



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
PROBATION OVERSIGHT COMMISSION
STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE VIRTUAL
REGULAR MEETING



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THURSDAY, JANUARY 13, 2022, 9:00 A.M.

VIDEO FILE FOR THE ENTIRE MEETING

Attachment: [Video](#)

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. Call to Order and Roll Call.

Chair Franky Carrillo called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Wendelyn Julien, Executive Director conducted the roll call:

Present: Commissioner Sean Garcia-Leys, Commissioner Samuel Lewis, Commissioner Donald D. Meredith, Commissioner Dominique D. Nong, Commissioner Cyn Yamashiro, Secretary Dolores Canales, Vice Chair Esché L. Jackson, Chair Franky Carrillo

Absent: Commissioner Danielle M. Dupuy

2. Approval of the December 20, 2021 meeting minutes.

No members of the public commented on this item.

On motion of Commissioner Jackson, seconded by Commissioner Canales, and unanimously carried objection (Commissioner Danielle M. Dupuy being absent), the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission approved the December 20, 2021 minutes:

Ayes: **8 –** Commissioner Sean Garcia-Leys, Commissioner Samuel Lewis, Commissioner Donald D. Meredith, Commissioner Dominique D. Nong, Commissioner Cyn Yamashiro, Secretary Dolores Canales, Vice Chair Esché L. Jackson, Chair Franky Carrillo

Absent: **1 –** Commissioner Danielle M. Dupuy

Attachments: [Supporting Document](#)
[Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

II. DISCUSSIONS

3. Discuss and take appropriate action on progress the Los Angeles County Probation Department has made towards implementing the *L.A. Model* at Campus Kilpatrick pursuant to the September 21, 2021 Board of Supervisors' motion regarding reaffirming and expanding the *L.A. Model* and plans to move the 14 youth designated as Secure Track Youth to Campus Kilpatrick as the interim facility.
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- Los Angeles County Probation Department
- Los Angeles County Probation Oversight Commission Staff
- Representatives from Labor Union 721 (SEIU 721)

Ms. Julien reiterated that the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission's (POC) role in this motion is to oversee progress and report updates to the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Adam Bettino, Chief Deputy Probation Officer of the Los Angeles County Probation Department, highlighted that the Probation Department has executed a contract with Healing Dialogue and Action. He explained that the Probation Department has streamlined its background screening process to grant clearances to organizations and people with lived experiences on a case-by-case basis. Although there has been a rise in COVID-19 outbreaks within the facilities, Mr. Bettino stated that the Probation Department is still hoping to safely expand and integrate services. He stated that the Probation Department is working with the Youth Justice Advisory Group (YJAG) and the Youth Development Division (YDD) to draft a plan to the Board of Supervisors that details post-secondary educational services, job descriptions, and suggested trainings. Mr. Bettino explained that the Community Council has been organized and include participants from the Department of Mental Health (DMH), Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE), POC, and YJAG. Lastly, he expounded on the recommended staff housing accommodations for those working 56 hours per week at Campus Kilpatrick.

Mr. Reggie Torres Jr., Vice President for the Association of Probation Supervisors (SEIU 721), emphasized that Labor Union 721 is advocating for youth to participate in programming at new selected site and encouraging all levels of staff with a desire to work at the selected site be selected to work there.

Mr. John Tucheck, Legislative Consultant for SEIU 721, mentioned that the youth are sitting at Barry J. Nidorf waiting and it takes a collective effort to see progress.

Danita Beauchamp, Krista Newble, Garrett Barr, Mainor Xuncax, Zoe Rawson, Rebecca Gomez, Monique Yateem, Pam Berry, Lily Brainard, Bruce Groff, Bette Snedeker, Roy Humphreys, Daniel Bisuano, Damon Ayala, Mel Bailey, Sophia Cristo, Gilbert Ivey, Oscar Canales, Kruti Parekh, Tracy Gonzales, Angela Donahue, Elida Ledesma, and Sabra Williams addressed the POC.

Commissioner Jackson asked a series of questions about the programs and services that will be offered to youth. Mr. Bettino explained that a pilot program is being drafted to expand and enhance the programs and services being provided to the youth. He stated that the Probation Department will be recruiting staff to work 40 hours per week with the youth on the secure track, developing a credible messenger program, and offering collaborative training opportunities. Mr. Bettino shared that virtual programming is being offered to youth in quarantine, and the department is focusing on keeping youth as engaged as possible while following safety precautions. He added that the existing budgeted positions are being assessed and identified internally so that the Probation Department can recruit all staff levels who desire to work with the secure youth population with the community's input. Mr. Bettino emphasized that the department would like to streamline the foundational programming so that staff can be trained to provide programs and services.

Mr. Bettino agreed with Commissioner Canales' request to have Commissioners involved in the development of the pilot program. Commissioner Canales shared her thoughts on

the site selection for youth on the secure track.

