



**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, September 28, 2023

6:30 PM



Video for the entire meeting. (23-3635)

Attachments: [Video](#)

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. Call to Order, Roll Call and Land Acknowledgment. (23-3398)

Co-Chair Hernandez called the meeting to order at 6:39 p.m. County Staff conducted Roll Call, and Commissioner Bradford read the County Land Acknowledgement Statement.

Present: Co-Chair Amanda Hernandez, Co-Chair Ricardo Ortega Martinez Jr., Commissioner Sherrie Bradford, Commissioner La'Toya Cooper, Commissioner Joshua Elizondo, Commissioner Luisa Flores Urrutia, Commissioner Martine Jones, Commissioner Clarissa Peña, Commissioner Brittianna Robinson and Commissioner Evelyn Karina Rodriguez

Absent: Commissioner Myriah Smiley, Commissioner Florencia Flo Valenzuela and Commissioner Angela Young

2. Approval of minutes from the August 31, 2023 meeting. (23-3399)

On motion of Co-Chair Ortega Martinez, Jr., seconded by Commissioner Flores Urrutia, and duly carried (Commissioners Smiley, Valenzuela, and Young being absent), the minutes from the August 31, 2023 meeting were

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

II. REPORTS

3. Leadership Report. (23-3400)

Co-Chair Hernandez reported that the Executive Team reviews various legislative matters that come before the Board of Supervisors (BOS).

She encouraged all Commissioners to become knowledgeable about issues for support and advocacy. She referenced Agenda No.5 from the meeting of September 12,2023, relating to the establishment of a new Transportation Commission for the County.

Co-Chair Ortega Martinez, Jr. referenced Agenda No. 37 from the meeting of September 12, 2023, he encouraged Commissioners to share their ideas regarding the Board's motion to conduct a survey of County School District Superintendents, to determine which districts are utilizing campuses for cooling center purposes.

Co-Chair Hernandez also reported the following:

- Co-Chair Ortega Martinez, Jr., is planning on attending the Civilian Oversight Commission's 3rd Annual Community Policing Conference on Friday, October 27, 2023, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., at Cal State Los Angeles. Commissioners are encouraged to notify staff if they are interested in attending to keep attendance below a quorum.**
- Commissioners have met with staff from the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) to discuss their year-end graduation celebration. DCFS is happy to have input from the Youth Commission and Commissioners were encouraged to join future planning workgroups.**
- The Youth Commission logo has been finalized and the logo will be part of all correspondence and online platforms.**

4. Executive Director Report. (23-3401)

Executive Director Summers reported the following:

- There is a vacancy for the Career Development Intern (CDI), which is a two-year internship. She encouraged Commissioners to advise her of anyone interested.**
- The Senior Staff Analyst position has been filled. The candidate is currently going through a background process.**

- **Leadership elections will be held in November; an email will be sent to Commissioners asking for their nominations.**
- **The HIV Commission will be conducting a Conference on Thursday, November 9, 2023, and have requested two Youth Commissioners to join their panel discussion. Interested Commissioners should respond to the invitation email.**

III. RECOMMENDATION

- 5. Operations Committee update by Chair Joshua Elizondo and Recommendation to Approve the Nomination of At-Large Youth Commission Candidates.**

Commissioner Joshua Elizondo, Operations Committee Chair, provided an update on the Commissioner application process. The next steps will include the creation of short online videos to enhance the process.

A standardize timeframe for future vacancies was discussed, and a six-week timeframe was deemed sufficient. The Committee completed a three-step re-evaluation process with Co-Chair Ortega Martinez, Jr., and Commissioners Flores Urrutia and Robinson. All three Commissioner names have been submitted to the Executive Office Committee Book for placement on the Board of Supervisor's agenda for reappointment.

OPS Chair Elizondo provided an overview of the interview and selection process. He reported that the vetting process for nominations was completed and two candidates, Christian Gudiel and Irving Alvarez, are being presented for nomination to the at large positions on the Youth Commission.

