a
21 report so you can really look at it.

22 I know that Kristina had hoped today to have a
23 book for you this morning, but I think it's going to be
24 available this afternoon after you adjourn, that has all of
25 the press clippings since the inception, since the beginning

1 of the Commission, in one book, and then an update of
2 additional material that has come into the office.

3 So we are still continuing to get a lot of input.

4 We've had an e-mail campaign that I would guess
5 has generated, at least in my mailbox, about 150 e-mails
6 saying that communities of interest is the most important
7 activity.

8 Some of them are duplicates. We haven't sorted
9 them out, but I think we should be aware that there has been
10 a lot of community input on that via e-mail to our personal
11 accounts.

12 And I think some of them are doubles.

13 I think Stu got some. Kristina would have, but
14 they didn't know she started with a K instead of a C, so she
15 didn't have to keep going through hers.

16 That activity is out there and that concern.

17 KRISTINA GOMEZ: Also on Tuesday we will be
18 receiving binder number five, written public input.

19 RAY BLADINE: While she mentioned that, I'd just
20 say I had no idea when we started this of the mountain of
21 material we are sending to you gathering and documenting.

22 And I am very -- I feel very lucky that we are
23 able to have some people that can do the outreach and also
24 can go through and gather this material and prepare it.

25 It's, at least on our end, it's worked out.

1 I know it's been cumbersome for you, but we also
2 can tell you're using it because of the questions you're
3 asking.

4 So we will continue to do our best to get that out
5 in a timely basis.

6 And obviously we're also logging on to Catalyst as
7 quickly as we can so that it's available in a more
8 searchable pattern.

9 One more. Okay.

10 KRISTINA GOMEZ: Buck just informed me that we
11 have 1,365 e-mail comments on our website.

12 So that's much more than the 2001 Redistricting
13 Commission.

14 RAY BLADINE: I think in terms of public input,
15 that's all the comments I wanted to make.

16 I just wanted to clarify again and double check
17 the meeting schedule for next week that we talked about.

18 And I think that the one question I don't believe
19 we got answered was on Wednesday the 28th, will be from 9:00
20 to 5:00 p.m. in metro Phoenix.

21 And Commissioner Herrera has a conflict from 11:30
22 to 2:30.

23 Do we want to take a break during that time or --
24 which actually might give the mapping consultant a little
25 time to do something. I don't know how much help it will

1 be. But plan to take a break from 11:30 to 2:30?

2 Unless I hear an objection, we'll go ahead and do
3 that.

4 I might also, in the director's report and
5 summary, Willie and I and I know Willie and Ken have had
6 discussions too, and I don't know whether you talked about
7 this, about how we can speed up getting some of the maps
8 produced and back to you.

9 And we're going to work between the two offices to
10 see what we can help do to expedite the production of
11 material and Strategic is going to see what other people
12 they can add to help Willie calculate numbers.

13 Willie still will be in charge, and then maybe
14 under my director's report if they want to say something
15 about what the director is going to be doing, this would be
16 an appropriate time to do that.

17 COMMISSIONER McNULTY: Madam Chair.

18 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Ms. McNulty.

19 COMMISSIONER McNULTY: Mr. Bladine, I just have
20 one comment about the agenda and the issue of the break.

21 I would ask that you work with legal counsel to
22 make the agendas in such a way that gives us the greatest
23 flexibility so that we aren't precluded from doing
24 something that we haven't noticed, but at the same time I
25 think we can always, once we release agenda, if it makes

1 sense to adjourn to give the mappers time to work, that we
2 can do that.

3 So I just ask that we write the agendas in a way
4 that give us the most flexibility to do those sorts of
5 things if necessary.

6 RAY BLADINE: Okay. I'll work with legal counsel
7 on that.

8 My initial thought would be we just cover the
9 whole -- we say when the meeting's going to start, we put
10 tentative like we have, put a note in that says there may be
11 a break between these times.

12 But it notices the start. We don't normally
13 notice a finish, so I think we can accomplish that pretty
14 easy.

15 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: And I think we treat -- is it
16 the 28th when Mr. Herrera has a conflict?

17 RAY BLADINE: Yes.

18 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: We treat that day the same
19 way, just instead of, like, putting in a block for
20 two hours, just in case we do want to continue with the
21 meeting.

