



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 26, 2024

6:30 PM

Video for the Entire Meeting. (24-4372)

Attachments: [VIDEO](#)

### I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. Call to Order, Roll Call and Land Acknowledgment. (24-3991)

**Co-Chair Ricardo Ortega Martinez, Jr., called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m. County Staff conducted Roll Call, and Co-Chair Amanda Hernandez read the County's Land Acknowledgement.**

Present: Co-Chair Amanda Hernandez, Co-Chair Ricardo Ortega Martinez Jr., Commissioner La'Toya Cooper, Commissioner Joshua Elizondo, Commissioner Cristopher Espino, 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 Luisa Flores Urrutia, Commissioner Martine Jones and Commissioner Evelyn Karina Rodriguez

2. Awareness Video - Know to Say No: Friends, by LA County DCFS. (24-4002)

**The Awareness Video - Know to Say No: Friends, by Los Angeles County's Department of Children and Families was shown.**

Attachments: [VIDEO](#)

3. Approval of minutes from the regular meeting of August 29, 2024. (24-4009)

**This item was tabled pending the establishment of a quorum. Later in the meeting, Commissioner Elizondo suggested an edit on Page 3.**

**On motion of Commissioner Cristopher Espino, seconded by Commissioner La'Toya Cooper, and duly carried, the minutes from the regular meeting of August 29, 2024, were approved as amended as, by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** 9 - Co-Chair Amanda Hernandez, Co-Chair Ricardo Ortega Martinez Jr., Commissioner La'Toya Cooper, Commissioner Joshua Elizondo, Commissioner Cristopher Espino, Commissioner Christian Gudiel, Commissioner Clarissa Peña, Commissioner Brittianna Robinson and Commissioner Angela Young

**Abstentions:** 2 - Commissioner Myriah Smiley and Commissioner Florencia Flo Valenzuela

**Absent:** 4 - Commissioner Sherrie Bradford, Commissioner Luisa Flores Urrutia, Commissioner Martine Jones and Commissioner Evelyn Karina Rodriguez

**Attachments:** [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)  
[SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - REVISED](#)

## **II. REPORTS**

4. Leadership Report.  
• "I See You" Shout Out (24-4024)

**Commissioner Brittianna Robinson provided the "I See You" Shout Out for the Fourth District, recognizing Sophia Arciga. She spoke about Ms. Arciga's Podcast "The Voice of the Abandoned Youth," and noted that is a safe place designed to spread awareness to foster-impacted youth.**

**Co-Chair Ortega Martinez, Jr., indicated that the next Shout Out presentations are scheduled as follows: District 1 - October; and District 3 - November.**

5. Commissioner Reports on Activities and Events attended on behalf of the Youth Commission. (24-4026)

**Commissioner Joshua Elizondo reported that the Education Coordinating Council's (ECC) Youth Workgroup is hosting a youth listening session on October 7, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. . He is also working with Better Youth on a Film Festival for Foster Youth that will be held on October 5, 2024; Supervisor Horvath's office will be in attendance.**

### **III. DISCUSSION**

6. Listening Session with the Prevention & Promotion Systems Governing Committee (PPSGC), to include updates and discussion on the PPSGC prevention work.

- Dr. Tamara Hunter, Interim Executive Director, PPSGC (24-4036)

**Co-Chair Ortega Martinez, Jr., introduced Dr. Tamara Hunter, Interim Executive Director of the Prevention & Promotion Systems Governing Committee (PPSGC). Dr. Hunter provided a presentation on the PPSGC and the prevention work being conducted. She highlighted the following:**

- **Understanding the Current State of Promoting Youth/Young Adult Connection and Preventing Disconnection**
- **Preliminary Current State Analysis**
- **About Youth Disconnection**
- **Individual-Level Contributing Factors**
- **Societal/Systems-Level Contributing Factors**
- **Impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic**
- **Current Efforts**
- **Getting It Right**
- **Gaps and Barriers**
- **Additional Opportunities**
- **Next Steps**

**Dr. Hunter and Minsun Meeker, Assistant Executive Director, Office of Child Protection, responded to questions posed by the Commission. The following topics were discussed:**

- **Misinformation regarding requirements in education for certain industries, the devaluing of college degrees, and the need to develop strategies regarding the gap.**
- **The development of a website that centralizes resources. Dr. Hunter clarified that the website is in alignment with the Internal Services Department (ISD) application.**
- **The need for evaluation and accountability.**
- **The list of County departments and various organizations involved in the work of PPSGC, and the actual structure of PPSGC.**

- **The need for integrated data sharing.**
- **Home ownership and building generational wealth.**

