



**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 25, 2025

6:30 PM



Video for the entire meeting. (25-4822)

Attachments: [VIDEO](#)

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. Call to Order, Roll Call and Land Acknowledgment. (25-5118)

Co-Chair Clarissa Peña called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. County Staff conducted Roll Call. Co-Chair Peña read the County's Land

Present: Co-Chair Joshua Elizondo, Co-Chair Clarissa Peña, Commissioner Miguel (Josh) Boykin, Commissioner Sherrie Bradford, Commissioner Jessica Castillo, Commissioner La'Toya Cooper, Commissioner Christian Gudiel, Commissioner Amanda Hernandez, Commissioner Martine Jones, Commissioner Joseph Roa, Commissioner Evelyn Karina Rodriguez and Commissioner Florencia Flo Valenzuela

Absent: Commissioner David De Leon, Commissioner Cristopher Espino and Commissioner Mercedes Jackson

2. Awareness Videos.

"Project Dorm Room," Ready To Succeed.

"Final We Are First Star 2024," First Star Academics.

"Know to Say No: Friends," Department of Children and Family Services.

(25-5125)

The following Awareness Videos were shown:

- "Project Dorm Room," Ready To Succeed.
- "Final We Are First Star 2024," First Star Academics.
- "Know to Say No: Friends," Department of Children and Family

Attachments: [VIDEO - "Project Dorm Room"](#)
[VIDEO - "Finally We Are First Star 2024"](#)
[VIDEO - "Know to Say No: Friends"](#)

3. Approval of minutes from the regular meeting of August 28, 2025. (25-5133)

On motion of Commissioner Martine Jones, seconded by Commissioner Florencia "Flo" Valenzuela, and duly carried, the minutes from the August 28, 2025 meeting were approved by the following vote:

Ayes: 9 - Co-Chair Joshua Elizondo, Commissioner Miguel (Josh) Boykin, Commissioner Sherrie Bradford, Commissioner Jessica Castillo, Commissioner Christian Gudiel, Commissioner Martine Jones, Commissioner Clarissa Peña, Commissioner Joseph Roa and Commissioner Florencia Flo Valenzuela

Abstentions: 1 - Commissioner Evelyn Karina Rodriguez

Absent: 5 - Commissioner La'Toya Cooper, Commissioner David De Leon, Commissioner Cristopher Espino, Commissioner Amanda Hernandez and Commissioner Mercedes Jackson

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

II. RECOMMENDATION

4. Recommendation to approve the YEC 2025 Report. (25-5145)

On motion of Co-Chair Joshua Elizondo, seconded by Commissioner Evelyn Karina Rodriguez, and duly carried, the YEC 2025 Report was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: 10 - Co-Chair Joshua Elizondo, Commissioner Miguel (Josh) Boykin, Commissioner Sherrie Bradford, Commissioner Jessica Castillo, Commissioner Christian Gudiel, Commissioner Martine Jones, Commissioner Clarissa Peña, Commissioner Joseph Roa, Commissioner Evelyn Karina Rodriguez and Commissioner Florencia Flo Valenzuela

Absent: 5 - Commissioner La'Toya Cooper, Commissioner David De Leon, Commissioner Cristopher Espino, Commissioner Amanda Hernandez and Commissioner Mercedes Jackson

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

III. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION

5. Presentation and Roundtable Discussion on the YEC End-Year Event. (25-5163)

YEC Chair, Sherrie Bradford, provided a presentation along with the Agenda Overview of the YEC End-Year Event (Event) as follows:

Theme: Turning Ideas into Action through Data Driven Planning

- Background**
- Strategy**
- Activities**
- Meet the Chair – Self-Introduction, Leadership Style; YEC Chair Goals; Ordinance and Bylaws**
- Role as Commissioner**

Chair Bradford led an Ice Breaker activity for the Commissioners. She then provided the data results from surveys obtained throughout the year.

Commissioner Amanda Hernandez provided a self-introduction, areas of interests, and information on the Water District Employment Program. She then discussed how the Event will also include:

- Icebreaker Activity**
- Advocacy Priorities**
- Advocacy Priorities Data Results and Key Takeaways**

She then reviewed *Activity #1 - Five Corners Activity*. Co-Chair Clarissa Peña provided a self-introduction and areas of interest, then reviewed the data collected from the surveys regarding youth priority interests. She then reviewed *Activity #2 - Background on the Guest Speaker, Jeffery Munez, and the Brainstorming Session*.

Commissioner Joseph Roa provided a self-introduction and areas of interest. YEC Chair, Sherrie Bradford, reported that the number one priority for youth is their mental health. She then provided data results showing that having a safe space is the number one health support recommendation from youth.

YEC Chair Sherrie Bradford reviewed *Activity #3 -Barriers to Solution Scenarios*. The Commissioners were encouraged to come prepared to discuss their areas of interest along with a safe word during the Event to mitigate possible triggers.

