



**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, July 25, 2024

6:30 PM

Video for the entire meeting. (24-3049)

Attachments: [VIDEO](#)

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. Call to Order, Roll Call and Land Acknowledgment. (24-2915)

Co-Chair Ricardo Ortega Martinez, Jr., called the meeting to order at 6:46 p.m. and County Staff conducted Roll Call. Commissioner Clarissa Peña read the County's Land Acknowledgement.

Present: Co-Chair Amanda Hernandez, Co-Chair Ricardo Ortega Martinez Jr., Commissioner Joshua Elizondo, Commissioner Cristopher Espino, Commissioner Luisa Flores Urrutia, Commissioner Christian Gudiel, Commissioner Clarissa Peña, Commissioner Brittianna Robinson, Commissioner Myriah Smiley, Commissioner Florencia (Flo) Valenzuela and Commissioner Angela Young

Absent: Commissioner Sherrie Bradford, Commissioner La'Toya Cooper, Commissioner Martine Jones, and Commissioner Evelyn Karina Rodriguez

2. Awareness Video - Know to Say No: To All of Us, by LA County DCFS. (24-2922)

The Awareness Video, Know to Say No: To All of Us, by the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), was shown.

Attachments: [VIDEO](#)

3. Approval of minutes from the regular meeting of June 27, 2024. (24-2930)

On motion of Co-Chair Ricardo Ortega Martinez Jr., seconded by Commissioner Myriah Smiley, and duly carried, the minutes from the regular meeting of June 27, 2024, were approved, by the following vote:

Ayes: 10 - Co-Chair Amanda Hernandez, Co-Chair Ricardo Ortega Martinez Jr., Commissioner Joshua Elizondo, Commissioner Christopher Espino, Commissioner Luisa Flores Urrutia, Commissioner Christian Gudiel, Commissioner Clarissa Peña, Commissioner Myriah Smiley, Commissioner Florencia (Flo) Valenzuela and Commissioner Angela Young

Absent: 5 - Commissioner Sherrie Bradford, Commissioner La'Toya Cooper, Commissioner Martine Jones, Commissioner Brittianna Robinson and Commissioner Evelyn Karina Rodriguez

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

II. REPORTS

4. Leadership Report.
- "I See You" Shout Out (24-2931)

Co-Chair Amanda Hernandez announced the Youth Commission's (YC) "I See You" YC Shout Out recipient as Eliza Martinez; Eliza resides in the Fifth District and was nominated for her work as a panelist at the International Youth Summit. Commissioners were reminded to submit their nominations for the next "I See You" YC Shout Out and provided the dates that each Supervisorial District's nomination will take place on.

Co-Chair Hernandez reported that the YC is collaborating with the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) on their Celebration II event that will take place on Wednesday, July 31, 2024.

5. Commissioner Reports on Activities and Events attended on behalf of the Youth Commission. (24-2932)
- **Commissioner Smiley attended the California Black Expo centered around parents and expecting parents. She highlighted that there were many forms of resources and activities for parents and their**

- Commissioner Joshua Elizondo reported that he has been nominated to Co-Chair the Education Coordination Council’s (ECC) Youth Engagement Committee and the first Co-Chair meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 30, 2024. He intends to bring back more information as to how the ECC can collaborate with YC. He also reported the Third Supervisorial District’s Listening Session will be held at Valley College.
- Commissioner Christian Gudiel shared that Directing Change provided mental health booklets for Commissioners to share with the community while performing outreach.
- Co-Chair Amanda Hernandez attended a Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) Resource Fair and was able to network with various vendors, informing them on the YC and their work.

III. DISCUSSIONS

6. Roundtable Discussion with Los Angeles County Probation Department and Los Angeles County Department of Youth Development (DYD) to continue exploring the existing partnership between the departments, and discuss efforts for collaboration in providing services for pre-disposition youth and post disposition youth in the Community. (24-2933)

Taylor Schooley, Los Angeles County Department of Youth Development (DYD), provided background information on the DYD Youth Diversion and Development Program (Diversion Program). She shared a presentation entitled, Outcome, Equity and Cost-Benefit Evaluation. She indicated that the future entails a narrative strategy, ongoing research, policy change for equity, and expanding support for growing the network of providers.

In response to questions posed by the Commissioners, Ms. Schooley, clarified the following:

- **The DYD funds two Community Based Organizations (CBOs) that provide youth diversion services in the Antelope Valley**
- **DYD Diversion Program model includes family support and resources.**
- **Regarding the data stating that “95% of youth who enroll in diversion stay out of the trouble with the legal system,” the following was clarified:**
 - o **The Diversion Program was evaluated at both a six month and 12 month timeframe and;**
 - o **The evaluator submitted a petition to the court to be able to access court records to compile this data.**
- **There is possible collaboration with the Los Angeles County Youth Commission (YC) on the Diversion Program’s narrative strategy:**

Providing feedback on the program communications campaign, in hopes of making the material more youth friendly.

- Direct partnerships with schools to become providers is in the developmental stage in the Diversion Program.
- In response to an inquiry, David Carroll, Director, DYD, stated that more detainments of black youth are seen, and they are disproportionately not offered diversion.

