

**LOS ANGELES HEALTH SERVICES
HOSPITALS AND HEALTHCARE DELIVERY COMMISSION
September 3, 2026**

<u>Commissioners</u>	Present	Absent
David Marshall, D.N.P., Chair	X	
William McCloud, M.H.A., F.A.C.H.E., Vice Chair		X
Mark Marat Hay, Ph.D.	X	
Laura LaCorte, J.D.	X	
Patrick Ogawa	X	
Elisa Nicholas, M.D.	X	
Margaret Farwell Smith	X	
Stanley Toy, M.D.		X
Rosemary C. Veniegas, Ph.D.	X	
Tia Delaney-Stewart	X	
Jennifer Sudarsky	X	
Brad Selby	X	
Christian Garcia	X	
<u>LAHS Staff</u>		
Connie Salgado-Sanchez	X	
<u>County Counsel</u>		
Lynette Clyde	X	
<u>Members of the Public</u>		
Jarrod Erdman	X	
Karen Morris	X	
Commissioner William McCloud	X	

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 by Commission Chair David Marshall.

2. Roll Call

Connie Salgado-Sanchez, Commission staff, called roll and quorum was met at 10:31 AM.

3. Welcome

Commission Chair David Marshall welcomed all members of the Commission, staff, and guests.

4. Action Item:

- Approval of August 6, 2026 Minutes: Motion to approve by Commissioner Selby, seconded by Commissioner Hay. Minutes approved unanimously.

5. Presentation – General Discussion with Dr. Anish Mahajan, Chief Deputy Director, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health

Commission Chair David Marshall welcomed Dr. Anish Mahajan, Chief Deputy Director at the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (DPH)

- Dr. Mahajan provided a comprehensive briefing on the current operational, fiscal, and public health challenges facing DPH.

- The department has a mandate to serve all 10 million residents of Los Angeles County through more than 80 programs encompassing infectious disease control, emergency preparedness, environmental health, reproductive health, housing habitability, food safety, and operation of the county's Substance Abuse Prevention and Control (SAPC) system.
- DPH's work focuses on improving population-level health outcomes and reducing disparities among communities most affected by inequity.
- DPH is navigating significant fiscal challenges including approximately \$32.5 million in federal funding reductions resulting from changes in national public health priorities, a \$14 million loss attributed to countywide liability settlements, and more than \$16 million in unfunded cost-of-living salary increases.
- These cumulative pressures forced the elimination of 115 positions, the closure of six of fourteen public health clinics, and the implementation of widespread efficiency measures.
- The department ultimately bridged a \$50–60 million funding gap but continues to face substantial uncertainty in federal grant renewals, including HIV prevention funding, potential CDC and HHS program cancellations, and vulnerabilities to new administrative rules that would allow federal appointees to override congressionally-funded health programs.
- HR 1 impact - the new six-month Medi-Cal redeterminations and work requirements are expected to reduce Medi-Cal participation by 15–20 percent.
- Medi-Cal funds the county's \$500 million substance use disorder treatment system and the service availability, provider sustainability, and patient access will be significantly affected.
- There are ongoing challenges related to vaccination policy changes and a growing measles outbreak, noting that each measles case requires extensive contact tracing costing the county about \$200,000 due to the large number of potential exposure sites.
- The recent Lineage Warehouse Fire required DPH to respond to severe odor, vector, and respiratory risks; issued directives, citations, conducted door-to-door outreach, and maintained community presence.
- Medical debt is a major public health issue, 1 in 10 residents carries medical debt
 - DPH leads a coalition implementing presumptive eligibility and improved financial assistance practices.
- Measure ER - DPH will receive ~10% of Measure ER funds (~\$100M annually) to restore cut programs, expand vaccine access, support immigrant health services, and fund environmental disaster response infrastructure.
 - The department has launched multilingual community meetings to gather input on priorities for Measure ER-funded investments.

The Commissioners thanked Dr. Mahajan for his presentation.

6. Items for discussion and possible action:

	DISCUSSION/FINDINGS	RECOMMENDATIONS, ACTIONS, FOLLOW-UP
a. Election of Officers	Chair Marshall appointed Commissioners Ogawa, LaCorte, and Selby to develop the officer slate to share at the meeting on November 5, 2026	

b. Discussion – Site Visits	Next Site Visit: • Olive View-UCLA Medical Center on September 11, 2026 ◦ 4 Commissioners confirmed • High Desert – November or December	Site Visit to Augustus Hawkins
c. Discussion Guest Speakers	January – Canceled February – Caroline Balfour March – Dr. Phillip Gruber, Kevin Lynch, Christopher Rodriguez (Project Monarch) April – Canceled May – Dr. Lisa Wong (DMH) June – Joshua Rutkoff (Leadership Development) July – meeting dark August – Dr. Jackie Contreras (DPSS)/ Sharri Cheatham September – Dr. Barbara Ferrer, DPH October – Sara Mahin November – Shari Doi December – Rhonda Bean	Proposed speakers for 2026-27: • DPH-SAPC (Brian Hurley) • ODR (Dr. Clemens Hong) • DPSS (Sherri Cheatham) • Measure ER (Anna Gorman) • CCLAC (Louise McCarthy) • Aging & Disabilities (Maral Karaccusian) • HR • Hospital CEOs • Allen Wecker • LA Care Director
d. Discussion – Annual Report	◦ Updated report distributed ◦ Commissioners to submit edits by Thursday, September 10 to begin routing for internal approval	
e. Discussion – Department of Health Services Dashboard	• Commissioners discussed OR utilization, uninsured and Medi-Cal fee-for-service trends, HR1 impacts, ED wait time definitions, and technical audio issues affecting participation	

7. Items not on the posted agenda for matters requiring immediate action because of an emergency, or where the need to take immediate action came to the attention of the Commission.

Commission staff will check with HR to determine the mandatory training requirements for Commission members.

8. Public Comment

No public comment received.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m. the next regular meeting is scheduled for October 1, 2026.