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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS

LOS ANGELES COUNTY

"Enriching lives through effective and caring service"

May 30, 2024

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MEMORANDUM TO THE COMMISSIONERS

FROM: Ilan Davidson, President

SUBJECT: Commission Meeting- Monday, June 3, 2024

Our Commission will meet on Monday, June 3, 2024 from 12:30 p.m.-2:00pm at 510 S. Vermont Ave., 9th Floor, Press Room, NK02, Los Angeles, California 90020.

You may also join meeting **Via Teams Calendar Invitation** [Click here to join the meeting](#). If you are unable to do so, you may Dial: [+1 213-204-2512](tel:+12132042512), 980587174#

Phone Conference ID: 980 587 174#

Please Post Agenda in your location.

Parking is located at 523 Shatto Place. Please pull a ticket when entering the parking structure. Please take the elevator to the 9th floor and walk through the bridge, which is located towards the northwest corner of the parking structure, to reach Terrace (T) Level of the designated candidate waiting area. Prior to leaving the facility, please take your ticket to either security desk (Ground Level or Terrace Level) for validation. **Do not park at the 510 South Vermont Avenue structure. Violators may be towed at vehicle owner's expense.**

Please review, and let me know if you have any questions.

If you are unable to join the meeting, please call me at (213) 304-4180 no later than 9:00 a.m., Monday, June 3, 2024.

Siranush Vardanyan

(213) 304-4180



Los Angeles County Commission on
Human Relations - 510 S. Vermont Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90020 (213) 738-2788

APPROVED AGENDA MEETING OF THE COMMISSION

Monday, June 3, 2024 – 12:30 to 2:00 pm

LA County Vermont Corridor 1 Bldg.- 510 S. Vermont Ave. LA, CA 90020

Press Room on the Terrace Level, 9th Floor

Also via MS Teams Video and Audio Conferencing [213-204 2512,,980587174#](#) [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Our mission: to transform prejudice into acceptance, inequity into justice, and hostility into peace

- 1. Call to Order and Land Acknowledgment (12:30)**
- 2. Review & Approval of May 6, 2024 Meeting Minutes***
- 3. President's Report (12:33)**
 - 3.1. Spotlight on Community Partner: Edward Yen, new Executive Officer*
 - 3.2. San Pedro 'Community Unity' Event in May 19 @ 4pm*
 - 3.3. Letter to Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA) re: hate crimes prevention*
- 4. Executive Director's Report (12:45)**
 - 4.1. HRC Presentation at Monrovia High
 - 4.2. Communications Update - PIO Tony Cowser
 - 4.3. Other Program and Administrative Updates
- 5. Committee Reports (12:55)**
 - 5.1. Transformative Justice Committee (Gunning)*
 - 5.2. Policy and Advocacy (Legislation) Committee (Montaño)
 - 5.3. LA vs Hate Committee (Montaño)
- 6. Public Comment (3 minutes per person) (1:05)**
- 7. Action/Discussion Items (1:10)**
 - 7.1. Elections of Commission Officers FY 2024-25*
 - 7.2. Ratification of Commission Letter to MTA re: hate violence prevention*
 - 7.3. Continuing Mid-Term Review of Progress on Commission's Strategic Plan*
 - 7.4. Discussion and action on Commission committees*
 - 7.5. Collaboration with County Office of Anti-Racism, Diversity and Inclusion (ARDI)
- 8. Commissioner Announcements (2 minutes per Commissioner) (1:55)**
- 9. Adjournment**

For translation to other languages o para más información en español, call (213) 738-2788 or email us.

** Denotes that this agenda packet includes written material regarding this agenda item.*

Meetings are held in English. If interpretation in other languages or accommodations for persons with disabilities are needed, please contact the Commission at (213) 738-7288 at least 3 business days before the meeting. The meetings of the Human Relations Commission are accessible to persons with disabilities.

Note: The following Commissioners will be participating by conference telephone communication from the following locations: Lisa Michelle Dabbs, 6528 Greenleaf Ave., Whittier, CA 90601; Dandy De Paula, 21526 Juan Avenue, Hawaiian Gardens, CA 90716; Kevork Keushkerian, 1115 Valley View Ave., Pasadena, CA 9110; Preeti Kulkarni, 3419 Federal Avenue, LA, CA 90066; Jason Moss, 114A W. Lime Ave., Monrovia, CA 91016.



Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations

510 South Vermont Avenue, 11th floor
Los Angeles, California, 90020
www.lahumanrelations.org
(213) 738-2788

[PROPOSED] MINUTES COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS

Meeting of May 6, 2024
Via Microsoft Teams Video & Audio Conferencing

PRESENT:	Helen L. Chin	Kevork Keushkerian
	Ilan Davidson	Preeti Kulkarni*
	Dandy De Paula ¹	Guadalupe Montaña
	Azusena Favela	Jason Moss
	Jeanette Ellis-Royston	Fredrick Sykes
	Isabelle Gunning	Gay Yuen
STAFF:	Tony Cowser	Robin Toma
	Jacqueline Gordon	Siranush Vardanyan
	Robert Sowell	
GUEST:	Sharmaine Moseley	

- 1. Call to Order and Land Acknowledgment of Indigenous Peoples:** Commission President Ilan Davidson called the meeting to order at 12:34 p.m. with a quorum in attendance. He began with recognizing that we occupy land originally and still inhabited and cared for by the Tongva, Tataviam, Serrano, Kizh, and Chumash Peoples. We honor and pay respect to their elders and descendants - past, present, and emerging - as they continue their stewardship of these lands and waters. We acknowledge that settler colonization resulted in land seizure, disease, subjugation, slavery, relocation, broken promises, genocide, and multi-generational trauma. This acknowledgment demonstrates our responsibility and commitment to truth, healing, and reconciliation, and to elevating the stories, culture, and community of the original inhabitants of Los Angeles County. We are grateful to have the opportunity to live and work on these ancestral lands. We are dedicated to growing and sustaining relationships with Native peoples and local tribal governments, including (in no particular order) the Fernandeno Tataviam Band of Mission Indians, Gabrielino Tongva Indians of California Tribal Council, Gabrieleno/Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians, Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians - Kizh Nation, San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, and San Fernando Band of Mission Indians. To learn more about the First Peoples of Los Angeles County, please visit the Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission website at lanaic.lacounty.gov.
- 2. Review & Approval of April 1, 2024 Meeting Minutes:** The motion to approve the minutes of the Commission meeting of April 1, 2024, as presented by Vice-President/Secretary (VP-Sec.) Isabelle Gunning, was made by Commissioner Gunning and seconded by Commissioner Jason Moss. The motion passed unanimously, with abstentions from Commissioners Kevork Keushkerian and Commissioner Preeti Kulkarni.

¹ This commissioner, and others marked by an asterisk, attended the meeting via internet video (MS Teams link), providing their location address to be included on the posted agenda, in compliance with applicable open meeting laws and policies. Page 4

3. President's Report

3.1 Spotlight on Community Partner: Sharmaine Moseley, Executive Director, LASD Civilian Oversight Commission, and New Temporary Staff Jackie Gordon

President Davidson introduced the Executive Director of the Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission, Sharmaine Moseley. Ms. Moseley shared that she began her career in oversight in Albany, New York over 20 years ago, and also managed the city of San Diego's oversight board; she has been with LA County for five months. She explained that her vision for the Commission is to ensure that the Commission is following its purpose to improve public transparency and accountability with respect to the Sheriff's department, through community engagement, ongoing analysis, and oversight of policies, procedures, and practices. Additionally, her vision is to make sure that LA County has effective oversight of the Sheriff's department by identifying ways that can improve the department through best practices. Through Measure R, which gives the Commission some of the independence needed to effectively oversee, make recommendations, and conduct independent investigations, the goal is to focus on restructuring the Commission to improve how they reach these goals. The Commission and attendees took turns to introduce themselves and thank Ms. Moseley for her work. Lastly, President Davidson introduced new temporary staff, Jackie Gordon and thanked her for joining the team.

3.2 Interfaith Seder Event, April 17, 2024: President Davidson shared that he had the privilege of attending the Interfaith Seder Event on April 17th at the Museum of Tolerance, hosted by the Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles. He expressed that it was a powerful event with a large turnout. Executive Director (ED) Robin Toma joined to agree that it was a wonderful event, attended by a number of community partners, such as Pastor James McKnight from Congregational Church of Christian Fellowship.

3.3 San Pedro 'Community Unity' Event on May 19th at 4pm: President Davidson announced that there is a "Community Unity" event coming up on May 19th at 4pm, being held at Peck Park Community Center in San Pedro and encouraged Commissioners to attend.

4. Executive Director's Report

4.1. Termination of San Gabriel HEAR Commission, TransLatin@ Coalition, LA vs Hate:

Executive Director (ED) Robin Toma began his report by informing the Commissioners that longtime executive secretary, Grace Lowenberg, is back to work from medical leave, and is working part time; and that temporary staff Jackie Gordon will also be able to stay with the Commission for now.

ED Toma continued by sharing that there was in fact the termination of the San Gabriel HEAR Commission, despite our advocacy for the commission, as seen in our formal letters to the city council, and other actions.