22 RAY BLADINE: Okay. So --

23 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: But if it works out --

24 RAY BLADINE: I'm sorry.

25 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: But if it works out, and we

1 want to break during that time so the mapping consultant can
2 do things or whatever, he may.

3 RAY BLADINE: Okay.

4 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Again, the flexibility
5 comment is a good one.

6 RAY BLADINE: Okay. That's all I have.

7 Unless Strategic wants to make some comments.

8 KENNETH STRASMA: And Mr. Desmond did mention the
9 new system you described where we'll have the night shift,
10 probably between midnight and 5:00, doing some of the
11 reports that Willie has been doing himself.

12 Also I've been pleased with the number of requests
13 we've got in for different mapping formats. I think the
14 first grid maps we had up in, you know, two formats. And
15 now we're -- I believe it's ten different file exports that
16 Willie ends up doing for each map. So we'll be having
17 another team doing those.

18 And we'll be having that by, say, 5:00 a.m., and
19 then working with the IRC staff to get the package together.

20 It should help streamline things and keep Willie
21 from collapsing.

22 At that pace next week.

23 Also, if it would be appropriate, I wanted to add
24 a little bit to the report on the online mapping input.

25 In addition to the number of people who signed up

1 and the 50 who participated, we also had a great amount of
2 feedback in terms of questions afterwards, which we've been
3 following up on.

4 The two most common questions that came up were
5 questions of the measures of competitiveness. And our
6 answer on that was basically that the Commission has not
7 adopted an official standard but everything the Commission
8 was looking at we would endeavor to make available on the
9 website.

10 Right now electoral results are up. Registration
11 is not. But we'll be adding the registration data, so
12 that's available online.

13 The second most frequently asked question was
14 about the ability to upload maps that were made in other
15 software, which is a very good suggestion. Apparently it's
16 not a user feature right now in Maptitude, so we're -- have
17 folks researching for that to upload maps.

18 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Great.

19 Isn't there a song Midnight to Six? Maybe it
20 should be 6:00 instead of 5:00. Then Willie gets an extra
21 hour.

22 Thank you. I'm glad that you guys have been able
23 to figure out a way to make this work next week. I know
24 it's crunch time.

25 RAY BLADINE: That's all I can offer.

1 But if there's questions, I would be glad to
2 answer anything.

3 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Any questions?

4 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Madam Chair.

5 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Mr. Bladine, how are we
6 doing on the budget?

7 RAY BLADINE: I did send some material to all of
8 you last week. And basically I think I can give a summary
9 that it looks like our balance was -- would be somewhere
10 around 450, \$420,000.

11 Anticipating the additional fees for Mr. King and
12 anticipating additional legal fees.

13 I'll be looking, as I do every month, I talked to
14 Megan Darian a bit little now, and she's going to help us go
15 over the detail and make sure we still look good.

16 But at this point, depending upon what else
17 happens, I think we're still in good financial shape.

18 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Do you think that you'll be
19 able to have something documented and distributed by early
20 next week with some of the statistics that you just
21 included?

22 RAY BLADINE: I think I did give you that, but
23 I'll resend it out, at the last meeting.

24 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: That might have been when
25 Mr. Stertz was away.

1 Did we have that discussion then?

2 RAY BLADINE: Yes, we did.

3 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: That's probably the
4 problem --

5 RAY BLADINE: Well, I'll give you a call, and when
6 we get -- the next cycle is going to be just after the
7 1st of September, when we had new figures. But I'll be glad
8 to gave you a call and talk about the last report sent out.

9 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Terrific. Thank you.

10 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Okay.

11 Any other questions, comments?

12 (No oral response.)

13 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you, Mr. Bladine.

14 Thank you, Ms. Gomez.

15 That takes us to item nine on the agenda, call for
16 public comment. And I have a few request to speak forms.

17 THE REPORTER: Madam Chair.

18 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Okay. Let's take a
19 ten-minute break.

20 The time is 10:23.

21 (Brief recess taken.)

22 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Recess is over. We'll enter
23 back into public session.

24 The time is 10:35 in the morning, and we are on
25 agenda item nine, call for public comment. And I have a few

1 request to speak forms.

2 Our first speaker is Danny Sullivan, representing
3 self. And he'll have to tell us what city or county he's
4 from.

5 DANNY SULLIVAN: Thank you very much. I am Danny
6 Sullivan. I live in north Phoenix.

7 And I'm in the Moon Valley area, which is along
8 7th Street, a little bit south of the 101 Loop Freeway.

9 And I want to talk about a couple of things.
10 Communities of interest is a huge item.

11 I've got friends and business clients in the
12 Anthem area.

13 And in talking to them, and I know how I feel,
14 there's a great deal of concern in regard to having somehow
15 Anthem being separated from north Phoenix.