Commissioner Garcia-Leys shared his sentiments on the permanent site selection for youth on the secure track and asked a series of clarifying questions regarding moving youth out of Barry J. Nidorf to align with the long-term goal. After clarifying that the school capacity at Campus Kilpatrick was 45, Mr. Bettino explained that the population of secure youth is expected to exceed 45 within the next two years. He added that the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council's Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant (JJCC-JJRBG) Subcommittee agreed on the recommendation of Campus Kilpatrick as a temporary site for secure track youth with Camps Scott, Paige, and Afflerbaugh as the recommendations as the permanent sites. Mr. Bettino mentioned that the JJCC-JJRBG Subcommittee is drafting a report to address each directive outlined in the July 27, 2021 motion.

Commissioner Lewis emphasized that fire danger and safety is of concern at multiple facilities including Barry J. Nidorf. He also shared his insights about property values and stressed that young people are able to thrive when there are collective efforts to support and offer programs and services to them to be better versions of themselves.

Commissioner Nong emphasized that the top priority is moving the 14 youth from Barry J. Nidorf to Campus Kilpatrick and requested clarification on what the pilot program entails. Mr. Bettino reiterated that planning is underway but includes identifying staff who are willing to work eight-hour workdays, outlining required training and programming services, determining feasibilities, renovating the empty dorm rooms at Barry J. Nidorf, while concurrently renovating Camp Miller. Furthermore, Mr. Bettino added that youth on quarantine can go outside for recreation with their units.

Commissioner Meredith asked if additional sites have been considered and the possibility of mixing populations. Mr. Bettino confirmed that additional sites have been in consideration, but the most logical location would be Camps Scott and Scudder because minimal renovations are required, and they have individual rooms and dormitories.

Chair Carrillo inquired about the quarantine protocols. Mr. Bettino explained that the Probation Department is being guided by the Juvenile Court Health Services (JCHS) who track COVID-19 exposures, provide ongoing testing, and communicate quarantine guidelines.

In response to Commissioner Jackson's question about the shifting from a 56-hour work week to a 40-hour work week, Mr. Tucheck stated that SEIU 721 has not discussed this shift change with the Probation Department, but this topic will be given careful consideration. Mr. Torres emphasized the effectiveness of the *L.A. Model* and added that it can be incorporated at any facility and still be effective with an administration and staff who want to work with the secure youth population.

Attachments: [Supporting Document](#)
[Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

4. Discuss and take appropriate action on an update on the Los Angeles County Probation Department's Citation Diversion Program and the Department's plan to divert cases.
 - Felicia Cotton, Deputy Director, Los Angeles County Probation Department
 - Refugio Valle, Division of Youth Development and Diversion

Ms. Cotton stated that the Probation Department has made significant progress with the Citation Diversion Program. She explained that the referral process has been solidified and cases have been moved to YDD, dismissals for approximately 20,746 pending cases have been submitted to the Superior Court, and traffic matters that are currently being heard by the Citation Diversion Program are being moved to the Superior Court.

Ms. Elizabeth Lopez from YDD explained how the referral process works and YDD's role in managing the referrals. Mr. Valle stated that YDD is working closely with the Probation Department's Citation Diversion Program to streamline the referral process. He mentioned that YDD's goal is to encourage informal referrals by building relationships with law enforcement partners around the county so they can refer rather than issue a citation or complete an arrest.

Danita Beauchamp, Zoe Rawson, Leah Gasser-Ordaz, Milinda Kakani, Sarah Clifton, and Oscar Canales addressed the POC.

Ms. Cotton responded to Commissioner Nong's questions. She stated that the goal of the Citation Diversion Program is to partner with law enforcement to move away from issuing citations and encourage referrals, but further conversations with the Superior Court are needed to ensure everyone has a mutual understanding of the referral process and the handling of traffic matters. Ms. Cotton explained the citation categories in greater detail including the drug offenses that occurred between 2014-2020 and emphasized that the Probation Department is consulting with County Counsel to identify the types of resources that need to accompany the youth during the referral process. She stressed that the Probation Department prioritizes the handling of failure to appear (FTA) cases and has an outreach team in place to continuously attempt to contact the families and youth to obtain accurate information prior to referring to YDD. Ms. Cotton stated that resources have been aligned where communications between the Probation Department and the youth's families can take place virtually. She shared that suspension and hold rules are derived from the DMV so the Probation Department has been requesting reports directly from the DMV. Ms. Cotton mentioned that a report back will be given once the necessary conversations have taken place.

Commissioner Canales requested that a time frame be set for the report back, and Ms. Cotton committed to reporting back in March 2022 once conversations with the Superior Court have taken place. Ms. Cotton emphasized that traffic matters will likely be handled by the Superior Court using a uniform process, and no longer by the Citation Diversion Program.

Ms. Cotton addressed Commissioner Garcia-Leys' question by confirming that the referenced traffic tickets that will be handled by the Superior Court include a combination of infractions and misdemeanors.

Attachments: [Supporting Document](#)
[Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

By Common Consent, there being no objection (Commissioner Danielle M. Dupuy being absent), the POC recessed at 11:35 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 11:46 a.m.