ED Toma also reported that following a meeting on Friday, April 12th, we, along with LA v Hate partner, contacted the new LAPD Chief Dominic Choi and L.A. District Attorney (LADA) George Gascon to be part of a press conference the following Monday, April 12, to support the TransLatin@ Coalition (TLC), which had received hate mail and bomb threats. At the well-attended press conference, LAPD Asst. Chief Blake Chow reported that over the weekend the LAPD was able to identify and arrest the person who made the bomb threats, and LADA Asst. DA Marc Beaart reported that hate crime charges were

filed earlier that Monday. Commissioner Kulkarni asked about the L.A. Times publishing the address of the TLC office, ED Toma recalled that while another LGBT organization asked not to be mentioned in the press conference, the TLC had proposed to do the press conference in front of their offices on Wilshire, and TLC President/CEO Bamby Salcedo expressed the need to be open about the TLC as a resource for the trans community, and to call attention to the hate violence that threatens them.

ED Toma also shared that there is a LA vs Hate Education Work Group meeting on Thursdays at 2:00 pm, which brings together many of our partners, and welcomed all Commissioners to contact HRC staff Valentina D'Alessandro if there is interest in attending a meeting.

4.2. Communications Update: Public Information Officer (PIO) Tony Cowser provided a media monitoring report on the hastily called TransLatin@ Press Conference on April 15th at which the speakers were ED Toma; Supervisor Solis' senior justice deputy Esther Lim; TLC President/CEO Bamby Salcedo; Marc Bearrt, Director of Fraud & Corruption, LADA; LAPD Assistant Chief Blake Chow; and Capri Maddox, Executive Director of LA City Civil and Human Rights Department. PIO Cowser reported that the total reach of this event was an impressive 5.2 million because of re-casting to other media. Tony Cowser presented brief video highlights of the press conference, noting that LA County Communications also covered the event.

4.3. Other Program and Administrative Updates: ED Toma shared that our Commission completed its selection of the 21 community organizations to receive one-time Measure B grants for hate violence prevention, totaling \$1.045 million, which he noted as a great expansion of our anti-hate work. ED Toma explained that the list of these organizations will be shared once the granting process is finalized. ED Toma also reported that the IAOHRA conference will be held in St. Louis (Missouri) this year, and to notify staff Grace Lowenberg or Jackie Gordon if a commissioner is interested in attending. ED Toma informed Commissioners that the September Commission meeting will not be on September 2nd because it is a county holiday; he asked that commissioners notify staff if they can attend on September 9th, to ensure we will have a quorum.

5. Committee Reports

5.1. Transformative Justice Committee: Committee Chair Isabelle Gunning reported that the Committee is in the process of collecting their thoughts on their visits to the LA County jails and have found a lot of frustration because there are many instances of human rights violations. One of the Committee's first steps was to ask Commission staff to look at the following bodies' work related to the jails: (1) the County Supervisors' motions; (2) the Office of the Inspector General (OIG); (3) the Civilian Oversight Commission (COC); and (4) the Sybil Brand Commission [on Institutional Inspections]. It was noted that Commission staff had a meeting with the OIG staff who reported high interest in elevating the voices of those who are incarcerated. Chair Gunning reported that the committee is concerned that while human right violations are being documented, they are not getting adequate attention and action, and perhaps our commission needs to help bring key voices together to collaborate around the specific human rights violations.

5.2. Policy and Advocacy (Legislation) Committee: Committee Chair Guadalupe Montaña stated that there is no report at this time.

5.3. LA vs Hate Committee: Committee Chair Montaña reported that there was nothing additional to report.

5.4. Nominations Committee: Committee Chair Guadalupe Montaña shared that the Nominations Committee met and there is a slate to present, which will be part of upcoming Action item 7.1.

6. Public Comment: None was offered.

7. Action/Discussion Items

7.1 Presentation of Slate of Nominations for Commission Officers FY 2024-25: Nominations Committee Chair Montaña put forth the slate of nominees, who have accepted the nominations: For President, Commissioner Helen Chin from Supervisorial District 2. For Vice Presidents, Commissioner Fredrick Sykes from District 1, Commissioner Ilan Davidson from District 4, and Commissioner Kevork Keushkerian from District 5. For VP-Secretary, there is an opening since Commissioner Gunning declined the nomination, explaining that she was contacted by 3rd District Supervisor Horvath that with redistricting, Commissioner Gunning no longer works and lives in her district, the supervisor will not reappoint her to the commission; so Commissioner Gunning is not able to accept this nomination. For District 3, Commissioner Kulkarni was asked if she would accept a nomination as Vice President and she accepted, adding that she is however unable to serve as VP-Secretary. Commissioner Montaña extended the opportunity for one of the future Vice Presidents to accept as the Secretary, which is the officer to approve the proposed minutes of each Commission meeting, which then goes before the full Commission to approve. Commissioner Davidson accepted the nomination for VP-Secretary. Chair Montano asked for any other nominations from the floor.

