



**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS  
FOR THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE  
LOS ANGELES COUNTY YOUTH COMMISSION**  
510 S. VERMONT AVE, CONFERENCE ROOM B & C  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90020  
<https://youthcommission.lacounty.gov>

**Saturday, October 26, 2024**

**11:00 AM**



**I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

1. Call to Order, Roll Call and Land Acknowledgment. (24-4817)

**Co-Chair Ricardo Ortega Martinez, Jr., called the special meeting to order at 11:39 a.m. County Staff conducted Roll Call, and Commissioner Clarissa Peña read the County's Land Acknowledgement.**

Present: Co-Chair Amanda Hernandez, Co-Chair Ricardo Ortega Martinez Jr., Commissioner Joshua Elizondo, Commissioner Luisa Flores Urrutia, Commissioner Christian Gudiel, Commissioner Clarissa Peña, Commissioner Brittianna Robinson, Commissioner Evelyn Karina Rodriguez and Commissioner Florencia Flo Valenzuela

Absent: Commissioner Sherrie Bradford, Commissioner La'Toya Cooper, Commissioner Cristopher Espino, Commissioner Martine Jones, Commissioner Myriah Smiley and Commissioner Angela Young

2. Awareness Video - Know to Say No: Community, by LA County DCFS. (24-4827)

**The Awareness Video - Know to Say No: Community, by Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services was shown.**

**Attachments:** [KNOW TO SAY NO: COMMUNITY](#)

**II. UPDATE**

3. Operations Committee update by Committee Chair Joshua Elizondo. (24-4874)

**Commissioner Joshua Elizondo, Chair, Operations Committee (OPS), reported that the OPS has been conducting interviews of potential candidates to fill upcoming Commissioner vacancies. He stated that two candidates are being considered, their names will be presented at the**

### **III. PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSION**

**4. Presentation and Roundtable Discussion on the Youth Engagement Committee 2024 End-Year Report including but not limited to the following stakeholders:**

- County of Los Angeles, Board of Supervisors' Representatives
- County of Los Angeles Departments: Auditor-Controller/ Ombudsperson for Youth in STRTPs, Children and Family Services, Library, Mental Health, Probation, Public Social Services, Youth Development.
- County of Los Angeles Committees and Commissions: Prevention and Promotion Systems Governing Committee, Commission for Children and Families, LGBTQ+ Commission, Youth Climate Commission.
- Los Angeles County Office of Child Protection
- Children's Hospital of Los Angeles
- City of Los Angeles Youth Development Department
- City of Long Beach Office of Youth Development
- California Youth Connection (24-4838)

**Co-Chair Amanda Hernandez introduced this item and thanked all stakeholders for the resources provided to the Youth Commission (YC) throughout the year. She opened the presentation with an overview of the Listening Sessions logistics and the YC Focus Areas.**

**Commissioner Brittianna Robinson presented on the YC efforts in addressing CSEC (Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children).**

**Co-Chair Amanda Hernandez presented data and the key takeaways from the Listening Session held in the Fifth District where Supervisor Kathryn Barger moderated a panel discussion along with young professionals with lived experience.**

**Commissioner Christian Gudiel presented data and key takeaways from the Listening Session held in the Second District in collaboration with Compton YouthBuild where Commissioners moderated a panel discussion with youth with lived experience.**

**Commissioner Brittianna Robinson presented on the Listening Session held in the Fourth District in collaboration with the City of Long Beach, Office of Youth Development. The event included a resource fair with 16 vendors, a passport activity and a panel discussion.**

**Commissioner Florencia (Flo) Valenzuela presented data and key takeaways on the First District Listening Session held in collaboration with the City of Los Angeles, Department of Youth Development. A series of workshops were conducted, including vendors, and an Aztec dance ceremony.**

**Commissioner Joshua Elizondo presented data and key takeaways on the Third District Listening Session. The event was held at L.A. City College and Supervisor Lindsey Horvath moderated the panel discussion. The event included entertainment and creative expression showcasing films and talent, followed by a resource fair.**

**Co-Chair Amanda Hernandez thanked the Board of Supervisors, their Deputies, and County departments for their participation in the 2024 Listening Sessions and encouraged continued partnerships with the YC in 2025.**

**Dan Wheeler, Outreach Coordinator, provided the Youth Engagement Committee's (YEC) 2024 End Year Report, highlighting outreach efforts, youth demographics, trends, and data collected from the surveys obtained from Listening Sessions and other outreach efforts. Executive Director, Tiara Summers, spoke about the importance of face to face connections made at the Listening Sessions.**

**The following persons addressed the Commission:**

- **Michelle Lucarelli-Beltran, Los Angeles County (LAC) Ombudsperson for Youth in Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Programs (STRTPs), Auditor-Controller**
- **Mia Johnson, LAC Department of Arts and Culture**
- **Sunitha Menon, Executive Director, LGBTQ+ Commission**
- **Susan Gantan, Children's Hospital of Los Angeles**
- **Minsun Meeker, LAC Office of Child Protection**
- **Jackie Contreras, LAC Department of Public Social Services**
- **Nick Ippolito, LAC Department of Public Social Services**
- **Dr. Tamara Hunter, Interim Executive Director, Prevention and Promotion Systems Governing Committee**
- **Erica Reynoso, LAC Department of Mental Health**
- **Markria Warren, California Youth Connection**

**Commissioner Clarissa Peña, member of the Youth Engagement Committee, presented information provided by 785 survey respondents, 332 being system impacted youth. Responses showed that key concerns for youth are mental health, housing, and feeling unsafe.**

**Commissioners responded to questions posed by stakeholders, and discussion ensued. During discussion, Angela Macias Mendez, LAC Library, addressed the Commission.**

The meeting recessed at 1:09 p.m. for lunch and reconvened at 1:54 p.m.

Commissioner Luisa Flores Urrutia shared general data results regarding systems encountered, youth interests and advocacy, and negative and positive impacts. Co-Chair Hernandez presented data specific results per District. Ms. Summers discussed the next steps and engagement strategies for the Commission.

Co-Chair Amanda Hernandez commended the YEC and YC Team for their work and engagement efforts.

**Attachments:** [YEC 2024 END-YEAR REPORT PRESENTATION](#)

5. Youth Engagement Committee Recognition Presentation. (24-4844)

Co-Chair Amanda Hernandez opened the floor to the Youth Engagement Committee Recognition Presentation whereby the following individuals were recognized for their outstanding efforts and participation:

- Kate and Josh from the California Youth Connection
- Michelle and Trish of the Ombudsperson for Youth in STRTPs, Auditor-Controller
- Franco and Andrea from the RightWay Foundation
- Commissioners Clarissa Pena and Luisa Flores Urrutia

#### **IV. MISCELLANEOUS**

6. 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. (24-4848)

**No members of the public addressed the Commission.**

7. Closing Remarks and Adjournment. (24-4853)

**On motion of Co-Chair Ricardo Ortega Martinez, Jr., seconded by Commissioner Clarissa Peña, there being no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 2:42 p.m.**

**The next meeting will be held on Monday, November 21, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.**