



**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS
FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
LGBTQ+ COMMISSION
KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 140A
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012**

Friday, July 18, 2025

9:30 AM

AUDIO: [AUDIO LINK](#)

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. Call to Order, Roll Call

Chair Plascencia called the meeting to order at 9:33 AM. Annie Patpatian, administrative staff, called the roll.

A quorum was established with 12 (twelve) members present.

Present: Chair Héctor Trinidad Plascencia, Second Vice Chair Terra Russell-Slavin, Commissioner Nic Arnzen, Commissioner Steven Fisher, Commissioner Talha Khan-Valbuena, Commissioner Jer-Adrienne Lelliott, Commissioner Eddie Martinez, Commissioner Eric Nakano, Commissioner Alejandro Soria, Commissioner Tony Valenzuela, Commissioner Luis Vasquez and Commissioner Yolanda Whittington

Absent: Vice Chair Sydney Rogers, Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham and Commissioner Tonya Martin

2. Land Acknowledgement

Sunitha Menon, Executive Director, read the Los Angeles County Land Acknowledgment.

3. Black Diaspora, Labor, and Inclusion Acknowledgement

Second Vice Chair Russell-Slavin read the Black Diaspora, Labor, and Inclusion Acknowledgment

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

4. Moment of Silence

Chair Plascencia led the “Moment of Silence” inviting everyone to take three breaths for past, future and present trans and queer LGBTQ+ given and chosen lineage.

5. Approval of June 13, 2025 special meeting minutes.

Chair Plascencia introduced the minutes and asked the Commission if there any requests for revisions regarding the minutes for approval.

Member of the public Byron José addressed the Commission on this item.

On motion of Commissioner Arnzen, seconded by Second Vice Chair Russell-Slavin, this item was approved with the following vote:

Ayes: 12 - Chair Héctor Trinidad Plascencia, Second Vice Chair Terra Russell-Slavin, Commissioner Nic Arnzen, Commissioner Steven Fisher, Commissioner Talha Khan-Valbuena, Commissioner Jer-Adrianne Lelliott, Commissioner Eddie Martinez, Commissioner Eric Nakano, Commissioner Alejandro Soria, Commissioner Tony Valenzuela, Commissioner Luis Vasquez and Commissioner Yolanda Whittington

Absent: 3 - Vice Chair Sydney Rogers, Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham and Commissioner Tonya Martin

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)
 [PUBLIC COMMENT/WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE](#)

II. DISCUSSIONS AND ACTIONS

6. Presentation from the UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs and the Youth Commission about the multifaceted needs of LGBTQ+ youth within LA County. Discuss and take possible action on how the Commission can best support LGBTQ+ system involved youth, including possible establishment of an ad hoc subcommittee.

Commissioner Whittington introduced the item and explained how Commission might support the varied needs that system involved LGBTQ+ youth experience as they are moving between different County Departments and the supports that could improve.

Stefanie Gluckman, the project director from The Office of Child Protection under the Board of Supervisors, presented statistics and needs of LGBTQ+ Youth in Los Angeles County and explained there are projects developing protections for LGBTQ+ Youth.

Josh Elizondo, Co-Chair of the Los Angeles County Youth Commission presented recent surveys where Foster youth explained their struggles due to lack of security, safety, and acceptance.

Dr. Khush Cooper, commissioner for the Commission on Children and Families, presented studies of the needs of LGBTQ+ youth involved in different County systems and Departments. Dr. Cooper requested that the LGBTQ+ Commission create an Ad Hoc to focus on LGBTQ+ Youth. Dr. Khush Cooper responded to questions posed by Commissioners.

Commissioner Abraham* joined the meeting at 10:48AM.

***Present at alternate teleconference location in an address open and accessible to the public, for which all requirements for traditional teleconferencing are met as mandated by Gov. Code § 54953(b), as indicated on Agenda.**

Members of the public Byron José, BrandElsa Pereira, Michael Ardalan, Emma Valcarcel, Lucas Diaz, Raven Valcarcel, Jack Mazaba Guizar, addressed the Commission on this item.

