

County of Los Angeles

Productivity Managers' Network

General Meeting and Training
May 7, 2025, at 9:30 a.m.

The Productivity Managers' Network (PMN) held its second meeting of the year on Wednesday, May 7, 2025. Over 35 Productivity Managers and Commission staff attended the meeting.

Meeting Agenda

Welcome Remarks



*Keisha Belmaster, Chair
Productivity Managers' Network*

Keisha Belmaster, PMN Chair, Health Services – Harbor UCLA, welcomed Productivity Managers to the meeting and thanked the LA County Library for allowing us to use their facility to host the meeting.

She announced the following: A presentation on Library programs and partnerships by Sammy Skinner, Productivity Manager for LA County Library, would be followed by the Productivity and Quality Awards (PQA) training. She announced that Patricia Soltero Sanchez, Productivity Manager and PQA Chair, Health Services – Rancho Los Amigos Rehabilitation Center, and Jackie Guevarra, Executive Director, would be going through the training with everyone to answer any questions.



*Jackie T. Guevarra
Executive Director
Quality Productivity Commission*

Jackie Guevarra, Executive Director, Quality and Productivity Commission (QPC), thanked everyone who submitted a Productivity Investment Fund (PIF) Annual or Final Report this year and announced that the Commission's Shared Practices Report, which is partly based on the reports submitted, will be published soon. The Commission is looking into how to improve the report and will be sending out a survey a few weeks after the report is published to get feedback. Everyone was encouraged to complete the survey to help guide the Commission on how to make the report more useful and beneficial.

She announced that the PIF solicitation for Fiscal Year 2025-26, Quarter 1, will be sent out to the PMN and Department/District Heads later this month. The deadline to submit proposals is Monday, July 7, 2025, by 5 p.m., to Jane Lam, QPC Program Manager, and no late submissions will be accepted.

She also announced that last year marked the 40-year anniversary for PIF and that there is a plan to put together a commemorative booklet highlighting the history of PIF and some of the successful projects from various departments throughout the years. She indicated that we will be reaching out to the Productivity Managers to ask for ideas, so everyone was asked to start thinking about any projects they might want to have included in the program book. Jane will send out an email with additional details.

The Commission will also be publishing the 2024 Annual Report. This includes the Operational Trends Report that identifies common mature, current, and emerging trends in the County. She asked everyone to look out for the email with the link to the Annual Report.

Jackie concluded by introducing our new Commissioner and QPC/PMN Co-Liaison, Joe Waz.

Joe Waz brings a diverse background in telecommunications, public policy, and government relations, with a career spanning more than 30 years at NBCUniversal and Comcast. Most recently, he served as senior strategic advisor for both companies, following his tenure as corporate senior vice president at Comcast from 1994 to 2011.

At Comcast, Joe was a key figure in shaping the company's strategy and public policy, addressing issues in telecommunications, copyright, tax, and other legal matters. He also reorganized NBCUniversal's legal, policy, and technical teams to protect the company's creative content from digital piracy and helped establish the first industry-wide global anti-piracy organization.

As president of the Comcast Foundation, Joe fashioned groundbreaking programs to promote digital literacy. Joe also launched Comcast Cares Day, which became the nation's largest corporate day of community service.

As an advisor to the Federal Communications Commission, he helped to formulate the national broadband plan to prioritize broadband adoption, which promoted the use of advanced technologies to address the nation's social needs. As founding chairman of the Broadband Internet Technology Advisory Group, Joe helped facilitate solutions to technology-related public policy challenges.



Joe Waz
QPC/PMN Liaison

Commissioner Joe Waz, QPC/PMN Liaison, thanked Jackie for the introduction. He said it was very nice to attend and participate in his first General Meeting and Training, and that he is looking forward to continuing to work with everyone.

He reminded everyone to mark their calendars – as well as those of their Department Heads – for June 4, 2025, from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m., for the Commission's 22nd Annual Leadership Conference. This year's theme is "Navigating the New Normal: What Matters Most." Formal invitations were sent, and it is hoped that everyone can attend.

The Commission kicked off the 38th Annual Productivity and Quality Awards (PQA) program. This year's theme is "Resilient: Today, Tomorrow, Together." Commissioners are looking forward to another exciting year and reading all proposals submitted. Commissioner Waz encouraged everyone to ask as many questions as needed to be fully prepared for the PQA process.

This year's PQA evaluations will be held at the Hacienda Heights Community and Recreation Center beginning at 9:30 a.m. Please add August 6th to your calendars.

Power Point Presentation



Sammy Skinner, Productivity Manager, LA County Library, gave a presentation on the Library's programs and partnerships. She discussed the Department's mission to belong to the community and serve as a portal to learn, grow, and succeed through their four pillars of service: prevention, care, literacy, and economic well-being.

Power Point Presentation



Patricia Soltero Sanchez, Productivity Manager and PQA Chair, Health Services – Rancho Los Amigos Rehabilitation Center; and Jackie Guevarra, Executive Director, QPC, provided training on the PQA process. They reviewed dates/deadlines, types of awards, Top Ten site visits, and application guidelines, including tips for submitting a successful proposal.

Raffle Winners



Congratulations to Productivity Managers Maria Rivera (Public Social Services) and Paul Nakashima (Chief Executive Office)! They were our raffle winners and took home Amazon gift cards.

Photos



Raffle Winners: Maria Rivera (left) and Paul Nakashima (right)



Productivity Managers enjoying their training!