



Board of Supervisors Operations Cluster Agenda Review Meeting

DATE: April 2, 2025

TIME: 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

MEETING CHAIR: Michelle Vega, 5th Supervisorial District

CEO MEETING FACILITATOR: Dardy Chen

THIS MEETING IS HELD UNDER THE GUIDELINES OF BOARD POLICY 3.055

**THIS MEETING WILL BE
CONDUCTED 100% VIRTUALLY**

To participate in this meeting virtually, please call teleconference number
1 (323) 776-6996 and enter the following 522268816# or [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Teams Meeting ID: 237 250 878 670
Passcode: UoBQAE

**For Spanish Interpretation, the Public should send emails within 48 hours in
advance of the meeting to ClusterAccommodationRequest@bos.lacounty.gov**

Members of the Public may address the Operations Cluster on
any agenda item during General Public Comment.
The meeting chair will determine the amount of time allowed for each item.
**THIS TELECONFERENCE WILL BE MUTED FOR ALL CALLERS. PLEASE DIAL
*6 TO UNMUTE YOUR PHONE WHEN IT IS YOUR TIME TO SPEAK.**

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

3. BOARD MOTION ITEM(S):

SD-5 AND SD-1

- ARMENIAN GENOCIDE REMEMBRANCE DAY IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

SD-5

- CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF CIVIC ART AND INVESTING IN ITS FUTURE

SD-3

- SUPPORT FOR ASSEMBLY BILL 1430 (BENNETT): COUNTY RECORDERS: FEES
- SUPPORT FOR SENATE BILL 456 (ASHBY) COMMUNITY BEAUTIFICATION ACT

4. DISCUSSION ITEM(S):

None.

5. PRESENTATION ITEM(S):

None.

6. ADJOURNMENT

UPCOMING ITEM(S):

- A) ISD - REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO AWARD AND EXECUTE ONE CONTRACT FOR PARKING FACILITY MANAGEMENT SERVICES
- B) DPW-CIO - CONSTRUCTION-RELATED CONTRACTS PUBLIC CONTRACTING AND ASSET MANAGEMENT SERVICE AREA AWARD OF JOB ORDER CONTRACT SYSTEM AND RELATED CONSULTING SERVICES AGREEMENTS FOR COUNTY DEPARTMENTS, AND THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
- C) ISD/CEO-CP - AWARD 17 JOB ORDER CONTRACTS FOR MAINTENANCE, REPAIR, REMODELING, AND REFURBISHMENT OF COUNTY INFRASTRUCTURE AND FACILITIES; ADOPT AND ADVERTISE VARIOUS SPECIFICATIONS

D) BOS - AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO EMPLOY A RETIRED COUNTY EMPLOYEE ON A TEMPORARY BASIS AND GRANT AN EXCEPTION TO THE 180-DAY WAITING PERIOD REQUIRED UNDER THE CALIFORNIA PUBLIC EMPLOYEE'S PENSION REFORM ACT

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO EMAIL A COMMENT ON AN ITEM ON THE OPERATIONS CLUSTER AGENDA, PLEASE USE THE FOLLOWING EMAIL AND INCLUDE THE AGENDA NUMBER YOU ARE COMMENTING ON:

OPS_CLUSTER_COMMENTS@CEO.LACOUNTY.GOV

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS KATHRYN BARGER
AND HILDA L. SOLIS

April 15, 2025

ARMENIAN GENOCIDE REMEMBRANCE DAY IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Los Angeles County is home to the largest Armenian diaspora outside of Armenia. Each year, on April 24, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors commemorates the Armenian Genocide of 1915, which resulted in the tragic loss of 1.5 million innocent lives. Despite overwhelming historical evidence, the Turkish government continues to deny and distort the truth of the Armenian Genocide. Local, state, and federal leaders, along with international human rights organizations, have condemned these atrocities and continue to call on Turkey to acknowledge its role in this crime against humanity.

Tragically, the ethnic cleansing of Armenians did not end in 1915 and has continued in recent years. In 2020, Azerbaijan launched a military assault on Artsakh (Nagorno-Karabakh), followed by a ten-month-long blockade of the Lachin Corridor, cutting off over 120,000 Armenians from food, medicine, and critical supplies. In September 2023, over 100,000 Armenians were forcibly displaced from their ancestral lands, and many political leaders and civilians were taken hostage. This Board has consistently called on the Federal Government to impose sanctions on Azerbaijan for its continued human rights violations and to demand the immediate release of Armenian hostages held captive by the Azerbaijani government.

Each year, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors honors the victims of the Armenian Genocide and recognizes the resilience of the Armenian people at a Board meeting, alongside community leaders, religious figures, and elected officials. It is our duty to continue this solemn tradition and stand against genocide, ethnic cleansing, and human rights abuses wherever they occur.