After no nominations came from the floor, Nominations Committee Chair Montaña summarized that the slate of nominees is as follows: For President, Commissioner Chin; for Vice President-Secretary, Commissioner Davidson; for the remaining 3 Vice President positions, Commissioner Sykes, Commissioner Kulkarni, and Commissioner Keushkerian. The Commission will vote on these nominations at the next Commission meeting in June.

7.2 Continuing Mid-Term Review of Progress on Commission's Strategic Plan: Tabled due to lack of time, without objection.

7.3 Commission follow-up on LA vs Hate report: ED Toma shared his screen to highlight data findings from the report on LA vs Hate, included in the meeting packet, by contracted evaluator, Vital Research. He noted that the majority of people reported hate online rather than through phone calls; a large proportion of hate incidents are reported to be taking place in residential locations; race, ethnicity and national origin as a group are the leading motivation for reported hate acts; some individuals are also reporting to law enforcement, or family and friends; 89% of victims are open to receiving our LA vs Hate care coordination (case worker) services; and that victims who do receive care coordination are generally satisfied with their experience.

7.4 Collaboration with County Office of Anti-Racism, Diversity, and Inclusion (ARDI): Assistant Executive Director (AED) Robert Sowell gave a report on HRC collaboration with the County Office of Antiracism, Diversity and Inclusion, sharing that our HRC staff continue working on how to advance equity and to promote, the needs and goals for county-wide participation and collaboration. HRC staff are part of the four groups: Narrative and Communications, Planning and Data, Culture and Climate, and Stakeholder Engagement. AED Sowell continues to be one of the coordinators for the Culture and Climate group. The groups address issues of how diversity and inclusion are happening across the County, including the growth in hate activity.

8. **Commissioner Announcements:** Commissioner Gay Yuen shared that there is an event on Thursday, May 23rd from 6:30-9pm for the launch of a Chinese American Museum exhibition for Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, called the unmasking of Anna May Wong, the first Chinese American actress in Hollywood, who faced racism throughout her career. A flyer will be sent out regarding this event. Additionally, Commissioner Jason Moss shared that he will be giving a talk at Monrovia High School in response to a hate incident where a younger student was using Hitler symbols. Commissioner Keushkerian also shared that on April 9th, the Board of Supervisors declared April as Armenian Heritage Month and honored 3 Armenians. Also, Commissioner Keushkerian shared a flyer indicating that Supervisor Barger will be speaking at an Armenian Church, St. Gregory. Lastly, Commissioner Jeanette Ellis-Royston shared that high school students are able to register to vote, and will begin to receive alerts.
9. **Adjournment:** President Davidson made a motion to adjourn in memory of LA civil rights icon and interfaith leader, Rev. Cecil “Chip” Murray. President Davidson also suggested adjournment in commemoration of Yom HaShoah, which is International Holocaust Remembrance Day. The motion was moved by Commissioner Montaño and seconded by Commissioner Kulkarni. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Isabelle Gunning
Commission Vice President-Secretary

From: [Toma, Robin](#)
To: [Gordon, Jacqueline](#); [Vardanyan, Siranush](#)
Subject: FOR ITEM 3.1: Edward Yen Named Executive Officer of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
Date: Thursday, May 30, 2024 9:17:57 AM

From: Executive Office, L.A. County Board of Supervisors <BOSEXEC@subscriptions.lacounty.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, May 21, 2024 4:19 PM
To: Toma, Robin <RToma@hrc.lacounty.gov>
Subject: Edward Yen Named Executive Officer of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors

[Translate](#)

EO Media Release



For Immediate Release:
 May 21, 2024

Edward Yen Named Executive Officer of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors

LOS ANGELES - On May 21, 2024, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors appointed Edward Yen as the new Executive Officer to oversee the administration of the Board of Supervisors. Mr. Yen, better known as Eddie, is the first Asian American of Chinese descent to hold the position leading the Executive Office of the Board of Supervisors. With nearly two decades of exemplary performance in local government, Mr. Yen most recently served as the Assistant Executive Officer overseeing technology, planning, legislation, operations, and the Assessment Appeals Board.

In his new role, Mr. Yen reports to all five members of the Board of Supervisors and exercises full responsibility for the direction and administration of the Department to maintain and improve operational efficiency and facilitate transparent governance. With a budget of \$340 million, which includes funding for nearly 500 budgeted positions, the Executive Office is responsible for operating efficient and inclusive public meetings. The department also provides administrative support to 33 boards and commissions, including the Office of Inspector General, Sheriffs Civilian

Oversight Commission, Office of Child Protection and more.

“I’m honored to be chosen for this leadership role,” said Mr. Yen. “I embrace the opportunity to lead as the Executive Officer. My passion for public service drives me to innovate, collaborate, and make a positive impact on our community.”

