

**MOTION BY SUPERVISORS JANICE HAHN  
AND HILDA L. SOLIS**

AGN. NO.  
November 6, 2024

**Moving Forward with Recommendations to Speed Up Youth Movement out of Los  
Padrinos**

On July 23, 2024, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors (Board) adopted a [motion](#) that directed the Probation Department (Probation) to report back with data related to the post-disposition movement of youth from Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall (Los Padrinos) to their next placement, an outline of steps required post-disposition before youth can be moved to their next placement, an analysis of barriers at each step required for youth post-disposition, and a list of recommendations to speed up the post-disposition process of moving youth out of Los Padrinos to their next placement. Probation provided a [written report](#) on September 23, 2024, that outlined their response.

The report provided data surrounding the length of stay for youth in Los Padrinos awaiting movement to their next placement location. It revealed that youth dispositioned to Dorothy Kirby Center experienced the longest average length of days (15) detained at Los Padrinos before they were moved out. The top reason (56%) for this was that Dorothy Kirby Center was at capacity at the time of the order and there was a waitlist for a bed. The second highest reason (23%) had to do with the medical clearance process delaying movement to Dorothy Kirby Center. Probation provided recommendations to address the issue with medical clearance delays, including getting support in engaging youth who

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refuse to participate in the medical clearance process, transporting youth out of Los Padrinos when they have an outside medical appointment scheduled four or more days from the order date, increasing capacity for completing clearances, and completing a portion of the medical clearance after youth arrive at their Camp or Dorothy Kirby Center placement.

For youth dispositioned to a Probation Camp, the top reason (52%) for delayed movement out of Los Padrinos was due to medical clearances, and the second highest reason (40%) was due to inadequate staffing at the Camp Headquarters Assessment Unit. In addition to the recommendations above related to improving the medical clearance process, Probation recommends locating a Camp Headquarters staff to Los Padrinos to expedite the assessment process and allow youth dispositioned to a Probation Camp to move out of Los Padrinos faster.

For youth dispositioned to a Community Based Placement, the top reasons for delayed movement out of Los Padrinos were that the court ordered a specific placement (34%), there was a replacement ordered (29%), and there were challenges with finding a placement (25%). The challenge finding a suitable placement may highlight an opportunity for Probation to identify available placement facilities prior to the court date when youth are dispositioned to a community placement, since it is often evident which youth will receive this disposition. Working with providers ahead of the disposition order can allow youth to move out of Los Padrinos and into their community-based placement at a faster rate. Assigning a Zero Incarceration Placement Program (ZIPP) officer to a youth who Probation anticipates will receive a Community Based Suitable Placement order, so the ZIPP officer can contact community-based placement facilities prior to the

disposition of youth, can help ensure youth are moved more quickly out of the hall.

**WE, THEREFORE, MOVE** that the Board of Supervisors direct the Chief Probation Officer, in collaboration with the Department of Health Services, to do the following:

1. Implement the recommendations laid out in the report back dated September 23, 2024, in response to the Speeding Up Youth Movement out of Los Padrinos motion (Item No. 9, Agenda of July 23, 2024), by doing the following:
  - a. Transport youth to Camp with outside medical appointment scheduled four or more days from the order date;
  - b. Cross train staff in the Camp Headquarters assessment unit to increase capacity for completing clearances;
  - c. Relocate one or more Camp Headquarters staff to Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall to expedite the assessment process;
  - d. Continue the Department of Health Services process of completing a portion of their medical clearance once youth arrive at the Camp facility and Dorothy Kirby Center; and
  - e. Develop a process for better engaging youth who refuse to participate in any portion of the clearance process in collaboration with the Department of Health Services and youth attorneys.
2. Implement the following additional processes:
  - a. Begin the process of Zero Incarceration Placement Program (ZIPP) officers contacting community-based placement facilities prior to the disposition of youth who are likely to be found suitable for a Community Based Suitable Placement;

- b. Work with Community Based Suitable Placement facilities to speed up the time it takes to pick up youth from Los Padrinos; and
  - c. Continue the Department of Health Services process of beginning to conduct medical clearances for all youth at the time of the physician assessment that is conducted upon admission at Los Padrinos, allowing youth to have a cleared/not cleared order following their initial physical examination.
3. Report back to the Board in writing in 30 days, and every 60 days thereafter, on the progress of the implementation of the recommendations and processes listed above, and with updated data on youth movement out of Los Padrinos (as laid out in Directive 1 of the July 23, 2024, motion [Speeding Up Youth Movement out of Los Padrinos](#)), with the expectation that no youth waits longer than 5 calendar days at Los Padrinos post-disposition.

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JH:kc/cc