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In 2021, this Board unanimously adopted a motion urging former President Joe Biden to officially recognize the Armenian Genocide, which he did on April 24, 2021. This was a historic victory for the Armenian diaspora, achieved through decades of tireless advocacy. However, recognition alone is not enough. We must remain vigilant in the face of ongoing threats to the Armenian people and reaffirm our commitment to preventing genocide, defending human rights, and ensuring that history is never rewritten or erased.

WE, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors:

1. Recognize April 24, 2025 as “Armenian Genocide Remembrance Day” in Los Angeles County, and
2. Instruct the Chief Executive Officer to work with all County departments to promote events and educational materials related to the Armenian Genocide and utilize department websites and social media platforms to share information and generate awareness.

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Celebrating 20 Years of Civic Art and Investing in its Future

In 2004, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors (Board) adopted the County’s first Civic Art Policy, allocating one percent of design and construction costs of new County capital projects to a Civic Art Special Fund to create civic artworks. For 20 years, the Department of Arts and Culture (Department)’s Civic Art Division (Division) has commissioned community-centric civic artworks, supported conservation efforts, provided artistic and cultural services, and offered an evolving array of programming throughout the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County, serving all five supervisorial districts.

Since the Division began its work, the County’s collection now contains 637 civic artworks in parks, libraries, hospitals, health centers, fire stations, and other public spaces. In the last year, the Division has overseen 108 active projects and completed 30 projects spanning various scopes and mediums. There is a robust community engagement process for every artwork the Division commissions where the artist engages with residents for their input to ensure the art reflects the values of the community and meets the needs of the space. The Division strives to maintain a collection that is inclusive and reflective of all communities in Los Angeles County, honors the diverse artists, approaches, mediums, cultures, and perspectives in the County, and provides opportunities for artists who have been historically underrepresented in public art.

Among the Department’s many strong partnerships with other County departments, they are currently collaborating with the L.A. County Library on a Passport to Civic Art program in honor of April as Arts Month. With the passport, residents can visit different libraries that feature civic artworks and accumulate passport stamps that earn them a free art kit. The campaign is a fun way to engage residents in art around their community and spotlight the amazing collection of artworks in our libraries.

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Among the Division's strengths is its commitment to unincorporated communities. The arts-rich community of Altadena has a long and storied history as a home to many talented artists, beloved arts nonprofits, cultural events and experiences, and many public artworks and murals. In the wake of the Eaton Fire, many artists have lost their homes, studios, public gathering spaces, and local businesses. The local Grocery Outlet, which has a massive mural celebrating Altadena on the side of its building, continues to stand as a beacon of hope amid wreckage around it, and has since added a sign that reads "Altadena Strong - We Will Rebuild" beside the mural, emphasizing that art is a part of the fabric of local businesses and the community at large.

Prior to the Eaton Fire, the Department was working alongside the community to bring a new civic artwork to Charles White Park, named after the famed African American artist who called Altadena home. Just months before the fire erupted, the Department and community stakeholders selected an artist to produce a sculpture in White's honor, which would complement artworks done around the park by Ian White, Charles' son. After the park and the surrounding neighborhood were severely damaged by the fire, the civic art project is now on hold until the park is restored. As the community rebuilds, it will be important for the arts to continue to be a core part of its identity.

In addition to public artworks and artists impacted by the Eaton Fire, residents' personal collections were destroyed and damaged. To help residents whose belongings were affected by the Eaton Fire, the Department hosted a first-of-its-kind conservation clinic at the Armory Center for the Arts in Pasadena on March 16, 2025. At the event, residents brought their artworks, photographs, collectibles, ceramics, jewelry, textiles, stuffed animals, and other treasures for professional volunteer arts conservators to assess, clean, repair, remove the smell of smoke, and place into storage boxes for safe keeping. Attendees also went home with free fire recovery preservation kits to equip them with everything they need to continue repairing belongings themselves.

Across Los Angeles County, civic art continues to be part of the fabric of the community. As we reflect on the accomplishments of the Division over the last 20 years, our County can renew its commitment to incorporating civic artwork, opportunities, and resources into our neighborhoods.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors:

1. Commemorate and congratulate the Department of Arts and Culture and the Civic Art Division for 20 years of incredible work in all five supervisorial districts;
2. Spotlight the L.A. County Library Civic Art Passport program to encourage residents to explore civic art opportunities and engage with the L.A. County Civic Art Collection at their local libraries;
3. Encourage department heads or their designees to work with Arts and Culture's Civic Art Division on best practices for the care and maintenance of the County's Civic Artworks at their facilities;

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4. Allocate \$50,000 from the Fifth Supervisorial Account to support and expand the Civic Art Division's activities to uplift, honor, and preserve the history of Altadena and restore hope through the arts, including but not limited to conservation clinics, fire recovery preservation kits, and artist recovery efforts; and
5. Direct the Department of Arts and Culture to garner information from the community to inform the Department's work to aid in recovery efforts and provide guidance and support to other County departments as appropriate to ensure Altadena's arts and culture priorities and identity are included in the rebuilding process.