16 There's a lot of personal relationships. There's
17 a tremendous amount of commerce back and forth.

18 When I have suffered through widening of the
19 dramatic widening of I-17 to go from north Phoenix up to
20 Anthem over the last year or so, it's become very clear.
21 They didn't widen I-17 so everybody could go to Rock Springs
22 and get some pie. They did it for Anthem.

23 And there's a lot of commuter traffic. There's a
24 lot of just daily driving back and forth, because there are
25 so many relationships, business and personal, between north

1 Phoenix and the Anthem area.

2 So I really want to stress that that's -- you
3 know, Anthem is a huge community of interest.

4 In regard to the 101 possibly being some sort of a
5 congressional district boundary on the north, on the north
6 side, I want to point out some things that I've discovered.
7 Other districts and other areas that cover both the north
8 and the south side of the 101.

9 Deer Valley Unified School District has almost
10 35,000 students. There are three high schools, two middle
11 schools, and even two elementary schools within that
12 district, to kind of put a fine point on it, that overlap on
13 the north and south side of the 101.

14 So the 101 is going right through the middle of
15 all those districts.

16 The Paradise Valley Unified School District also
17 covers both sides of the 101 substantially, north and south
18 with Pinnacle High School, two middle schools, and three
19 elementary schools that cover areas on both the north side
20 and the south side of the 101.

21 Both of our north Phoenix city council districts,
22 Districts 1 and Districts 2 -- District 2, are also on both
23 the north and south side of 101.

24 In fact, in speaking about Anthem, Districts 1 and
25 Districts 2 reach all the way up to Anthem.

1 The Arizona Department of Transportation does a
2 great job with our freeways.

3 They have five engineering and -- five engineering
4 and maintenance districts.

5 One of those large districts is on -- covers both
6 the north and south sides areas of the 101.

7 And I thought, you know, they built the 101, and
8 they don't even see it as a logical boundary for anything.

9 I'm not sure that the 101 is a logical boundary
10 for much of anything.

11 But, if we took the 101 idea, of it being a
12 boundary, off the table, I would still have to say that any
13 boundary that splits Anthem away from north Phoenix just
14 kind of flies in the face of the whole idea of communities
15 of interest. Those two areas, that north Phoenix area and
16 Anthem, are so tightly connected.

17 I appreciate your time this morning very much. I
18 appreciate the hard work you're doing.

19 I wouldn't want to be doing it.

20 I don't envy what you -- the task that you've
21 taken on.

22 Thank you.

23 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

24 COMMISSIONER McNULTY: Madam Chair.

25 I just have one question for you, Mr. Sullivan.

1 Are you watching our hearings on the live stream?

2 DANNY SULLIVAN: I have, yes.

3 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

4 DANNY SULLIVAN: Thank you.

5 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Lynne
6 Breyer, representing self and Marian Stoddard and David
7 Bareiss.

8 LYNNE BREYER: Thank you, Chairman, commissioners.

9 I live in Scottsdale, and some of these maps are
10 very troublesome to us in Scottsdale.

11 I'm speaking for me, but I also talk to a lot of
12 people in Scottsdale.

13 We do not really think that the city of Scottsdale
14 belongs in the same district as Apache Junction based on
15 community interest.

16 I looked -- I've studied Prop 106, which is part
17 of the Arizona Constitution.

18 There are seven goals that are supposed to be
19 considered in this process of mapping.

20 Goal six simply says political party registration,
21 voting history data, residents of incumbents and candidates
22 may not be used to create district maps.

23 And goal seven says competitive districts are
24 favored if they do not significantly harm other goals
25 listed.

1 Goal four is the community of interest goal.

2 And it's that goal that I think has the most
3 weight in this consideration.

4 People move into areas for a specific reason, and
5 they have a lot of interest in common.

6 They have a government in common. They have
7 schools in common. They have commerce in common. They have
8 entertainment and cultural events in common.

9 There's an awful lot of common interest in
10 Scottsdale that are not found in areas like Apache Junction.

11 So I do not believe that lumping Scottsdale in
12 with Apache Junction is at all appropriate. I think they
13 have very little in common.

