



**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS
FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
LOS ANGELES COUNTY YOUTH COMMISSION
KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 374-A
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012
<https://youthcommission.lacounty.gov>**

Thursday, April 27, 2023

6:30 PM



Video for the entire meeting. (23-1777)

Attachments: [Video](#)

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. Call to Order, Roll Call and Land Acknowledgment. (23-1493)

Co-Chair Ricardo Ortega Martinez, Jr. called the meeting to order at 6:47 p.m. County Staff conducted Roll Call. Commissioner Peña read the County's Land Acknowledgment.

Present: Co-Chair Ricardo Ortega Martinez Jr., Commissioner La'Toya Cooper, Commissioner Joshua Elizondo, Commissioner Luisa Flores Urrutia, Commissioner Ezekiel Nishiyama, Commissioner Clarissa Peña, Commissioner Brittianna Robinson, Commissioner Myriah Smiley and Commissioner Angela Young

Absent: Co-Chair Amanda Hernandez, Commissioner Jacob Jackson and Commissioner Flo Valenzuela

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- February 23, 2023 Regular Meeting
- February 28, 2023 Training Meeting
- March 16, 2023 Special Meeting (23-1496)

On motion of Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Cooper, and duly carried, the minutes from the February 23, 2023 Regular Meeting, were approved by the following vote:

Ayes: 7 - Co-Chair Ricardo Ortega Martinez Jr., Commissioner La'Toya Cooper, Commissioner Luisa Flores Urrutia, Commissioner Ezekiel Nishiyama, Commissioner Brittianna Robinson, Commissioner Myriah Smiley and Commissioner Angela Young

Abstentions: 2 - Commissioner Joshua Elizondo and Commissioner Clarissa Peña

Absent: 3 - Co-Chair Amanda Hernandez, Commissioner Jacob Jackson and Commissioner Flo Valenzuela

On motion of Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Cooper, and duly carried, the minutes from the February 28, 2023 Training Meeting, were approved by the following vote:

Ayes: 8 - Co-Chair Ricardo Ortega Martinez Jr., Commissioner La'Toya Cooper, Commissioner Joshua Elizondo, Commissioner Luisa Flores Urrutia, Commissioner Ezekiel Nishiyama, Commissioner Brittianna Robinson, Commissioner Myriah Smiley and Commissioner Angela Young

Abstentions: 1 - Commissioner Clarissa Peña

Absent: 3 - Co-Chair Amanda Hernandez, Commissioner Jacob Jackson and Commissioner Flo Valenzuela

On motion of Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Cooper, and duly carried, the minutes from the March 16, 2023 Special Meeting, were approved by the following vote:

Ayes: 9 - Co-Chair Ricardo Ortega Martinez Jr., Commissioner La'Toya Cooper, Commissioner Joshua Elizondo, Commissioner Luisa Flores Urrutia, Commissioner Ezekiel Nishiyama, Commissioner Clarissa Peña, Commissioner Brittianna Robinson, Commissioner Myriah Smiley and Commissioner Angela Young

Absent: 3 - Co-Chair Amanda Hernandez, Commissioner Jacob Jackson and Commissioner Flo Valenzuela

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - February 23, 2023](#)
[SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - February 28, 2023](#)
[SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - March 16, 2023](#)

II. REPORTS

3. Leadership Report. (23-1674)

Co-Chair Ortega Martinez, Jr. reported the following:

- **Thanked Commissioners Flores Urrutia and Commissioner Robinson for attending the Spring into Action event hosted by the Department of Children and Family Services on April 19, 2023, and Commissioner Robinson for attending the Ocean Safety Day hosted by the Department of Beaches and Harbors (DBH) on April 22, 2023.**
- **The capacity building training will not be mandatory for all Commissioners, only less than a quorum can be in attendance at one time, and will be available on a first-come first-served basis.**

Commissioner Robinson shared that DBHs' Ocean Day event was very informative with a variety of resources available and a great connection for job opportunities for youth.

4. Executive Director's Report. (23-1507)

This item was not taken up.