5. Discuss and take appropriate action on the Los Angeles County Probation Oversight Commission's strategic goal of creating a public-facing data dashboard based on the needs of the Probation Department.
 - Los Angeles County Probation Oversight Commission
 - i. Sarah Gongora, Project Director
 - ii. Jennifer Ochoa-Garcia, Management Analyst
 - iii. Cyn Yamashiro, Commissioner
 - iv. Danielle Dupuy, Commissioner
 - Los Angeles County Probation Department

Ms. Julien explained that the POC is addressing the need for a public-facing data dashboard by collaborating with the Probation Department to collect statistical data and measure correlating outcomes of success for the various programs provided by the Probation Department to youth and adults. She emphasized that the Probation Department has been responding to individual requests for information for specific information. Ms. Julien stressed the importance of the data dashboard because it will foster transparency from the Probation Department and allow the public to understanding trends within the department.

Commissioner Yamashiro shared that comprehensive data for a public facing dashboard have been repeatedly requested to assess trends, ensure transparency, gain understanding, and identify improvements from the Probation Department.

Ms. Gongora and Ms. Ochoa-Garcia highlighted how data received from the Probation Department would be compiled and shared. Ms. Ochoa-Garcia mentioned that definitions will be added to explain some of the terms. Ms. Gongora emphasized that solicited feedback and suggestions to make future data sharing helpful, user-friendly, and more accessible.

Mr. Bettino explained the data sharing process has been slow due to the limited and antiquated systems. He emphasized that transparency is a core value within the Probation Department and having clarifying conversations and open dialogue about the synthesized data interpretations is ideal. Mr. Bettino shared that a data team is needed.

Eduardo Mundo, Milinda Kakani, Danita Beauchamp, and Betty Fang addressed the POC.

Commissioner Lewis stressed that information being shared is to help everyone make well-informed decisions about what's best for the youth based on experiences and research.

Commissioner Nong mentioned that having a lumped together view and detailed view of the data was great. She suggested that the data be aggregated further to include zip codes, courthouses, decision points, and overlay the population with the rated facility capacities and disseminated monthly.

Attachments: [Supporting Document](#)
[Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

III. REPORTS

6. Report on the progression of the decarceration of girls in Los Angeles County as outlined in the December 1, 2021 motion by the Board of Supervisors.
 - Wendelyn Julien, Executive Director, Probation Oversight Commission
 - Erica Reynoso, Project Director, Probation Oversight Commission

Ms. Julien reported that a group of county partners and community advocates (model for future YES Teams) have been meeting regularly to discuss effective strategies for decarcerating girls in alignment with the Youth Justice Reimagined (YJR) goals. She added that the Los Angeles County Public Defender's Office has successfully led multi-disciplinary teams (MDT) for each of the post-dispositioned girls, which will eventually include finding alternatives to incarceration for pre-dispositioned girls in the camps. Ms. Julien reiterated that the motion's purpose is to address individualized treatment of the girls, and the youth are placed using a self-identification process.

Thomas Bell, Zoe Rawson, Danita Beauchamp, Milinda Kakani, and Joe Gabaldon addressed the POC.

Attachments: [Supporting Document](#)
[Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

7. Report on training of Probation Oversight Commission members.
 - Erica Reynoso, Project Director, Probation Oversight Commission

Dr. Reynoso provided a synopsis of the training topics that will be covered during 2022 in partnership with the Probation Department and external agencies. She shared that some of the topics include trauma-informed care, mental health, psychological impacts and cultural approaches to system involved individuals, human development, occupational wellness and resiliency, and site-specific training for annual facility inspections.

Mel Bailey addressed the POC.

Attachments: [Supporting Document](#)
[Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

MATTERS NOT POSTED

8. Matters not posted on the agenda, to be discussed and (if requested), placed on the agenda for action at a future meeting of the authority, of matters requiring immediate action because of an emergency situation or where the need to take action arose subsequent to the posting of the agenda.

(Not on agenda)

Commissioner Yamashiro encouraged the POC to identify what the next steps would be to request AFSCME Local 685 to the February 10, 2022 monthly POC Meeting since many decisions made by the Probation Department are predicated on their negotiations.

Commissioner Meredith suggested that the POC consult with County Counsel to identify next steps. Ms. Julien explained that the initial request was informal, in which AFSCME Local 685 responded directly to the Board of Supervisors, but a formal request for their attendance will be the next step.

PUBLIC COMMENT

9. Opportunity for members of the public to address the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission (POC) on items of interest that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the POC.

You may submit public comment by e-mail to info@poc.lacounty.gov.

Written public comment or documentation must be submitted no later than 5:00 p.m. one business day before the scheduled meeting. Please include the Agenda Item and meeting date in your correspondence. Correspondence received shall become part of the official record.

Sabra Williams, Thomas Bell, Agustin Herrera, Jennifer Simison, Eduardo Mundo, Danita Beauchamp, Mel Bailey, Marlene Carney, and Gloria Gonzalez addressed the POC.

Attachments: [Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

V. ADJOURNMENT

10. Adjournment for the regular meeting of January 13, 2022.

Chair Carrillo adjourned the meeting at 1:14 p.m.