Prior to joining the Department, Mr. Yen spent five years with the Los Angeles County Office of the Assessor, holding the positions of Assessment and Public Services Director and as General Counsel. He began his County career with the Los Angeles County Office of County Counsel as a Deputy County Counsel. Before joining the County work force, Mr. Yen was an attorney in private practice.

Mr. Yen also serves as the president of the Los Angeles County Asian American Employees Association and recently served as the chair of the San Marino Recreation Commission. Mr. Yen values community service and mentorship, and he believes as a member of this community we all must be grateful for what we have and to give back when you can.

He has a Juris Doctor degree from Loyola Law School and a Bachelor of Business Administration and Management from the University of Southern California. In addition to working in the office, he enjoys spending time with his family, playing basketball and anything USC. He even named his kids after the school, Scarlett and Caleb.

About the Department: Executive Office of the Board of Supervisors

The Executive Office of the Board of Supervisors provides support services to the five-member elected Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles. These services include accurately and timely preparing the Board’s weekly agendas and its statement of proceedings and maintaining the Board’s official records. The Department also provides information technology support, accounting, procurement, human resources, payroll, facility management, and other administrative services that are needed to ensure that the Board of Supervisors, their staff, and the Department can efficiently operate and timely respond to the needs of County residents.

About the New Executive Officer: Edward Yen

Download his high resolution [photo](#) and [biography](#).

Photo of Executive Officer Edward Yen



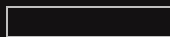
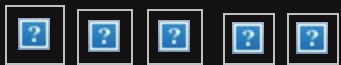
Executive Officer Edward Yen. Photo by: David Franco.

Media Contact: pio@bos.lacounty.gov

Britney Hernandez, Public Information Associate

bhernandez@bos.lacounty.gov or 213.359.9920

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Executive Office of the Board of Supervisors

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From: [Toma, Robin](#)
To: [Gordon, Jacqueline](#); [Vardanyan, Siranush](#)
Subject: FOR ITEM 3.2: FW: Review: San Pedro CommUNITY Town Hall & Celebration (use 002 photo)
Date: Wednesday, May 29, 2024 10:40:34 AM

From: Rick Eng <reng@sbg.org>
Sent: Monday, May 20, 2024 7:18 PM

Subject: Review: San Pedro CommUNITY Town Hall & Celebration

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Good Evening Team,

Hope this email finds you all well and safe. I hope you had a nice weekend, too.

On Sunday LA vs. Hate participated in the San Pedro CommUNITY Town Hall & Celebration, held on Sunday, May 19, from 4:00pm to 6:00pm (PT) at the Peck Park Community Center Auditorium. I can describe the event as uplifting with the mix of serious discussions and aspiring performances by Mt. Sinai Missionary Baptist Church Gospel Choir and A Will to Rise, a local area youth performance group.

Jose Luis manned the 211LA table and I had a friend who lived nearby, Lisa, help me at our LA vs. Hate table. Lisa is very involved in the South Bay with groups pushing for more community engagement and dialogue regarding equality and tolerance. The other tabling organizations were LA County DA's Office, Los Angeles Unified School District, and the staff from L.A. City Councilmember Tom McOsker of the 15th District. Among the speakers discussing the state of hate in our County were LAPD's Orlando Martinez and L.A. County Assistant DA Paul Kim.

L.A. County HRC Board President Ilan Davidson (also cantor of Temple Beth El family, in San Pedro) served as the emcee and did a fine job in keeping the program going. Ilan gave shout outs to LA vs. Hate and 211LA numerous times, encouraging attendees to visit our tables and to report incidents to 211.

A highlight moment was A Will to Rise performing a soaring rendition of "Lean on Me" on stage, and Lisa and I handing the kids lawn signs lifting them above their heads. Jose Luis also joined the youth on stage.

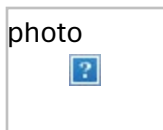
It was also nice to reconnect with former investigator with the HRC Ray Regalado, who continues to be involved in the area as a member of the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners. The event ended at 6:00pm, but dinner was provided for attendees and performers. I left around 7:00pm.

Attached are some photos. The official photographer from the councilman's office has better photos; my camera didn't work too well in the naturally dim space.

Regards,
Rick



Rick Eng
He/Him/His
Program Manager, Special Service for Groups, Inc.



☐ [213-553-1800](tel:213-553-1800) ☐ reng@ssg.org ☐ www.ssg.org
☐ [905 E. 8th St, Los Angeles, CA 90021](#)

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County of Los Angeles
COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS

510 South Vermont Avenue
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Marshall Wong

Managers

Robert Sowell

Assistant Executive Director

Robin S. Toma, Esq.
Executive Director

May 22, 2024

Dear MTA Board of Directors,

We write on behalf of the LA County Commission on Human Relations to express support for the motion to increase public safety personnel and internet access for all riders (agenda item 31), because of the need to provide greater protection for those vulnerable to hate crimes.