14 I would like to see competitive -- I have been on
15 the streaming live video, and I've also gone back and
16 watched some of the archived ones.

17 And competitive, competitive, competitive seems to
18 be about all I hear.

19 I think that is fine. I think we do need to be
20 competitive, but not to the detriment of all the other
21 things are, as this wording says, to the harm of other all
22 these other things, particularly community of interest.

23 And that's my statement for myself.

24 I do have a statement from Marian Stoddard and
25 David Bareiss from Sonoita, Arizona.

1 They have not been able to find a meeting close
2 enough to them to go themselves, and they asked that I read
3 this statement. So I'd like to put this on the record.

4 My wife and I, residents of Sonoita in Santa Cruz
5 County attended one of the first IRC public meetings in
6 Nogales prior to any concrete proposals or what-if maps were
7 available on which to make comment.

8 Consequently most all of the citizens who
9 addressed the board pretty much just congratulated the board
10 on volunteering for the redistricting task and identified
11 themselves with a number special interest groups for which
12 they it pleaded attention for as yet unspecified concerns.

13 Two items which seem to be voiced by several
14 speakers were competitiveness and the desire to have two or
15 three congressional districts created which would border
16 Mexico.

17 Leaving the meeting, we both concluded that the
18 word competitiveness would become a popular term for the
19 duration of the redistricting process and pondered whether
20 they -- whether that word would join other political buzz
21 words like fairness, social justice, corporate greed,
22 et cetera.

23 Considering item one, I am forced now to conclude
24 that competitiveness in the lexicon of redistricting means
25 that the major parties believe this is their chance to

1 divide up the state by mutual agreement with total disregard
2 to the interest of the citizens.

3 It seems that politicians truly have no interest in
4 anything but winning control, and consequently supports the
5 argument that the country is currently being run by what is
6 described as the ruling class, professional politicians,
7 staff, and office holders who feel comfortable in either
8 major political party just as long as they are running
9 things.

10 In redistricting, the concerns of the citizens who
11 are grouped by land use and other interests, such as
12 farming, ranching, tourist trades, mining, et cetera, are
13 disregarded in favor of political affiliation.

14 This is in direct contravention to goal four of
15 Prop 106 which states that boundaries should be defined by
16 communities of interest, and not by voting history, that a
17 party registration, et cetera, as stated in goal six.

18 In goal seven it clearly stated that competitive
19 districts are favored only if goals are not harmed.

20 The thought -- the second thought repeated by
21 several speakers at the Nogales meeting was that it would be
22 a positive outcome if redistricting resulted in districts
23 where a Hispanic would have an increased chance of being
24 elected.

25 After 70 years of hearing about the unfairness of

1 racism and trying my best to eradicate any evidence of that
2 in my personal and business life, I find it appalling that
3 race is now to be considered as part of this process, thus
4 making race an official consideration in elections.

5 Lastly and specifically in regard to Santa Cruz
6 County, many of the what-if maps show the entire Santa Cruz
7 County included in one congressional district. I would like
8 to point out that Santa Cruz is definitely not one
9 contiguous flat piece of land containing a homogeneous
10 population with the same interest.

11 Santa Cruz is geographically divided by the ridge
12 of the Santa Rita Mountains to the west and south lie
13 Nogales and the I-19 corridor running up toward Tucson.

14 This area is generally below 4,000 feet elevation.

15 It's metropolitan, paved, population, and beset
16 with all the problems that cities and suburbs seems to have.

17 The Sonoita-Elgin area to the east and north of
18 the Santa Ritas is at 5,000 feet or higher, rural with
19 ranches, wineries, and generous tracts of federal land.
20 There are only three major paved roads of any length, no
21 stop lights, and a single fire district serving a few
22 thousand people spread over 350 square miles.

23 In short, the Sonoita-Elgin area is a community of
24 interest decidedly different than the south and west of
25 Santa Cruz County, and more properly fits with the citizens

1 of Whetstone and Sierra Vista in Cochise County. This is no
2 more evidently apparent than in the stated desires of many
3 residents to push for secession from Santa Cruz and joining
4 Cochise County.

