

AGN. NO. _____

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR LINDSEY P. HORVATH

May 19, 2026

Implementing Los Angeles County’s First Ethics Commission

On July 23, 2024, the Board of Supervisors (Board) approved the motion, “Establishing an Independent Ethics Commission”. The motion called for a report back from County Counsel on the creation of an independent Ethics Commission, Office of Ethics Compliance, and the position of Ethics Compliance Officer. Subsequently, the confidential report was provided to the Board on August 23, 2024, which included a review of other jurisdictions and cost estimates to establish the ethics bodies. Since then, the voters approved Measure G, which mandates the creation of an independent Ethics Commission and the establishment of an Ethics Compliance Officer in 2026. The County has conducted research, received public input from leading ethics advocacy groups, and the Governance Reform Task Force (GRTF) has submitted their report to the Board with a path to move forward on implementing the will of the voters on ethics. The County started this process in July of 2024, through a ballot measure and a motion. It is now the Board’s responsibility to move forward and deliver on the first-ever Ethics Commission - and necessary supporting infrastructure- in the history of the County of Los Angeles.

MOTION

MITCHELL	_____
HORVATH	_____
HAHN	_____
BARGER	_____
SOLIS	_____

I, THEREFORE, MOVE, that the Board of Supervisors:

1. Direct the Board of Supervisors' Executive Office, Auditor-Controller, County Counsel, and Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk to identify positions and funding in their budgets that currently perform ethics related duties and provide that information to the Chief Executive Office within 14 days.
2. Direct the Acting Chief Executive Officer to review the GRTF report, receive the information from Directive 1 from County departments, and allocate the funding necessary to implement the first phase of the Ethics Commission and Office of Ethics Compliance in the FY 2026-2027 budget, so they can be established in 2026, as required by Measure G.
3. Delegate authority to the Executive Officer of the Board of Supervisors to:
 - a. Begin the recruitment process to establish an independent Ethics Commission and Office of Ethics Compliance.
 - b. Hire one or more consultants to assist in establishing the Ethics Commission and Office of Ethics Compliance.
4. Direct County Counsel to take the following actions:
 - a. Draft an ordinance to implement the recommendations of the GRTF to immediately launch the Ethics Commission and establish the Office of Ethics Compliance, and place the draft ordinance on a Board agenda within 90 days for the Board's consideration.
 - b. Draft an ordinance to place a charter amendment on the November 2026 ballot as recommended by the GRTF, and place the draft ordinance on a future Board Agenda for the Board's consideration with

section 11.67.00 (c) (1) (A) of the GRTF's proposed draft ordinance to be replaced with the following language:

- i. The Chair of the Board shall nominate one (1) member who has a background in public information and public meetings, community outreach and engagement, or using technology as relates to open government. Beginning on January 1, 2029, this member shall instead be nominated by the elected County Executive.
- c. Conduct an analysis of GRTF's recommendation regarding an amendment to California Government Code §3203 and report back with a publicly available written report to the Board within 90 days.

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LPH:jo