Our Commission supports this motion because we track and analyze hundreds of reports of hate crimes from all law enforcement agencies in LA County, providing the most comprehensive report on hate crimes in LA County. And [our most recent annual reports](#) have indicated a rise in hate crimes occurring on public transit.¹ Moreover, the County residents most commonly targeted for hate are similar to the profile of MTA passengers, which are predominately people of color of our county. The persistent year-over-year increases in reported hate crime affecting mainly these vulnerable sectors of our community are the reason why Supervisor Hilda Solis put forward the Board of Supervisors' motion, which was unanimously approved, that directed us to create the LA vs Hate system. Collectively, we must take stronger action so that we protect our most vulnerable communities from hate violence when using public transportation systems.

We also support this motion because riders and staff need to have reliable cellular phone and internet access to make use of the anti-hate services offered by our LA vs Hate system. We also know that hate crime is underreported, which means many victims of hate crime don't get the help they need. So we have created another way for hate crime victims to confidentially report online or via phone to our multilingual 24/7 community-centered system, LAVsHate.org/211LA.

The Commission and its LA vs Hate partners have also been working with LA Metro staff, along with the LA City Civil and Human Rights Department, on various LA vs Hate/LA for All initiatives that include expanding awareness of free assistance and other resources to bus and train riders who are victims of hate crimes and incidents.

¹ Our data shows that the number of hate crimes reported in 2021 and 2022 on public transportation in LA County was respectively 96% and 48% higher than the average annual amount for 2016-2020.

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May 30, 2024

Also, our Commission is currently working with LA Metro to develop a video on 'bystander training' to equip riders and other community members with the knowledge and skills to take effective and safe action to prevent hate violence they may witness.

LA vs Hate is unique in providing free assistance to any victim of hate, whether it is a hate crime or a hate incident such as hostile verbal name-calling, threats and harassment. We hope all Metro staff can be trained to ensure that every rider, employee, and safety personnel knows what to do to prevent hate violence, and to help victims of prejudice and bigotry of any kind. This motion is a step in the right direction.

Sincerely,

Ilan Davidson
President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robin S. Toma". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Robin" being more prominent.

Robin S. Toma, Esq.
Executive Director



Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations
510 S. Vermont Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90020
(213) 738-2788

AGENDA FOR MEETING OF THE TRANSFORMATIVE JUSTICE COMMITTEE LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS

Monday, June 3, 2024 | 10:45AM – 12:15PM

510 S. Vermont Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90020
9th Floor, Press Room

[Via Microsoft Teams](#)
Or Call In at +1 (213) 204-2512
Phone Conference ID: 333 921 796#

Chair: Commissioner Isabelle Gunning | **Secretary:** Commissioner Azusena Favela

Members: Commissioners Preeti Kulkarni, Fredrick Sykes, Derric Johnson,
Jeanette Ellis-Royston, Gay Yuen

Staff: Robin Toma, Robert Sowell, Pierre Arreola, Joshua Parr, Paul Smith

- 1. Call to Order and Land Acknowledgement of Indigenous Peoples** (10:45)
- 2. Review & Approval of May 6, 2024 Meeting Minutes** (10:47)
- 3. Action Items** (10:50)
 - 3.1. Nominations/Elections: Committee Position – Chair
 - 3.2. Nominations/Elections: Committee Position – Vice Chair/Secretary
- 4. Discussion: Sheriff Accountability** (11:10)
 - 4.1. LA County Custody Facilities Visits
 - 4.2. Office of Constitutional Policing Partnership
 - 4.3. Civilian Oversight Commission Partnership
 - 4.4. Sybil Brand Commission Partnership
- 5. Discussion: Staff & County Updates** (11:50)
 - 5.1. Regional Projects
- 6. Public Comment (3 Minutes Per Person)** (12:05)
- 7. Commissioner & Staff Announcements** (12:10)
- 8. Adjournment** (12:15)

Note: The following Commissioners will be participating by conference telephone communication from the following locations: Preeti Kulkarni, 3419 Federal Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90066.

For translation to other languages o para más información en Español, call (213) 738-2788 or email us at PArreola@hrc.lacounty.gov. An asterisk () denotes that this agenda packet includes written material regarding this agenda item.*

Meetings are held in English. If interpretation in other languages or accommodations for persons with disabilities are needed, please contact the Human Relations Commission at (213) 738-7288 at least 3 business days before the meeting. The meetings of the Human Relations Commission are accessible to persons with disabilities.