After discussion, on motion of Commissioner Khan-Valbuena, seconded by Commissioner Vasquez, the Commission approved to create a Multiple Commission joint effort Ad Hoc Subcommittee to focus on LGBTQ+ youth, with the participation of Commissioner Nakano, Commissioner Soria, Commissioner Whittington, Commissioner Vasquez, Commissioner Martinez and Commissioner Lelliott with the following vote:

Ayes: 13 - Chair Héctor Trinidad Plascencia, Second Vice Chair Terra Russell-Slavin, Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham, Commissioner Nic Arnzen, Commissioner Steven Fisher, Commissioner Talha Khan-Valbuena, Commissioner Jer-Adrienne Lelliott, Commissioner Eddie Martinez, Commissioner Eric Nakano, Commissioner Alejandro Soria, Commissioner Tony Valenzuela, Commissioner Luis Vasquez and Commissioner Yolanda Whittington

Absent: 2 - Vice Chair Sydney Rogers and Commissioner Tonya Martin

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The Commission took a recess at 11:09 AM and reconvened at 11:20AM.

- 7. Presentation from the Department of Public Health about the ongoing work for the Transgender, Gender Expansive, and Intersex Wellness and Equity Initiative.**

Chair Plascencia reminded the Commission, in November 2024 the Board of Supervisors passed the TGI WEI motion allocating \$7 million to support the TGI community. The Department of Public Health is named in the motion as leading this work, and our Commission is tasked with collaborating and supporting.

Sonia Vasquez, Director for the Center of Health Equity in Department of Public Health provide updates and progress of on the establishment of the TGI WEI. Notified that the Invitation for Bid will be posted on the Public Health Contracts and Grants webpage <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/cg/> and the Doing Business with LA County website <https://doingbusiness.lacounty.gov/> and encouraged everyone to register on that site. And it will also be sent out through the Center for Health Equity list serve. If any organizations are interested in being notified when the Invitation for Bid is released, please send an email to LACHealthEquity@ph.lacounty.gov with the name of the organization, contact person, and email. Please also note in the email that this is for the TGI Wellness & Equity Initiative. Sonya Vasquez responded to questions posed by Commissioners.

Members of the public Maya Daniels, Byron José and Bee Curiel addressed the Commission on this item.

After Public Comment this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [PUBLIC COMMENT/WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE](#)

8. Discuss and take possible action on collaborating with the LA County Sexual and Gender Diverse Women's Health Collaborative Conference anticipated in September 2025.

Julie Friedman, the Director and Sophie Viray, Training Coordinator from of UCLA Health and Resource Center notified the Commission of the County Sexual and Gender Diverse Women's Health Collaborative Conference, anticipated in September 2025. They acknowledged they Commissions work and asked to include the LGBTQ+ Commission logo on the promotional flyer to represent the collaborative work.

Commissioner Lelliott opened the floor for discussion.

Member of the public Byron José addressed the Commission on this item.

After discussion, on motion of Second Vice Chair Russell-Slavin, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, the Commission approved to the Commission being a

non-fiscal sponsor for the September Conference, organized by the LA County Sexual and Gender Diverse Coalition, with the following vote:

Ayes: 13 - Chair Héctor Trinidad Plascencia, Second Vice Chair Terra Russell-Slavin, Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham, Commissioner Nic Arnzen, Commissioner Steven Fisher, Commissioner Talha Khan-Valbuena, Commissioner Jer-Adrienne Lelliott, Commissioner Eddie Martinez, Commissioner Eric Nakano, Commissioner Alejandro Soria, Commissioner Tony Valenzuela, Commissioner Luis Vasquez and Commissioner Yolanda Whittington

Absent: 2 - Vice Chair Sydney Rogers and Commissioner Tonya Martin

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)
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9. Discuss and take possible action on the Commission identifying recommendations for the Department of Consumer and Business Affairs (Office of Immigrant Affairs), specific to the needs of Trans and Queer people impacted by the recent immigration enforcement actions across Los Angeles County.

Chair Plascencia presented a draft list of recommended LGBTQ+ organizations for the Commission to review before submitting it to the Office of Immigrant Affairs to support LGBTQ+ immigrants.

Members of the public Maya Daniels, Byron José and Bee Curiel addressed the Commission on this item.

After discussion, on motion of Second Vice Chair Russell-Slavin, seconded by Commissioner Abraham, the Commission approved to proceed with the changes that were outlined to be sent within the next two weeks, with the following vote:

Ayes: 10 - Chair Héctor Trinidad Plascencia, Second Vice Chair Terra Russell-Slavin, Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham, Commissioner Nic Arnzen, Commissioner Steven Fisher, Commissioner Jer-Adrienne Lelliott, Commissioner Eddie Martinez, Commissioner Eric Nakano, Commissioner Alejandro Soria, Commissioner Tony Valenzuela, Commissioner Alejandro Soria, Commissioner Luis Vasquez and Commissioner Yolanda Whittington

Noes: 1 - Commissioner Talha Khan-Valbuena

Absent: 2 - Vice Chair Sydney Rogers and Commissioner Tonya Martin

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Commissioner Khan-Valbuena and Commissioner Eric Nakano left the meeting at 1:02 PM.

