



3. Discuss and take appropriate action on the Los Angeles County Probation Department's budget.
  - Robert Smythe, Administrative Deputy, Los Angeles County Probation Department
  - Nicole Brown, Policy Coordinator, Urban Peace Institute

**Commissioner Dolores Canales joined the meeting at 9:06 a.m.**

**Mr. Smythe explained how the Probation Department's \$1,038,522,000 adopted budget was allocated during the 2021-2022 fiscal year, with 77% budgeted on salaries and benefits, 21% on services and supplies, and 2% on capital assets and other expenditures.**

**Ms. Brown shared her observations on how the Probation Department's 2021-2022 budget is broken down based on public county documents and published reports with an emphasis on Youth Justice Reimagined and Assembly Bill 109.**

**Edith Macias, Shirin Senegal, Zoe Rawson, Jose Osuna, Ramona Bridges, Kruti Parekh, Milinda Kakani addressed the POC.**

**By Common Consent, there being no objection (Commissioner Dominique D. Nong, Commissioner Cyn Yamashiro, and Vice Chair Esché L. Jackson being absent), the POC tabled the Commissioners' questions on this item to discuss and take appropriate action on Agenda item 6. Discussion and review of this item resumed thereafter.**

**Mr. Smythe responded to Commissioner Dupuy's inquiry about maintaining vacancies to generate salary savings, which offset increases in costs due to inflation. He further clarified the county's philosophy on managing departmental budgets and stressed the importance of having a balanced year-end positive balance on June 30<sup>th</sup>.**

**Ms. Brown and Mr. Smythe explained the contexts of the budget freezes for the Probation Department.**

**Commissioner Garcia-Leys requested clarification on distinction between the Probation Department's budget at the beginning of the year compared to the mid-year budget adjustment that happens in March or April. Mr. Smythe explained that the appropriation or spending authority for the services and supplies comes from the Board of Supervisors and the department must seek approval from the Board of Supervisors to spend those funds.**

**Chair Carrillo proposed a motion to obtain a complete list of community-based organizations (CBOs) with whom the Los Angeles County Probation Department contracts with, contractual dollar amount and contract duration, types of services rendered and locations (facilities or field) and identify the fund administrator.**

**On motion by Chair Carrillo, seconded by Commissioner Dupuy, unanimously carried (Commissioner Dominique D. Nong, Commissioner Cyn Yamashiro, and Vice Chair Esché L. Jackson being absent), the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission approved the POC to request the contractual information from the Probation Department:**

**Ayes: 6 – Commissioner Danielle M. Dupuy, Commissioner Sean Garcia-Leys, Commissioner Samuel Lewis, Commissioner Donald D. Meredith, Commissioner Secretary Dolores**

Canales, Chair Franky Carrillo

**Absent:** 3 – Commissioner Dominique D. Nong, Commissioner Cyn Yamashiro, and Vice Chair Esché L. Jackson

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

**Agenda item 4 was moved down and discussed after agenda item 5.**

4. Discuss and take appropriate action on the nomination of candidates for the positions of Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary of the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission.
  - Wendelyn Julien, Executive Director, Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission

**Ms. Julien opened the floor for Commissioner nominations for the positions of Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary and noted that an official vote will take place at the April 2022 meeting. The nominations are as follows:**

**Chair – Commissioner Carrillo, Commissioner Yamashiro  
Vice Chair – Commissioner Jackson, Commissioner Yamashiro  
Secretary – Commissioner Canales**

**No members of the public commented on this item.**

**On motion of Commissioner Meredith, seconded by Commissioner Dupuy, unanimously carried (Commissioner Dominique D. Nong, Commissioner Cyn Yamashiro, and Vice Chair Esché L. Jackson being absent), the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission approved the motion to accept the nominations for the positions of Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary:**

**Ayes:** 6 – Commissioner Danielle M. Dupuy, Commissioner Sean Garcia-Leys, Commissioner Samuel Lewis, Commissioner Donald D. Meredith, Commissioner Secretary Dolores Canales, Chair Franky Carrillo

**Absent:** 3 – Commissioner Dominique D. Nong, Commissioner Cyn Yamashiro, and Vice Chair Esché L. Jackson

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

5. Discuss and take appropriate action on an update on the Los Angeles County Probation Department's Citation Diversion Program including next steps for the Probation Department and referrals to the Division of Youth Diversion and Development (YDD) within the Office of Diversion and Reentry.
  - Felicia Cotton, Deputy Director, Los Angeles County Probation Department
  - Refugio Valle, Director, Division of Youth Diversion & Development
  - Elizabeth Lopez, Program Manager, Division of Youth Diversion & Development
  - Leah Zeidler-Ordaz, UCLA Law School

Ms. Cotton shared that the Probation Department uses a Juvenile Citation Tracking System (JCTS) and has been collaborating with the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to expedite the release of driver license holds. She emphasized that the Probation Department is ensuring that citations are now forwarded to YDD and infractions are forwarded to the appropriate law enforcement agency for filing.