OPEN BALLOT

*(Note: State law does not allow secret ballots; it requires
open voting and the minutes to reflect
how each commissioner voted for each office, for transparency and accountability)*

Commission Officers

**Fiscal Year 2024-2025
(July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025)**

PRESIDENT <i>(vote for 1)</i>	Helen Chin (Second District)	<input type="checkbox"/>
VICE PRESIDENT/SECRETARY <i>(vote for 1)</i>	Ilan Davidson (Fourth District)	<input type="checkbox"/>
VICE PRESIDENTS <i>(vote for 3)</i>	Fredrick Sykes (First District)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Preeti Kulkarni (Third District)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Kevork Keushkerian (Fifth District)	<input type="checkbox"/>



Metro

Board Report

Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation
Authority
One Gateway Plaza
3rd Floor Board Room
Los Angeles, CA

File #: 2024-0365, **File Type:** Motion / Motion Response

Agenda Number: 31.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MAY 23, 2024

Motion by:

DIRECTORS BASS, BARGER, HAHN, SOLIS, NAJARIAN, AND YAROSLAVSKY

Metro Public Safety Surge Motion

Recently, our system has endured an uptick in violence and crime. Law enforcement agencies are reporting a rise in crime, resulting in increased arrests and citations for trespassing, narcotics, and weapons possession. As Metro ridership continues to increase to pre-pandemic levels, reaching more than 950,000 weekday riders in March 2024, the increase in crime threatens to derail our goal of exceeding 1.2 million weekday riders if we cannot ensure the safety of those who want and need to use the bus and rail system. As a Board, we propose urgent, decisive action to keep our riders, employees, and community members safe.

The Metro Board of Directors took swift action last month to approve the manufacture and installation of reinforced physical barriers to better protect bus operators from this senseless violence. Metro's entire bus fleet is anticipated to be fitted with new barriers by the end of the year. However, this is not enough. There has been a surge in violent crimes across the Metro bus and rail system over the past 3 months, resulting in death, injuries, and increased safety concerns for Metro's riders and frontline employees.

Additionally, Wi-Fi and cell phone service are not reliably available throughout Metro's rail system, hampering our riders' ability to communicate with public safety personnel. Metro's Transit Watch Mobile App, for instance, allows riders to directly contact emergency and law enforcement personnel by text or phone, but requires Wi-Fi or cellular service. We must ensure Wi-Fi and cell phone service are available systemwide so that riders can quickly and easily contact public safety personnel when needed.

While Metro and its security partners have taken many steps to improve safety, we must do more to ensure the safety of our riders and employees across the system.

SUBJECT: METRO PUBLIC SAFETY SURGE MOTION

RECOMMENDATION

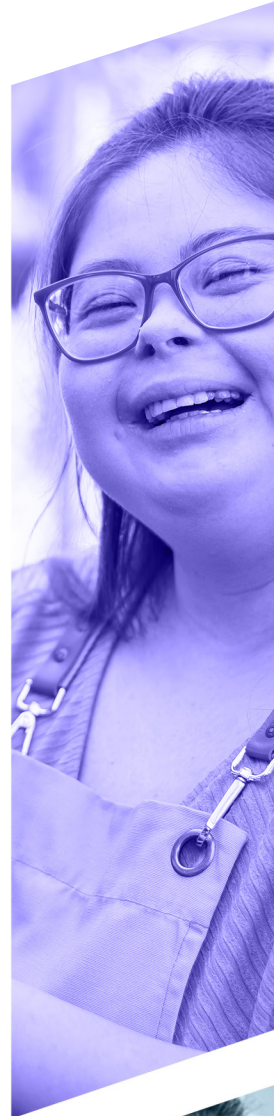
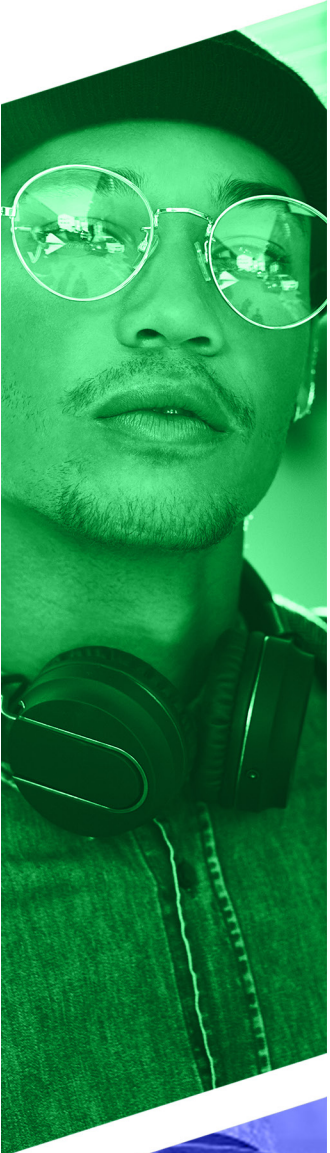
APPROVE Motion by Bass, Barger, Hahn, Solis, Najarian, and Yaroslavsky that the Board direct the