III. PRESENTATION

5. Presentation on Supporting Youth Development by David J. Carroll, Director, Department of Youth Development. (23-1592)

David J. Carroll, Director, Department of Youth Development (DYD) provided a presentation and shared information on the following:

- **Overview of DYD's Purpose and Priorities.**
- **An Annual Youth Summit is being planned for late summer, early fall.**
- **DYD is working to support and expand their Youth Diversion, Youth Development and Youth Re-entry programs in L.A. County.**
- **Other activities include advancing policy analysis and implementation, designing demonstration projects, and continuing to work with the Board of Supervisors on their motions that direct the DYD to take a stronger role in programming.**

In response to questions posed by the Commission, Director Carroll shared the following:

- **DYD will only partner with trusted providers with a history of working with special needs youth, similar to the Credible Messenger Program.**
- **On the diversion side, law enforcement has the ability to defer a youth; discussions begin with the mayor of a city initially, then with the police chief and staff that work with juvenile arrests. On the probation side, meetings with site and probation leadership provide the opportunity to explain the Credible Messenger Program and its benefits.**
- **Diversion partners provide required training to credible messengers and internal staff members.**

- Probation or other officials are always present when staff interacts with youth in the camps and halls.
- Invited Commissioner Nishiyama to comment on his experience being a Credible Messenger.
- It is crucial to inform all law enforcement agencies about the diversion program and understand the benefits of keeping youth out of the system. It is also important to get the arrest case as early as possible.
- The three pilot regions were selected based on economic characteristics, arrest records, and community resources.
- Various LA County Sheriff's stations have been responsive based on encouragement by Sheriff Luna to increase the number of referrals.
- Services to youth are provided within the youth's community.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

IV. RECOMMENDATION

6. Recommendation by the Operations Committee to approve the nomination of at-large Youth Commission applicants. (23-1673)

Commissioner Elizondo provided an overview of the Operations Committee process to fill the at-large vacancies. Two applicants were selected for nomination, Evelyn Rodriguez and Martine Jones; both applicants have lived experience and will be strong advocates for youth. Discussion ensued and Commissioner Elizondo informed that there is an additional vacancy open that requires appointment by the Board of Supervisors.

After discussion, on motion of Commissioner Elizondo, seconded by Commissioner Cooper, and duly carried, Evelyn Rodriguez and Martine Jones were approved as commissioner nominations for Board of Supervisors appointment by the following vote:

Ayes: 9 - Co-Chair Ricardo Ortega Martinez Jr., Commissioner La'Toya Cooper, Commissioner Joshua Elizondo, Commissioner Luisa Flores Urrutia, Commissioner Ezekiel Nishiyama, Commissioner Clarissa Peña, Commissioner Brittianna Robinson, Commissioner Myriah Smiley and Commissioner Angela Young

Absent: 3 - Co-Chair Amanda Hernandez, Commissioner Jacob Jackson and Commissioner Florencia Flo Valenzuela

V. DISCUSSION

7. Discussion on the Youth Commission's process for legislative advocacy. (23-1667)

Co-Chair Ortega Martinez, Jr., shared information on the process for reviewing legislation. The Co-Chairs will work with Youth Commission staff to review legislation and provide a summary of selected legislation that may be of interest to the Commission. If Commissioners agree on recommending a position on legislation, the commission will partner with the Chief Executive Office Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations office (CEO LAIR) to go through the County's commission legislation process.

Executive Director Tiara Summers clarified that the commission may not take an official position for the County that has not been approved by the Board.

VI. MISCELLANEOUS

8. Opportunity for members of the public to provide comments to the Commission on item(s) of interest that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission. (23-1508)

Monika Vega, member of the public, addressed the Commission.

9. Commissioner discussion of matters not posted on the agenda, to be considered, and placed on the agenda at a future meeting of the Commission. (23-1509)

The following items were requested to be placed on a future agenda:

- **Presentation by the Department of Mental Health on their efforts toward the homeless, as well as the Sheriff and Probation.**
- **Presentation by the Los Angeles County Office of Education to follow up on staffing.**

10. Adjournment. (23-1510)

On motion of Commissioner Elizondo, seconded by Commissioner Cooper, there being no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.