He also reported the following regarding the Diversion Program:

- Providers are reaching capacity, highlighting that referrals have almost doubled in the last year.
- The number of law enforcement agencies that are referring diversion has tripled.
- Their law enforcement agency partnerships have expanded, adding four regions and two providers.

Mr. Carroll advised the YC that they may partner with DYD in their Diversion Program efforts by raising awareness and networking with CBOs to share their insight on the program.

Tiara Summers, Executive Director, YC, opened the floor to discussion requesting DYD and Los Angeles County Probation Department (Probation) to discuss potential partnership in the Diversion Program efforts.

Kimberly Epps, Chief Deputy, Probation, provided some background information on youth living in the community that are pending investigation and youth eligible for Probation's role in the diversion process.

A discussion ensued regarding pre dispositioned youth living in the community, not under the care of Probation, that may benefit from the support of resources the Diversion Program offers and how DYD and Probation can potentially partner.

After discussion, the YC agreed to table the discussion due to technical difficulties.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DYD](#)

IV. UPDATES AND ACTION ITEMS

7. Operations Committee update by Committee Chair Joshua Elizondo. (24-2934)

Commissioner Joshua Elizondo, Chair, Operations Committee (OPS),

reported that the OPS meeting scheduled for Monday, July 15, 2024, was cancelled and proposed a special meeting to be scheduled for Monday, August 19, 2024.

He briefly reported on the two commissioner vacancies, stating that OPS will begin recruitment in August 2024, in hopes to onboard a commissioner by October 2024.

In response to questions posed by the Commission regarding Commissioner terms, OPS Chair Joshua Elizondo clarified the following:

- Commissioners serve at the pleasure of the Board, and they are allowed to continue in the interim until a replacement is found.
- It is the responsibility of OPS to bring forth a nominee to the full Commission body for a vote when Commissioner terms are expiring.

Member of the public, Elianna Peña, addressed the Commission.

8. Youth Engagement Committee (YEC) update by Committee Chair La'Toya Cooper followed by a recommendation to approve the YEC End Year Event date of Saturday, October 26th, 2024, to be held at Los Angeles County Mental Health building located at 510 S. Vermont Ave. Los Angeles, CA. 90020. (24-2935)

In the absence of Commissioner La'Toya Cooper, Chair, Youth Engagement Committee (YEC), Tiara Summers, Executive Director, Los Angeles County Youth Commission (YC), reported that the YEC proposed a Special Meeting be held for the YEC End-Year Event on Saturday, October 26th, 2024, to be held at Los Angeles County Mental Health building located at 510 S. Vermont Ave. Los Angeles, CA. 90020. She then opened the floor for discussion.

A discussion ensued regarding commissioner availability.

After discussion, on motion of Commissioner Myriah Smiley, seconded by Commissioner Luisa Flores Urrutia, and duly carried, the Youth Commission approved holding a Special Meeting for their YEC End-Year Event on Saturday, October 26, 2024, at the Los Angeles County Mental Health building located at 510 S. Vermont Ave. Los Angeles, CA. 90020, by the following vote:

Ayes: 9 - Co-Chair Amanda Hernandez, Co-Chair Ricardo Ortega Martinez Jr., Commissioner Luisa Flores Urrutia, Commissioner Christian Gudiel, Commissioner Clarissa Peña, Commissioner Brittianna Robinson, Commissioner Myriah Smiley, Commissioner Florencia (Flo) Valenzuela and Commissioner Angela Young

Abstentions: 2 - Commissioner Joshua Elizondo and Commissioner Christopher Espino

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Sherrie Bradford, Commissioner La'Toya Cooper, Commissioner Martine Jones and Commissioner Evelyn Karina Rodriguez

9. Ad Hoc Committee update by Committee Chair Amanda Hernandez. (24-2936)

Co-Chair Amanda Hernandez reported the Ad Hoc Committee (Ad Hoc) approved the evaluation tool to be completed by the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), Youth Development Services, at the last meeting and there being no further business, the Ad Hoc is now dissolved.

V. MISCELLANEOUS

10. 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. (24-2937)

Member of the public, Roger Ochoa, addressed the Commission.

11. Commissioner discussion of matters not posted on the agenda, to be considered, and placed on the agenda at a future meeting of the Commission. (24-2938)

- **Co-Chair Amanda Hernandez requested a follow up discussion with the Los Angeles County Probation Department (Probation) and the Los Angeles County Department of Youth Development (DYD).**
- **Commissioner Joshua Elizondo reported that the Operations Committee (OPS) is finalizing their scripts for Youth Commission approval at the next meeting.**
- **Commissioner Florencia Valenzuela and Commissioner Christian Gudiel requested a follow up discussion with Probation, that includes youth-friendly language and up to date data.**
- **Co-Chair Ricardo Ortega Martinez Jr. requested future discussions with DYD to support their efforts in school system diversion programs.**

12. Adjournment. (24-2939)

Co-Chair Amanda Hernandez adjourned the meeting in memory of Cynthia Lemay Elizondo, mother of Commissioner Joshua Elizondo. A video was presented of Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath adjourning in her honor at the July 9, 2024, Board of Supervisors' meeting.

The next Youth Commission meeting will be held on Thursday, August 29, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

On motion of Commissioner Myriah Smiley, seconded by Co-Chair Ricardo Ortega Martinez Jr., there being no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 8:43 p.m.