5 That concludes the remarks of Mr. Bareiss.

6 Thank you very much.

7 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

8 Ms. Breyer, do you mind spelling your name for the
9 record? Sorry.

10 LYNNE BREYER: My name is spelled B-R-E-Y-E-R,
11 just like the ice cream.

12 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

13 Our next speaker is Lauren Bernally-Long, analyst
14 for Navajo Nation Human Rights Commission, from Window Rock.

15 LAUREN BERNALLY-LONG: Good morning,
16 commissioners, Madam Chair.

17 My name is Lauren Bernally Long. Lauren is
18 spelled L-A-U-R-E-N. Bernally, B-E-R-N-A-L-L-Y, hyphen,
19 Long, L-O-N-G.

20 Thank you for giving me this opportunity to
21 present to you.

22 I just want to address two topics that were
23 brought up yesterday with respect to Navajo Nation.

24 We definitely will be looking at meeting with the
25 Hispanic groups, the Native American groups. We have that

1 in the planning process right now.

2 And the other item that I want to also bring up is
3 that the Commission, the Navajo Nation, will also address
4 the issue with respect to the preference of the
5 congressional maps of NN1 and NN2.

6 That is all that I have to say, unless there's
7 other questions that you have.

8 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

9 Are there other questions?

10 (No oral response.)

11 LAUREN BERNALLY-LONG: Thank you.

12 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Okay. Thank you very much.

13 Our next speaker is Steve Muratore, publisher
14 Arizona Eagletarian.

15 STEVE MURATORE: Thank you, Madam Chair,
16 commissioners. Steve Muratore, M-U-R-A-T-O-R-E.

17 I have two things.

18 First, I wanted to reflect on
19 Representative Miranda's comments, presentation, and the
20 fact that Mr. Cantelme put it on record that he thought
21 Miranda did a good job with outreach.

22 However, I don't believe that Mr. Miranda provided
23 any evidence to show what that outreach was.

24 And that concerns me.

25 So if he can show that his outreach was what he

1 said it was, fine.

2 The other thing that I have is on behalf of the
3 Arizona Competitive Districts Coalition. I've been asked to
4 read a letter with concerns that they have about Maptitude.

5 On behalf of the Arizona Competitive District
6 Coalition we need to bring several concerns to your
7 attention about the Maptitude public mapping tool. As you
8 are aware, our multi-partisan coalition sponsored a contest
9 to promote public input to district drawing as well as civic
10 education instruction to the public about the redistricting
11 process.

12 More than 550 people have prepared, finished or at
13 least attempted more than 1,000 maps with the software we
14 used, called Redistrict Arizona. We are in continual
15 contact with over 1700 people who are interested in the
16 activities of the Commission, you guys, and the ongoing
17 redistricting process.

18 While the programmer of Redistrict Arizona,
19 Azavea, was one of the contractors that proposed to create a
20 public mapping tool for the Commission and while we
21 disagreed with the reasons that the Commission gave to use
22 the Maptitude software, we have been strongly encouraging
23 that the public use the Maptitude mapping tool to have their
24 voices heard.

25 Our goal is to give the public a greater role in

1 proposing and scrutinizing maps that come before the
2 Commission. As such, the public depends on a fully
3 functional public mapping tool.

4 So we were shocked last week when we participated
5 in the Maptitude training webinar to learn that functions
6 which are key to public participation are not even included
7 in this mapping tool.

8 And, by the way, Mr. Strasma did partially address
9 a couple of these concerns earlier.

10 But, you know, until they're followed up on,
11 they're still concerns.

12 At the time you reviewed the public mapping tool
13 proposals, you were told that there were be a few
14 differences between the three packages.

15 Evidently this is not the case.

16 We are requesting that the Commission take
17 immediate steps to make sure that Maptitude resolves these
18 problems as soon as possible, specifically these problems
19 include the following:

20 Number one, there's no way for people who have
21 been working on maps to upload maps. This denies those who
22 have proposed -- or developed maps to continue their work on
23 the new tool.

24 It is particularly unacceptable because the
25 technology for uploading data text files is widely used.

1 The staff should either rectify the situation through
2 Maptitude or offer to translate the maps of those who had
3 previously saved maps as data files such that they can be
4 viewed in Maptitude.

5 Number two, there's no way right now to easily
6 share user's maps with other users. Nor is there a forum in
7 which citizens can share ideas.

8 If part of the goal of the online mapping tools
9 for citizens of Arizona to reach broad consensus on maps,
10 then the Commission is only vulcanizing their ideas by not
11 providing this feature. Further, this encourages the
12 submission of hundreds of parochial ideas rather than a few
13 consensus ideas.