Ms. Lopez explained YDD's process for handling youth who have been referred to them from the Probation Department. Mr. Valle mentioned that YDD will continue to work with the Probation Department and justice partners to ensure citations are being referred directly to YDD.

Sarah Clifton addressed the POC.

Ms. Zeidler-Ordaz requested confirmation on whether the Citation Diversion Program will be ending on April 30, 2022. She recommended that the plan to end the Citation Diversion Program include a plan to decriminalize low level violations by educating law enforcement on issuing warnings opposed to citations at their discretion. Ms. Zeidler-Ordaz emphasized that the referral process be streamlined and incorporate a concrete timeline that projects a date all holds are expected to be lifted.

Ms. Cotton explained the Probation Department's correspondence with the Superior Court on the next steps for juvenile intake processes once the Citation Diversion Program ends. She stressed that law enforcement agencies have broad discretion and were encouraged by the presiding judge to use more robust lower-level diversionary options. Ms. Cotton emphasized that the JCTS data represents the entire scope of information in their system such as holds and action required by the DMV.

Ms. Cotton clarified Commissioner Garcia-Leys' concern that the assigned Hearing Officers are employees of the Probation Department and will be reassigned to one of the vacant positions within the Department despite not having the authority to hear or dispose these cases.

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

6. 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 youth designated as Secure Track to Campus Kilpatrick as the interim facility.
  - Los Angeles County Probation Department
  - Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission Staff
  - Representatives from Labor Union 685

Mr. Max Huntsman, Inspector General of the Office of the Inspector General (OIG), explained the powers and authorities of the POC as an advisory commission and OIG's special counsel role in ordering department heads to do things based on the POC's requests and ordinances.

Ms. Julien explained that the main goal of this agenda item is to discuss the implementation of the *L.A. Model* and the movement of youth dispositioned to the secure track into Campus Kilpatrick. She reiterated that the POC is not the decision-making body

for selecting a permanent site for the secure track youth, but the Board of Supervisors would be voting on the permanent site at the March 15, 2022 board meeting.

Mr. Hans Liang, Deputy Probation Officer for the Los Angeles County Probation Department, read a prepared statement in which he clarified that he was not appearing as a representative from Labor Union 685, but as a county employee to respond to questions unrelated to bargaining issues.

Ms. Newsom and Mr. Brigges shared their personal experiences with working both a 5/40 (eight-hour) work schedule and a 56-hour work schedule, highlighting the benefits and challenges of both. Mr. Brigges reiterated Ms. Newsom's sentiment that the L.A. Model's foundational principles are being sensitive to the youth's trauma by building relationships, maintaining safe environments, and organizing programs.

Mr. Liang elaborated on his personal experiences and expertise with mixing populations. He mentioned that the Probation Department must consider evidence-based practices such as the risk principle which states that the level of service must match the level of risk. Mr. Liang explained that in his research, the low-risk youth learn the high-risk behaviors.

Ms. Julien shared that Labor Union 685 was invited to the POC meeting to address the issues that the Probation Department has commented on at previous meetings regarding discussion with the union being part of the reason for the delay in moving secure track youth to Campus Kilpatrick.

Mr. Bettino stated that the Probation Department wants to stand shoulder to shoulder with labor unions to ensure that management and labor are on the same page as policies within the department shifts. He shared that conversations are underway on issues such as security enhancements at Campus Kilpatrick, sleeping accommodations for staff who will continue to work the 56-hour schedule, and identifying staff as the secure track youth population grows.

Thomas Bell, Kruti Parekh, Tim Hepburn, Danita Beauchamp, Ramona Bridges, and Zoe Rawson addressed the POC.

Mr. Brigges answered Commissioner Meredith's inquiry by stating that part of the L.A. Model was embracing unit-based management which brought all team members, internal and external, together for a four-week training so that the team could build relationships with one another. He added that unit-based management aids in the shift changes because although the shifts may do different things, the overall team is cohesive and communicate the same messages to achieve the goals to the youth.