The Commission took a recess at 1:03 PM and reconvened at 1:23 PM. Annie Patpatian, administrative staff, called the roll to determine if a quorum was present.

Present: Chair Héctor Trinidad Plascencia, Second Vice Chair Terra Russell-Slavin, Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham, Commissioner Nic Arnzen, Commissioner Steven Fisher, Commissioner Jer-Adrianne Lelliott, Commissioner Eddie Martinez, Commissioner Alejandro Soria, Commissioner Tony Valenzuela, Commissioner Luis Vasquez and Commissioner Yolanda Whittington

Absent: Vice Chair Sydney Rogers, Commissioner Khan-Valbuena, Commissioner Tonya Martin and Commissioner Eric Nakano

- 10.** Discuss and take possible action on the Best Practices and Guiding Principles table as proposed by the Cultural Competency 101 Ad Hoc Subcommittee.

Commissioner Whittington presented the Best Practices and Guiding Principles document and provided an update of the work from the LGBTQ+ Commission's Cultural Affirming Ad Hoc Committee.

Member of the public Camila Camaleon addressed the Commission on this item.

After further discussion this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)
[PUBLIC COMMENT/WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE](#)

- 11.** Discuss and take possible action on the revised LGBTQ+ Commissioner Talking Points document and the Community Engagement Guidelines Document as proposed by the Community Engagement Standing Subcommittee (CESS).

Commissioner Lelliott presented the revised Commissioner Talking Points document. After the presentation Commissioner Lelliott opened the floor for discussion.

No members of the public addressed the Commission on this item.

After discussion, on motion of Commissioner Arnzen, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, the Commission approved adopting the modified Talking Points.

document, with the following vote:

Aye: 11 - Chair Héctor Trinidad Plascencia, Second Vice Chair Terra Russell-Slavin, Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham, Commissioner Nic Arnzen, Commissioner Steven Fisher, Commissioner Jer-Adrienne Lelliott, Commissioner Eddie Martinez, Commissioner Alejandro Soria, Commissioner Tony Valenzuela, Commissioner Luis Vasquez and Commissioner Yolanda Whittington

Absent: 4 - Vice Chair Sydney Rogers, Commissioner Khan-Valbuena, Commissioner Tonya Martin and Commissioner Eric Nakano

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)
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 [PUBLIC COMMENT WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE](#)

Commissioner Lelliott presented the Community Engagement Guidelines document. After the presentation Commissioner Lelliott opened the floor for discussion.

No members of the public addressed the Commission on this item.

After discussion, on the motion of Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Valenzuela, the Commission approved to adopt the Community Engagement Guidelines document, with the following vote:

Ayes: 11 - Chair Héctor Trinidad Plascencia, Second Vice Chair Terra Russell-Slavin, Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham, Commissioner Nic Arnzen, Commissioner Steven Fisher, Commissioner Jer-Adrienne Lelliott, Commissioner Eddie Martinez, Commissioner Alejandro Soria, Commissioner Tony Valenzuela, Commissioner Luis Vasquez and Commissioner Yolanda Whittington

Absent: 4 - Vice Chair Sydney Rogers, Commissioner Talha Khan-Valbuena and Commissioner Tonya Martin, Commissioner Eric Nakano

12. Discuss and take possible action on uplifting the following LGBTQ+ resources on the Commission's website as proposed by the Community Engagement Standing Subcommittee (CESS):
- a. Anti-Racism, Diversity, and Inclusion Initiative's [Advancing Pride Justice](#)
 - b. Department of Mental Health [LGBTQIA2S+ Resources](#)
 - c. The [Office of Immigrant Affairs](#)
 - d. The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department [LGBTQ+ Community](#)
 - e. Department of Public Social Services [LGBTQ+ Services and Resources](#)
 - f. Department of Health Services [LGBTQ+](#)
 - g. Department of Children and Family Services [LGBTQ+ Youth](#)
 - h. [LA vs Hate](#) and
 - i. [2-1-1 LA](#)

Commissioner Martinez updated the Commission on CESS discussions regarding how to identify ways to provide additional resources to the LGBTQ+ community in LA County.

Member of the public Byron José addressed the Commission on this item.