14 Number three, competition is not evaluated by any
15 method yet, putting the public at a disadvantage to the
16 Commission when evaluating maps. This is especially true
17 when decisions are being made right now that will determine
18 the look of the draft maps.

19 Even if the Commission has not defined competition
20 yet, several objective measures could be chosen to help
21 public map drawers, such as voter registration and past
22 election performances.

23 Number four, voter registration numbers are
24 not available, whether tied to the issue of competition or
25 not.

1 Number five, the Voting Rights Act data is not
2 clearly labeled or demonstrated on the legend. As the
3 public needs to understand and respond to the voting rights
4 requirements, the Commission should make this clearer.

5 Number six, AIRC staff does not instruct users of
6 Maptitude that DOJ requires no backsliding on levels of
7 minority voting population density. The tools should
8 alert users when this threshold is not met, just as it
9 would with a district that does not meet equal population
10 levels.

11 We as taxpayers, through our budget for the AIRC,
12 paid \$30,000 more for this software than even the next most
13 expensive software.

14 While Redistrict Arizona included all of the
15 features listed above at the lowest price, it is not our
16 intention to argue a reconsideration of the contract.

17 However, it is imperative that the Commission
18 instruct its staff to provide these basic features so that
19 the Commission's online mapping tool can do what it was
20 intended to do, allow the public participation.

21 And it's signed by co-chairs Roberta Voss and Ken
22 Clark and Dr. Barbara Klein, who's president of the League
23 of Women Voters of Arizona.

24 Thank you.

25 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

1 Our next speaker is Lee Miller, general counsel
2 for Arizona Republican Party.

3 LEE MILLER: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen.
4 My name is Lee Miller. I'm the general counsel of the
5 Arizona Republican Party.

6 Some have come before you and asked that you
7 qualify or filter the comments of others, because they
8 perceive that there's some untoward political motivation
9 behind those comments.

10 And then others come before you and assert that
11 they represent self, and then are able to make a most
12 thorough, most articulate presentation in favor of a map
13 that has a comprehensive set of districts and also generates
14 very predictable results.

15 On behalf of the Arizona Republican Party, I
16 merely wanted to take a moment and let you know that as a
17 party, when folks come to us for counsel on redistricting
18 issues, and they do every day, we ask them to come to you,
19 but come to you with two objectives in mind.

20 The first is to simply make comments that
21 are reflective of the legal criteria for drawing the
22 districts. But also to be open and clear about the
23 motivations that they have in advocating for or against a
24 particular map.

25 You may not hear from anyone on behalf of the

1 Arizona Republican Party before the end of this process ever
2 again. Because our perspective is that while our work and
3 your work are very closely aligned, they run in parallel,
4 and, in fact, our interests don't cross.

5 But since I may not be before you again, let me
6 thank you for committing the extraordinary amount of time
7 that it takes to let anyone come before you and speak their
8 piece no matter what their motivations.

9 Again, thanks for your service.

10 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

11 Our next speaker is Wes Harris, P.C. captain
12 LD6-28, from Phoenix.

13 WES HARRIS: Good morning. It's Wes Harris,
14 W-E-S, H-A-R-R-I-S.

15 Let me get this up a little closer so you can hear
16 me.

17 I was not going to speak today until I observed
18 the Minority Arizona Coalition report. And it prompted me
19 to remind you again about some of the things that I've
20 talked about earlier.

21 Before I do that though, I would agree with
22 Commissioner Stertz about collective LD officials coming
23 before this court or this Commission to give their ideas
24 without being self-serving.

25 I think that that's a positive thing, because they

1 really know their districts a lot better than we do or you
2 do.

3 And they can probably provide you, as the previous
4 speaker did, with some details that were very pertinent.

5 Now, the one thing that I found interesting about
6 this particular presentation was the population.

7 I'm curious as to whether this is current data or
8 if it's old data and how it relates to the registration.

9 I think that needs to be given in order to make
10 sense out of this.

11 But what's frightening about it, from my point of
12 view, and that's the voting ghetto type of situation that
13 we're confronted with. I'd like to see what the numbers
14 were in 2010 for these particular districts, 16, 13, and 14,
15 and what they are, and compared to what they appear to be
16 now, which is an incredible 71.6 percent in one of the
17 districts of a certain ethnic background.