Commissioner Dupuy inquired about the challenges of the 56-hour work week with an emphasis on concerns for continuity of care. Mr. Bettino responded by sharing that management has been working with labor to address the various challenges with the work schedules and will continue to gather information.

Commissioner Garcia-Leys emphasized the importance of hearing the voices of youth and Probation Department staff.

Commissioner Lewis sought clarification on how employees' work schedule and commute impact the youth and the creation of a home-like environment.

Commissioner Meredith requested a copy of the 56-hour work week schedule.

Chair Carrillo inquired about how placement of secure track youth will affect the schedules of non-Probation Department employees. Mr. Bettino confirmed that the agencies and organizations are being considered.

Commissioner Dupuy proposed a motion to have the POC support the secure track youth site selection motion that will be presented at the Board of Supervisors' March 15, 2022 meeting to select Campus Kilpatrick and Camp Scott for boys on the secure track and Dorothy Kirby for girls on the secure track.

Commissioner Meredith added that the Fifth Supervisorial District will be offering an alternative to that Board Motion to utilize funds to reimagine and rebuild Barry J. Nidorf Juvenile Hall.

On motion of Commissioner Dupuy, seconded by Chair Carrillo, duly carried by the following vote (Commissioner Dominique D. Nong, Commissioner Cyn Yamashiro, and Vice Chair Esché L. Jackson being absent), the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission approved the motion to support the Board Motion on the site selections for youth on the secure track:

**Ayes:** 5 – Commissioner Danielle M. Dupuy, Commissioner Sean Garcia-Leys, Commissioner Samuel Lewis, Secretary Dolores Canales, Chair Franky Carrillo

**Noes:** 1 – Commissioner Donald D. Meredith

**Absent:** 3 – Commissioner Dominique D. Nong, Commissioner Cyn Yamashiro, and Vice Chair Esché L. Jackson

**Attachments:** [AFSCME Local 685 Declination to Attend POC Meeting](#)  
[POC Inquiries for Labor Union 685](#)  
[Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

By Common Consent, there being no objection (Commissioner Dominique D. Nong, Commissioner Cyn Yamashiro, and Vice Chair Esché L. Jackson being absent), the POC recessed at 11:21 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 11:31 a.m.  
Discussion ensued on Agenda items 3 and 4.

### III. REPORTS

7. Executive Director report on the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission's progress towards completing its 2022 strategic goals. The report this month will include updates on research into the 56-hour work week, public-facing data dashboard and statistics from PROBSTAT, facility inspections, girls' decarceration, and Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) spray elimination.
  - Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission Staff

Ms. Julien encouraged attendees to view the attachments to the agenda and participate in

interviews regarding the 56-hour work week. She reported that the Probation Department has been responsive and transparent with sharing data and is projected to launch a public-facing data dashboard this summer. Ms. Julien stated that facility inspections have been scheduled for 2022 and explained that the reports will be shared with the Probation Department, publicly at POC meetings, and with the Board of Supervisors as inspections are concluded. She mentioned that the Probation Department has been updating their grievance and Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) policies, and the POC will be sharing formal recommendations with the Probation Department. Ms. Julien emphasized that the POC was unaware of the allegations of harmful actions within the Probation Department's facilities over the years but stressed the importance of the POC's role to provide effective oversight and conduct regular inspections to reduce the number of incarcerated youth in Los Angeles County in favor of a holistic community-based care first treatment model. She shared that the girls' decarceration efforts have been merged with the youth justice work group on gender responsiveness to prevent duplicative efforts and promote unified efforts to find alternatives to incarceration. Ms. Julien's report concluded with a report from the Probation Department on the use of OC spray, which highlighted new recruits are not being provided OC spray.

No members of the public commented on this item.

Commissioner Dupuy recommended that the POC research existing policies that are in place for all people, internal Probation Department staff and external visitors, to outline a process for handling abuse allegations as an oversight body.

Attachments: [Youth and Staff Volunteers Needed for Interviews](#)  
[PROBSTAT Statistics](#)  
[OC Spray Report for January & February 2022](#)  
[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)*

##### **Future Agenda Items**

- Robust discussion on AB 109 and SEO services
- Formal report back on the recommendations regarding grievances and complaints

##### 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](mailto: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.

**Oscar Canales and Danita Beauchamp addressed the POC.**

Attachments: [Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

**V. ADJOURNMENT**

10. Adjournment for the regular meeting of March 10, 2022.

**Chair Carrillo adjourned the meeting at 12:52 p.m.**