The Commissioners posed the following questions and suggestions:

- **Commissioner Florencia "Flo" Valenzuela questioned what safe spaces would look like for youth. Executive Director, Tiara Summers, suggested that the question could be added to future surveys, at listening sessions, community events, and at the Strategic Planning event.**
- **Commissioner Amanda Hernandez suggested obtaining information from the Department of Probation.**
- **Commissioner La'Toya Cooper stressed the importance of focusing on youth beyond age 24.**
- **Commissioner Joseph Roa requested a list of the stakeholders who will be attending the Event. Executive Director Tiara Summers reported that all County Departments, Board Offices, and stakeholders have been invited. A list of registered stakeholders will be provided prior to the Event.**
- **Co-Chair Clarissa Peña suggested partnering with researchers from various colleges to assist with survey questions and analysis.**
- **Commissioner Amanda Hernandez clarified the activities for the event as well as expounding on the category of Entertainment. She commended YEC Chair, Sherrie Bradford, for her dedication and passion.**

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

IV. REPORTS

6. Leadership Report. (25-5140)

Co-Chair Joshua Elizondo reported that the YEC End-Year Event will be held on Saturday, October 25, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. This meeting is mandatory for all Commissioners.

7. Commissioner Reports on Activities and Events attended on behalf of the Youth Commission. (25-5141)

Commissioner Evelyn Karina Rodriguez reported on the Department of Youth Development's (DYD) Know Your Rights feedback session. Commissioner Rodriguez also participated in a Podcast hosted by the Office of Child Protection (OCP) called Young People to the Front and reported that OCP and the Chief Information Office has started a Transition Age Youth (TAY) Table Integrated Data Workgroup and are working on three projects: TAY Data Handbook, the TAY Data Public Dashboard, and One Roof's TAY Data related to housing status.

Commissioner La'Toya Cooper reported that she was invited to the Youth Summit at the California State University, Northridge, regarding Homeless System Change. Co-Chair Joshua Elizondo requested that information regarding the Summit be sent to all Commissioners.

Co-Chair Elizondo reported that he attended the second annual LP College Fair where 100 youth surveys were obtained. He also attended the LGBTQ Ad Hoc Strategic Planning Meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for October 9, 2025. The Education Coordinating Council leadership met with the OCP regarding Youth Commission initiatives. Judge Nash has retired and there may be a restructure underway.

V. UPDATES

8. Update on Board Motions that the Youth Commission is named in. (25-5142)

Executive Director, Tiara Summers, provided a report on the Department of Youth Development's *Know Your Rights* collaboration with the Youth Commission. She encouraged Commissioners to review their emails as opportunities are being presented daily. She reported on the TAY Table as an ongoing opportunity for Commissioners and encouraged them to consider becoming involved with the Child Trafficking Leadership Team.

9. Operations Committee update by Committee Chair Joshua Elizondo. (25-5143)

Operations Committee (OPS) Chair, Joshua Elizondo, reported that the OPS discussed various animation software products at their last meeting and preliminary storyboards for the scripts have been developed. He then discussed future vacancies and the "Reflection" process for outgoing and/or reappointed commissioners upon their term ending.

10. Youth Engagement Committee update by Committee Chair Sherrie Bradford. (25-5144)

Youth Engagement Committee (YEC) Chair, Sherrie Bradford, reported that the Third District recently held their Listening Session. She, along with Co-Chair Joshua Elizondo and Commissioner Jessica Castillo, provided an extended overview of the event, and discussion ensued. Commissioner Joseph Roa suggested connecting with Jamal Speaks, his mentor, who also operates a film program in public schools to determine if listening sessions can be held on school grounds to more readily connect with youth.

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

11. Opportunity for members of the public to provide comments to the Commission on item(s) not on the agenda, that are of interest and within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission. (25-5146)

No members of the public addressed the Commission.

12. Commissioner discussion of matters not posted on the agenda, to be considered, and placed on the agenda at a future meeting of the Commission. (25-5147)

The following matters were requested to be placed on a future agenda:

- The importance of having *Know Your Rights* information readily available to foster youth. Executive Director, Tiara Summers, informed that the Youth Commission, DCFS, and the Ombudsman Office is collaborating to ensure that social workers are appropriately trained regarding the Foster Youth Bill of Rights.
- The possibility of having workshops for foster youth regarding life skills such as financial literacy.
- Consider having both the Foster Youth Bill of Rights and the Juvenile Justice Rights displayed as a visual at all listening sessions, as well as displayed within various facilities.
- A presentation by the Department of Public Social Services on the new requirements of CalFresh benefits.
- The topic of mental health.
- A presentation by the Department of Arts and Culture.

13. Adjournment. (25-5148)

The Youth Commission will hold a Special Meeting, led by the Youth Engagement Committee, on Saturday, October 25, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.

On motion of Commissioner Evelyn Karina Rodriguez, seconded by Commissioner Miguel "Josh" Boykin, there being no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m.