18 Which, if that was less ten years ago, it would be
19 evidence that this particular legislation has caused an
20 unintended consequence, and that is the grouping of a bunch
21 of people all in one group, as opposed to where we used to
22 be spread out. We've become a salad bowl now rather than a
23 melting pot.

24 And I would urge you to look at that.

25 And I don't know what the rules are specifically,

1 but my understanding of the voting rights issue is that you
2 can't decrease what it was, but certainly if it was
3 initially a district that had 52 percent, you wouldn't want
4 it to be gerrymandered into 70 percent.

5 And so you would try to maintain that previous
6 percentage, so that we don't create these situations where
7 people who are in minority now -- if you look at the
8 statistics here, we've got non-Hispanics, which I think this
9 is NH Black. If that's not Black, I don't know what that
10 means.

11 But we've got 31,000 compared to 127,000 Hispanics
12 in District 16.

13 Those people are the disenfranchised ones, because
14 now they're either going to have to move out to get their
15 voice heard or the district itself has to be more
16 competitive.

17 And we've talked about competitiveness.

18 Does that, does that pertain to minority
19 districts? Minority-majority districts.

20 Do they have to be competitive as well?

21 Those are the questions that I put to you.

22 Because if I were sitting where you are, I'd certainly want
23 to know those answers and be able to take a look at those
24 districts and redraw them so that they're a little bit more
25 competitive and still maintain the integrity of the voting

1 rights issues and legislation.

2 That's my whole thing.

3 Thank you very much.

4 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

5 Our next speaker is David Cantelme, representing
6 Fair Trust, from Cave Creek.

7 DAVID CANTELME: Thank you, Madam Chair, members
8 of the Commission, for the opportunity to speak to you twice
9 today.

10 It seems as though chronologically we're getting
11 to the point now where you're going to have a very eventful
12 weekend filled with homework in which you're going to try to
13 reach a compromise, if possible, among what seems to be the
14 two predominant versions of congressional maps.

15 And so in that respect I would like to give you a
16 few recommendations, if I might.

17 One would be a recommendation on an approach. And
18 the other will be some specifics.

19 And for that approach, I am trying to think of
20 what is a good way to really listen to each other and try to
21 reach a compromise.

22 And in doing that, of course the compromise must
23 comply with the state constitution.

24 I was reminded of a speech that was given by
25 Learned Hand. You might recall that Learned Hand was the

1 Chief Judge of the Second Circuit Court of Appeals for the
2 United States.

3 He gave this speech in May of 1944, just before
4 D Day. And the occasion of the speech was the swearing in
5 of 150,000 people in New York City as new citizens of the
6 United States.

7 And on that occasion, the Second Circuit took its
8 duty very, very seriously, and tried to have one of the
9 members of its court always attend and actually conduct the
10 swearing in ceremony. It was held in Central Park.

11 So that setting up, let me read to you just an
12 excerpt. It's brief, but it's really one that's very
13 inspiring, and I hope it inspires you as it has me.

14 Quote, what then is the spirit of liberty? I
15 cannot define it. I can only tell you my own faith. The
16 spirit of liberty is the spirit which is not too sure that
17 it is right. The spirit of liberty is the spirit that seeks
18 to understand the minds of other men and women. The spirit
19 of liberty is the spirit which weighs their interest
20 alongside its own without bias. The spirit of liberty
21 remembers that not even a sparrow falls to the earth
22 unheeded.

23 And that's the approach I would very much
24 recommend to you as you work hard on your homework
25 assignments this weekend.

1 Specific points that I would commend you that I
2 think are consistent with the state constitution and would
3 provide good maps for all of Arizona.

4 First of course, you have to achieve the two
5 obtainable benchmark districts.

6 I've said that repeatedly, and I don't think
7 there's any disagreement with anybody in this room that that
8 has to happen.

9 Second, two rural districts, wholly outside metro
10 Phoenix and wholly outside metro Tucson. One in eastern
11 Arizona. One in western Arizona.

12 Those features are found in both of the
13 predominant maps.

14 But I would strongly urge in reaching that
15 compromise, if it can be reached, that we give two fully
16 rural districts to the million and a half residents that
17 live outside metro Phoenix and metro Tucson.

18 It's time they've had their day.

19 In metro Phoenix, after complying with the Voting
20 Rights Act, I'd like to echo what Mr. Sullivan said to you
21 earlier, respect communities of interest, follow city lines,
22 to the extent practicable.

23 In Phoenix, because it's so large, give some
24 consideration to the way districts have been drawn, as
25 Mr. Sullivan said.

