



**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS
FOR THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
LOS ANGELES COUNTY YOUTH COMMISSION
2025 END-YEAR STRATEGIC PLANNING RETREAT
510 S. VERMONT AVE., CONFERENCE ROOM B & C
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90020
<https://youthcommission.lacounty.gov>**

Saturday, November 1, 2025

10:30 AM



I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. Call to Order, Roll Call and Land Acknowledgment. (25-5701)

Co-Chair Joshua Elizondo called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. County Staff conducted Roll Call. Co-Chair Clarissa Peña read the County's Land Acknowledgement.

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

Absent: Commissioner La'Toya Cooper, Commissioner David De Leon and Commissioner Mercedes Jackson

2. Opportunity for members of the public to provide comments to the Commission on any item(s) on the agenda. (25-5700)

No members of the public addressed the Youth Commission.

II. DISCUSSIONS

3. Discussion on the Youth Commission's Baseline Structure. (25-5875)

Executive Director, Tiara Summers, led the discussion on the Youth Commission's (YC) Baseline Structure. She expounded on the ways in which the YC informs their work through the following processes:

- Roundtable Discussions
- Board Motions
- Strategic Partnerships
- Special Projects

She then spoke about the importance of the YC staying in alignment with their focus areas. She highlighted the various entities that support their work, and discussion ensued. During discussion, Commissioner Boykin, made a suggestion of creating a directory regarding activities and/or programs and resources for youth and locations and how to access. Commissioner Gudiel referred the Commissioners to a Resource Guide he obtained at the Hall of the Administration.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

4. Discussion and approval of three or more potential areas of focus that will lead the work of the Youth Commission. (25-5876)

Co-Chair Clarissa Peña opened the floor for discussion and approval of three or more potential areas of focus that will lead the work of the YC. Executive Director, Tiara Summers, reviewed the responses from the 881 surveys collected from various events, and highlighted the five main priority areas with the most responses from youth, Mental Health, Education, Employment, Entertainment, and Housing.

Commissioner Josh Boykin suggested adding political education that affects foster youth, and discussion ensued regarding adding this as a focus area. Director Summers stated that political education can fall under the main focus area of Education and the sub category of Life Skills and Civic Engagement. Additional suggestions were made to the sub categories to finalize the five focus areas for 2026.

After discussion, on motion of Commissioner Martine Jones, seconded by Commissioner Josh Boykin, and duly carried, the Youth Commission approved five focus areas for 2026:

- Mental Health
- Employment
- Entertainment
- Education
- Housing

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 10 - Co-Chair Joshua Elizondo, Commissioner Miguel (Josh) Boykin, Commissioner Jessica Castillo, Commissioner Cristopher Espino, Commissioner Amanda Hernandez, Commissioner Martine Jones, Co-Chair Clarissa Peña, Commissioner Joseph Roa, Commissioner Evelyn Karina Rodriguez and Commissioner Florencia Flo Valenzuela

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Sherrie Bradford, Commissioner La'Toya Cooper, Commissioner David De Leon and Commissioner Mercedes Jackson

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

5. Discussion regarding the Youth Commission's 2025 District Listening Sessions. (25-5878)

Vivian Martirosyan, Management Analyst, led a discussion along with Executive Director Tiara Summers and Community Outreach Coordinator Dan Wheeler, regarding the YC's 2025 District Listening Sessions. Brief videos were shown highlighting each District Listening Session and the End-Year Event. Ms. Martirosyan reviewed the activities, speakers, workshops, vendors, and entertainment provided at each District's Listening Session. She reported that the Listening Session for the First District was not held due to attendee safety concerns. Ms. Martirosyan commended Commissioner Sherrie Bradford, Chair, Youth Engagement Committee, on her efforts toward the listening sessions.

Ms. Martirosyan then reviewed the 2026 Listening Session Calendar. She then asked Commissioners to consider the logistics in advance to streamline preparation of all Listening Sessions.

Executive Director Summers added clarification instructions and spoke about date restrictions and informed that there will be no Listening Sessions conducted in January to allow for a CSEC Empowerment Event. The Listening Sessions will be scheduled from February through August 2026. She also suggested that each District Listening Session might consider prioritizing one of the focus areas as a primary theme then add a secondary focus area if warranted.

Ms. Martirosyan spoke about the various resources available and briefly highlighted the list of direct and indirect partnerships.

The following individuals from Calibrate were introduced Marcie Gilbert, Alanna Hernandez, and Marcos Vann and they provided an overview of Calibrate's goals, purpose, and programs offered, as well as advisory suggestions for the upcoming listening sessions.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

- 6. Breakout Session - Discussion on the Youth Commission's 2026 Youth/Community Engagement Events (District Listening Sessions). (25-5880)**
Co-Chair Peña introduced this item and recessed the meeting at 12:43 p.m. for part one of the breakout session to discuss the Youth Commission's 2026 Youth and Community Engagement Events (District Listening Sessions). The meeting was reconvened to open session and Co-Chair Elizondo tabled this item for lunch recess at 1:13 p.m.

Later in the meeting, after lunch recess at 2:27 p.m., Co-Chair Elizondo recalled this item, and the meeting was recessed for part 2 of the breakout session. The meeting was reconvened to open session at 3:06 p.m. Co-Chair Elizondo reported that Commissioners participated in their District Listening Session planning and more information will be provided in the future.

- 7. Recess. (25-5881)**
This item was taken up after part one of Agenda Item No. 6. Co-Chair Elizondo recessed the meeting for lunch at 1:13 p.m. The meeting was reconvened by Co-Chair Elizondo to open session at 2:27 p.m.
- 8. Discussion on potential topics for the Youth Commission's 2026 Roundtable Discussions. (25-5883)**
Co-Chair Elizondo tabled this item for discussion at the next meeting.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

- 9. Breakout Session - Discussion on Commissioner Supports that are needed to do the work of the Youth Commission. (25-5885)**
Co-Chair Elizondo introduced this item and recessed the meeting for a Breakout Session at 3:07 p.m. to discuss Commissioner Supports that are needed to do the work of the Youth Commission. Co-Chair Elizondo reconvened the meeting to open session at 3:29 p.m. He thanked everyone for participating in the breakout session and no reportable action was taken.

III. MISCELLANEOUS

10. 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. (25-5888)

No members of the public addressed the Commission.

11. Closing Remarks and Adjournment. (25-5890)

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 20, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.

On motion of Commissioner Christian Gudiel, seconded by Commissioner Amanda Hernandez, there being no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.