After discussion, on the motion of Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Soria, the Commission approved to include all recommended lists with a disclaimer for Sheriffs website to the website with the following vote:

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- Ayes:** 9 - Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham, Commissioner Nic Arnzen, Commissioner Steven Fisher, Commissioner Talha Khan-Valbuena, Commissioner Jer-Adrianne Lelliott, Commissioner Eddie Martinez, Commissioner Alejandro Soria, Commissioner Tony Valenzuela, Commissioner Luis Vasquez and Commissioner Yolanda Whittington
- Abstentions:** 2 - Chair Héctor Trinidad Plascencia and Second Vice Chair Terra Russell-Slavin
Vice Chair Sydney Rogers, Commissioner Talha Khan-Valbuena, Commissioner Tonya Martin and Commissioner Eric Nakano
- Absent:** 4 -

Attachments: [PUBLIC COMMENT WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE](#)

Commissioner Soria left the Commission meeting at 2:37 PM and Commissioner Abraham left at 2:45 PM. A quorum was maintained with 9 commissioners present.

13. Discuss and take possible action on creating an ad hoc subcommittee to collaborate with the Anti-Racism, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (ARDI) Initiative on hosting a townhall in Fall 2025, to engage local LGBTQ+ organizations in a discussion about recommendations for the Board of Supervisors on supporting the TGI community.

Commissioner Martinez updated the Commission on CESS discussions regarding how to collaborate with ARDI.

Member of the public Byron José addressed the Commission on this item.

After discussion, on the motion of Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Arnzen, the Commission approved to create an ad hoc subcommittee to collaborate with ARDI to put a town hall together, with the participation of Chair Plascencia, Second Vice Chair Russell-Slavin and Commissioner Arnzen with the following vote:

- Ayes:** 9 - Chair Héctor Trinidad Plascencia, Second Vice Chair Terra Russell-Slavin, Commissioner Nic Arnzen, Commissioner Steven Fisher, Commissioner Jer-Adrianne Lelliott, Commissioner Eddie Martinez, Commissioner Tony Valenzuela, Commissioner Luis Vasquez and Commissioner Yolanda Whittington
- Absent:** 6 - Vice Chair Sydney Rogers, Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham, Commissioner Talha Khan-Valbuena, Commissioner Tonya Martin, Commissioner Eric Nakano and Commissioner Alejandro Soria

Attachments: [PUBLIC COMMENT WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE](#)

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14. Discuss and take possible action to discharge the Ad Hoc 2025 Annual Retreat Subcommittee.

Commissioner Fisher notified the Commission that the Ad Hoc Subcommittee organized the Commissions first Annual retreat which was held on June 13th as a special meeting of the Commission. Its task to develop and execute the Annual retreat is now complete.

**No members of the public addressed the Commission on this item.
After discussion, on the motion of Commissioner Martinez seconded by Commissioner Fisher, the Commission approved to discharge the Ad Hoc 2025 Annual Retreat Subcommittee, with the following vote:**

Ayes: 9 - Chair Héctor Trinidad Plascencia, Second Vice Chair Terra Russell-Slavin, Commissioner Nic Arnzen, Commissioner Steven Fisher, Commissioner Jer-Adrianne Lelliott, Commissioner Eddie Martinez, Commissioner Tony Valenzuela, Commissioner Luis Vasquez and Commissioner Yolanda Whittington

Absent: 6 - Vice Chair Sydney Rogers, Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham, Commissioner Talha Khan-Valbuena, Commissioner Tonya Martin, Commissioner Eric Nakano and Commissioner Alejandro Soria

Attachments: [PUBLIC COMMENT WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE](#)

15. Discuss and take possible action on determining if the LGBTQ+ Commission meetings in 2026 will take place on the second Thursdays or on the second Fridays of the month.

Chair Plascencia notified the Commission that Commission Staff is looking to identify dates/times for the Commission meetings starting in 2026 and asked Commissioners for their preference and availability in days of the week.

No members of the public addressed the Commission on this item.

After Public Comment period closed, this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [PUBLIC COMMENT/WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE](#)

III. MISCELLANEOUS**Matters Not Posted**

16. Matters not on the posted agenda to be placed on the agenda for discussion and action at a future meeting of the LGBTQ+ Commission.

Commissioner Arnzen notified the Commission that Pasadena Unified is seeking Interns, and the Commission is free to engage on a volunteer basis.

Commissioner Whittington announced that Jewel from Catch One passed away and the community is having a celebration of life event for her on July 27th, 2025 from 3pm to 8pm.

Public Comment

17. Public Comment

No members of the public addressed the Commission on this item.

Attachments: [PUBLIC COMMENT WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE](#)

Adjournment

18. Adjournment of the July 18, 2025, LGBTQ+ Commission meeting.

Chair Plascencia adjourned the meeting at 3:04 PM. The next meeting is scheduled for August 15, 2025, at 9:30 AM.