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Support for Assembly Bill 1430 (Bennett): County recorders: fees

The Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk provides document recording services under a fee-for-service model. The legally established base fee for document recording and indexing every instrument, paper, or notice required or permitted by law was last adjusted in 2010. The established fee is intended to cover the cost of the recording function, thus avoiding expenses for the county or the need for net county cost funding.

The established recording fees do not take into account inflationary factors or the state’s minimum wage increases. These rapidly rising costs have created significant budgetary challenges, and the established fee no longer covers the cost of the service. The recording function is now being augmented by county general funds, and now competes for funding with other essential public services like public safety, public health, and general county administration.

Absent an adjustment, the ability to provide services, retain an adequate, trained workforce, and maintain standards for timeliness and quality are at risk. Given the current

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financial landscape, we may be facing staffing reductions, decreased hours available for the public counter, and the closure of satellite offices directly resulting from the inadequate funding of the recorder function. These impacts have downstream impacts on the county's economic recovery if real estate transactions are not timely and properly added to the public record.

Assembly Bill (AB) 1430, introduced by Assemblymember Steve Bennett, ensures that essential recording services will remain at the levels necessary to meet the demands of Los Angeles County. This bill provides a much-needed adjustment to ensure the established fees properly fund recording services.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the Chief Executive Office-Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations to take all appropriate legislative advocacy actions to support Assembly Bill 1430 (Bennett), which would establish document recording fees at the level necessary to adequately fund these services for the years to come, including, but not limited to, sending a five-signature letter in support of the bill to Assemblymember Steve Bennett.

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SUPPORT FOR SENATE BILL 456 (ASHBY) COMMUNITY BEAUTIFICATION ACT

Murals are powerful tools for transforming neighborhoods and improving civic pride. Public art and murals are proven drivers of enhancing community and economic health, attracting tourists, supporting jobs, generating revenue, and improving public safety and well-being. For example, the County's Civic Art Program has commissioned many artworks that have enriched and enlivened our County facilities and civic spaces.

However, current law has led to confusion regarding licensing requirements for muralists. In 2023, public notices began being issued to municipalities indicating that muralists fall within the definition of a "contractor" under Business and Professions Code Section 7026. Prior to those notices, state regulators interpreted the law to not cover muralists.

As a result, public agencies and private parties that commission a muralist must first ensure that the muralist carries a contractor's license if the muralist undertakes a mural for more than \$500, even though historically this has not been standard practice for muralists.

Due to these licensure requirements, cities across California have been instructing their public arts administrators to cease or stall the implementation of mural projects. Requiring muralists to obtain a contractor's license imposes significant challenges. To qualify for these commercial licenses, muralists must accumulate four years of specialized experience under a licensed contractor, pass the Law and

Business examination, and pay annual licensing fees. The Department of Arts and Culture's Civic Art division, County Counsel, and others in the arts sector have been following this issue in light of concerns about potentially negative impacts on County legal liability, County contracting, artists livelihood, and project budgetary impacts. This issue has been raised by various arts advocacy organizations and public arts agencies including municipalities within LA County and the State of California.

Murals are considered works of art, protected under federal copyright laws and are fundamentally different from construction projects. Senate Bill 456 (SB 456), introduced by Senator Angelique Ashby, clarifies standard practice of current law and adds "muralist," narrowly defined, to the list of activities in the Business and Professions Code that are not subject to licensure.

The Department of Arts and Culture reports that SB 456 would ensure that the County is able to hire muralists to complete Civic Art project artworks for County facilities and capital projects and relieve the County of potential liability and ambiguity surrounding muralists. SB 456 would also ensure that Civic Art funds are going to artists and the broader arts and culture field as the Board intended when adopting the Civic Art Policy as opposed to licensed contractors to deliver on the work of artists.

SB 456 would also alleviate a potential chill on the part of all municipalities that might otherwise stop hiring muralists and doing public art for communities if the legal concerns and ambiguity are not addressed. More broadly, SB 456 would allow artists to continue enriching Los Angeles County with murals - an art that defines LA's culture, traditions and history.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the Chief Executive Office's-, Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations Branch to support Senate

Bill 456 (Ashby), which would create a licensing exemption for muralists, that allows them to continue to engage in commissioned work for Civic Art project artworks for County facilities and capital projects without obtaining a contractor's license.

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