**The next immediate steps include establishing the following Sub-Committee workgroups to:**

- **Conduct an assessment scan and analysis of tools utilized in screening youth for resources.**
- **Review data sharing platforms to assess gaps and determine how to facilitate data sharing across systems.**
- **Define outreach engagement and access, to identify young people and promote connections.**

**Discussion ensued regarding the Foster Together Network regarding centralizing mentorship programs and establishing safe places for youth, and the function of resource websites.**

**Attachments:** [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

#### **IV. UPDATES AND ACTION ITEMS**

7. Operations Committee (OPS) update by Committee Chair Joshua Elizondo, and a recommendation to Approve the following video scripts:  
What is the Youth Commission?  
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)  
How to Apply (Walkthrough) (24-4030)

**Commissioner Joshua Elizondo, Chair, Operations Committee, reported the recruitment period to fill upcoming Youth Commission (YC) vacancies will close on Friday, September 27, 2024. Interviews will commence the second week of October, the nominee will be presented to the YC in November, to the Board of Supervisors in December, and will then join the YC in January.**

**Chair Elizondo discussed completion of the video scripts and noted that there will be a prompt on the YC website stating that assistance in completing the application, if needed, can be obtained by contacting the YC.**

**On motion of Commissioner La'Toya Cooper, seconded by Commissioner Cristopher Espino, and duly carried, the video scripts for the YC Website: What is the Youth Commission, Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ), and How to Apply (Walkthrough), were approved by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** 10 - Co-Chair Amanda Hernandez, Co-Chair Ricardo Ortega Martinez Jr., Commissioner La'Toya Cooper, Commissioner Cristopher Espino, Commissioner Christian Gudiel, Commissioner Clarissa Peña, Commissioner Brittianna Robinson, Commissioner Myriah Smiley, Commissioner Florencia Flo Valenzuela and Commissioner Angela Young

**Noes:** 1 - Commissioner Joshua Elizondo

**Absent:** 4 - Commissioner Sherrie Bradford, Commissioner Luisa Flores Urrutia, Commissioner Martine Jones and Commissioner Evelyn Karina Rodriguez

**Attachments:** [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

8. Youth Engagement Committee (YEC) update by Committee Chair La'Toya Cooper. (24-4031)

**Commissioner La'Toya Cooper, Chair, Youth Engagement Committee (YEC), reported that the Listening Sessions for all Supervisorial Districts have been completed. The YEC End Year event will take place on October 26, 2024. Commissioners from each District will provide a presentation discussing their findings from their Listening Session. She requested a point person from each District to lead the presentation. Commissioners responded as follows:**

- **First District - Commissioner Florencia (Flo) Valenzuela**
- **Second District - Commissioner Christian Gudiel**
- **Third District - TBD**
- **Fourth District - Commissioner Clarissa Peña**
- **Fifth District - Co-Chair Amanda Hernandez**

**A Special Meeting is required to approve the report that will be presented at the End-Year Event. The Special Meeting will need to take place prior to October 10, 2024. Commissioners were asked to email staff to provide their availability.**

9. Recommendation to approve the Youth Commission's 2023-24 Annual Report for the period of July 1, 2023 through October 31, 2024. (24-4186)

**On motion of Commissioner La'Toya Cooper, seconded by Co-Chair Amanda Hernandez, and duly carried, the Youth Commission's 2023 24 Annual Report for the period of July 1, 2023, through October 31, 2024, was approved by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** 11 - Co-Chair Amanda Hernandez, Co-Chair Ricardo Ortega Martinez Jr., Commissioner La'Toya Cooper, Commissioner Joshua Elizondo, Commissioner Christopher Espino, Commissioner Christian Gudiel, Commissioner Clarissa Peña, Commissioner Brittianna Robinson, Commissioner Myriah Smiley, Commissioner Florencia Flo Valenzuela and Commissioner Angela Young

**Absent:** 4 - Commissioner Sherrie Bradford, Commissioner Luisa Flores Urrutia, Commissioner Martine Jones and Commissioner Evelyn Karina Rodriguez

**Attachments:** [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

### **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. (24-4032)

**No members of the public 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. (24-4034)

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

- **Update on the work being done by Commissioners as members of the Prevention & Promotion Systems Governing Committee's Sub Committee Workgroups.**
- **Revisit the topic of FYI (Foster Youth to Independence) Vouchers.**
- **Presentation by the Department of Youth Development's Opportunity House by Los Angeles Room and Board with an update of the youth moving from the Barry J. Nidorf Juvenile Hall into their new facility in Westwood.**

12. Adjournment. (24-4035)

**The next meeting will be held October 26, 2024, at 11:00 a.m.**

**On motion of Co-Chair Amanda Hernandez, seconded by Commissioner La'Toya Cooper, there being no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m.**