After discussion, on motion of Commissioner Cooper, seconded by Commissioner Rodriguez, and duly carried (Commissioners Smiley, Valenzuela and Young being absent), the nomination of Christian Gudiel and Irving Alvarez, to the position of at- large Commissioners, was approved for submission to the Board of Supervisors for appointment.

Each candidate thanked the Commission for the opportunity to serve on the Commission.

IV. COMMITTEE UPDATES

6. Youth Engagement Committee update by Committee Chair La'Toya Cooper. (23-3404)

LaToya Cooper, Chair, Youth Engagement Committee provided the following update:

- **The First Supervisorial District's Listening Session will be held Saturday, October 7, 2023, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The Listening Session will be hosted by the City of Pomona Youth Commission at Palamares Park in Pomona.**
 - **The Third Supervisorial District will hold their Listening Session on Saturday, October 21, 2023, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Pierce College. Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath is scheduled to attend. YEC Chair Cooper and Commissioner Elizondo commended Commissioners and staff for their work in preparation of these events.**
7. Ad Hoc Committee on DCFS and Probation Report Card, update by Committee Chair Florencia Valenzuela. (23-3405)

In the absence of Ad Hoc Chair Valenzuela, Executive Director Summers reported that a full update will be provided at the upcoming Retreat regarding next steps and process.

V. DISCUSSION

8. Roundtable discussion with Guillermo Viera Rosa, Interim Chief Probation Officer, Probation Department. (23-3402)

Felicia Cotton and Eric Strong, Probation Department, facilitated the Roundtable discussion in the absence of the Interim Chief Probation Officer, Guillermo Viera Rosa. Ms. Cotton reviewed the questions that were submitted to her prior to the meeting.

Discussion ensued and Ms. Cotton responded to questions posed by the Commissioners as follows:

- **Demographics are captured for everyone that comes through their intake process through self-identification. Changes to self-identification can be made later if the youth choose to do so.**
- **She highlighted race and gender demographics at pre-disposition and post-disposition locations.**

- The demographics for cross over population was not available but will be provided by Ms. Cotton.
- Dual supervision cases are usually under an informal court ordered probation. Follow-up by the court occurs every six months. DCFS and Probation meet once-a-week to ensure collaboration for the best outcomes for the youth.
- Many of the youth who are in the non court, informal probation status are referred to the Department of Youth Development for appropriate program initiation, or to service providers within the community under the Early Intervention and Diversion Program (EIDP).
- Teen Court is a juvenile run court room by students at a school not attended by the youth in question. A real judge presides over the hearings. Once a youth fulfills the agreement issued by the Teen Court, under the assistance from the Probation Department, the case is closed and sealed.
- Demographics for certain crimes by age group and ethnicity will be provided by Ms. Cotton.
- Ms. Cotton spoke on school absenteeism and DCFS involvement, community resources and in home services to mitigate delinquency. Discussion ensued around mental health needs of the black and brown youth, and the intervention process in schools, and available services.
- Department of Mental Health and DCFS host regular meetings at the juvenile halls and camps. Youth are encouraged to advocate for themselves, and they have proven to be very vocal. The primary caregiver is also engaged.
- Clarified that the SYTF (Secure Youth Treatment Facilities) rehabilitative plan includes step downs into different units and ultimately to the community. Progress is reviewed every six months by the court, whereby rehabilitation plans can be revised.

Co-Chair Hernandez requested Ms. Cotton return to the Commission to continue an in-depth discussion regarding demographics and available programs. Member of the public, Kate from California Youth Connection, addressed the Commission.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

VI. MISCELLANEOUS

9. 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. (23-3406)

No members of the public addressed the Commission.

10. Commissioner discussion of matters not posted on the agenda, to be considered, and placed on the agenda at a future meeting of the Commission. (23-3407)

Commissioner Cooper requested that the Probation Department return to provide a follow up presentation and to answer additional questions from today's presentation. After clarification, the Probation Department will be asked to return for a follow-up presentation in November 2023.

11. Adjournment. (23-3408)

On motion of Vice Chair Ortega Martinez, Jr., seconded by Commissioner Bradford, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.