1 You might also look at the Phoenix
2 supervisory -- or the county supervisory districts, just
3 to get the general trend. Obviously you can't model after
4 them or copy them, but just the general trend of what makes
5 good districting.

6 And the fourth point I'd like to make to you,
7 please keep in mind the growth of the number of Independents
8 and their effect on competitiveness.

9 It's not the same situation we had ten years ago
10 where we didn't have as many Independents.

11 The experience of the last three elections has
12 shown us that districts that were once thought competitive,
13 or noncompetitive, in fact, turn out to be very competitive,
14 in which we've had one party win in 2006, another party
15 later on, or vice versa.

16 The reason for those swings back and forth, I
17 think, can be laid right at the doorstep of the
18 Independents.

19 And their numbers to me suggest that drawing the
20 band too tightly doesn't make sense.

21 It may have made sense ten years ago. It doesn't
22 make sense now.

23 Thank you so much.

24 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

25 Our next speaker is Janet Regner, consultant for

1 Coconino County Board.

2 JANET REGNER: Good morning, members of the
3 Commission.

4 My name is Janet Regner, and I'm a consultant for
5 Coconino County.

6 And I'm just here today to kind of reiterate for
7 you the comments that were made by chairman of the board
8 Lena Fowler last Friday here in, in the Valley. So that as
9 you go into your deliberations this weekend and next week,
10 that you will keep these comments in mind.

11 Number one, the Coconino County Board of
12 Supervisors supports the Hispanic Coalition congressional
13 district map.

14 Number two, the supervisors support the river
15 district maps. Version 6A and the subsequent versions so
16 far.

17 Obviously there's going to be some changes as you
18 continue your process.

19 They do have, excuse me, serious concerns about
20 the whole counties and three border districts maps for the
21 reasons stated by Chairman Lena Fowler last Friday.

22 We're hopeful that when the two maps are combined,
23 as has been suggested, that the IRC will take seriously the
24 points of Coconino County and their diverse interests and
25 communities of interest.

1 We appreciate the work that's been done. We
2 appreciate the perspective of the different commissioners on
3 these maps as they're proposed today. And we're hopeful
4 that as you come back next week we'll begin to see a merger
5 of these maps where we can better further define the
6 position of Coconino County.

7 Thank you very much.

8 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

9 Our next speaker is Maureen Bayardi, representing
10 self, from Phoenix.

11 MAUREEN BAYARDI: Good morning. My name is
12 Maureen Bayardi, M-A-U-R-E-E-N, B-A-Y-A-R-D-I.

13 And I am reiterating what Mr. Sullivan said
14 earlier regarding the 101 as a boundary.

15 And I couldn't agree with him more.

16 I live just south of the 101, but many of the
17 activities that I participate in, meetings that I attend,
18 are north of the 101.

19 We have friends in the 101 that we visit with, and
20 I feel that dividing us like that is basically splitting two
21 communities of interest.

22 You're just totally splitting us. And I think
23 that's irresponsible.

24 Also, being a citizen of Phoenix district council
25 District 1, it spreads all the way north to Anthem.

1 And I don't think it's right to split us up.

2 I'm very concerned about it, I'd like to see
3 fairness, and I am beginning to wonder about that.

4 So I would like you to seriously take into
5 consideration this business of using the 101 as the
6 boundary.

7 I think it's, I think it's irresponsible and
8 unacceptable.

9 Thank you.

10 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

11 I have no more request to speak forms.

12 So, I believe that will conclude public comment.
13 Thank you all for coming and giving us your input today.

14 That leaves one item on the agenda, which is
15 adjournment.

16 So I will declare this meeting adjourned. It's
17 11:11 a.m.

18 Thank you.

19 (Whereupon, the meeting adjourned.)

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1 STATE OF ARIZONA)
)
2 COUNTY OF MARICOPA) ss.
3

4 BE IT KNOWN that the foregoing proceeding was
5 taken before me, Marty Herder, a Certified Court Reporter,
6 CCR No. 50162, State of Arizona; that the foregoing 82 pages
7 constitute a true and accurate transcript of all proceedings
8 had upon the taking of said meeting, all done to the best of
9 my skill and ability.

10 DATED at Chandler, Arizona, this 2nd day of
11 October, 2011.

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C. Martin Herder, CCR
Certified Court Reporter
Certificate No. 50162

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