Chief Executive Officer to:

- A. Increase the daily planned deployment of public safety personnel, adjusting deployment to focus on the rail cars, buses, and stations with the highest incidents of crime and public safety issues so that riders and frontline employees feel safe.
- B. Direct public safety personnel, including Los Angeles Police Department, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department, Long Beach Police Department, and Metro Transit Security officers to be physically present on buses and trains.
- C. Direct public safety personnel to proactively walk through rail cars and ride buses. Public safety personnel must also schedule overlapping or staggered shift times to ensure continuity and avoid gaps in coverage.
- D. Establish a unified command led by Metro's Systems Security & Law Enforcement Department, with representation from all public safety resources.
- E. Ensure that cellular service is enabled and working at all underground metro rail stations, on the platforms, and during transit throughout the rail system, and bolster education and awareness of Metro's Transit Watch Mobile App so riders can directly access an emergency response.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS

**FY 2022-2025
STRATEGIC PLAN**



MISSION, VISION, AND VALUES

OUR MISSION

To promote better human relations in Los Angeles County and help build vibrant, thriving communities by working to transform prejudice into acceptance, inequity into justice, and hostility into peace.

OUR VISION

We envision a County where...

- Human relations are at their best because fundamental human rights have been met for everyone and all groups, including equitable access and opportunity to meet our most basic human needs for, safety, food, clothing, shelter, education, health care, free expression, and a voice in governance.
- All people and groups enjoy an equal opportunity to realize our full potential to do good for ourselves and our communities, unfettered by personal, institutional, or structural prejudice or discrimination, or abuse of power.
- It is the norm to value and draw upon cultural diversity to enrich all aspects of our lives, and to understand and appreciate individual differences and commonalities as well, so that everyone feels a sense of belonging.
- Through universally taught and practiced effective conflict resolution skills, we enjoy greater harmony in our intergroup and interpersonal relations, resulting in increased cooperation and collaboration between people and organizations.
- Our County government leads and models the highest level of respect for civil liberties, human rights, and the intrinsic dignity of every human being through its policy and budgetary priorities and practices.

OUR CORE VALUES AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Justice and Human Rights: We strive for social justice. We believe the foundation of positive human relations is to treat everyone with respect that affirms their intrinsic dignity as a human being and protects and fulfills their fundamental human rights.

Diversity and Inclusion: We must continue to move beyond tolerance as a goal. We celebrate the splendid diversity of human cultures, identities, and expressions. We seek mutual understanding and the full acceptance and inclusion of everyone in the essential aspects of community life.

Understanding and Compassion: We know that if we seek to understand the perspective of others, if we listen intently, try to experience life from another's point of view, our compassion for others will grow.

Cooperation and Collaboration: We engage others because we know that none of us succeeds alone, we need the support of others, and together we are stronger.

Non-Violence: We believe in the general principle of non-violence, knowing that violence begets violence. We must learn and teach how to express dissatisfaction, resolve conflicts, and achieve positive change peacefully, with respect for human dignity and without resorting to violence.

Concrete Results and Deliberate Process: We believe that the social transformation we seek requires dialogue, but not dialogue as an end in itself. We persevere to discover and devise solutions that bring about real change. We know that the process through which change is created is as important as the results. The ends never justify the means: the end result does not permit us to violate our principles to reach those results. So we consciously employ processes that respect and reflect our values.

Teaching over Doing for Others: We believe that our work is more effective, meaningful and long lasting when we emphasize teaching others how to do what needs to be done, instead of doing it for them.



LACCHR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES AND GOALS FY 2022-2025

WHAT DO WE MEAN BY “HUMAN RELATIONS?”

“Human relations” is the study and promotion of healthy interpersonal and intergroup relationships, through both intervention and prevention, to foster enthusiastic regard for social diversity, promote productive management of conflict, promote respect for and fulfillment of human rights for all, and ensure equitable distribution and use of power. Human relations specialists help bridge separations between groups so they value their differences and trust one another’s intentions for collaboration to generate genuine equity and fair opportunity for those who are being excluded or have been disadvantaged. Key features of human relations work are highlighted in our establishing ordinance and include:

- Eliminating prejudice, intolerance, discrimination, inequity, and their effects
- Promoting public health, welfare, and security
- Promoting good will
- Fostering attitudes which lead to civic peace and intergroup understanding
- Promoting equal opportunity and full acceptance of all persons
- Fostering mutual understanding and respect among all population groups
- Identifying and ameliorating human relations problems



STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1

RESPONDING TO EMERGING HUMAN RELATIONS ISSUES & CULTURAL SHIFTS

Human relations in Los Angeles County are constantly shifting, continually confronting us with new challenges and offering new opportunities. The county ordinance establishing the LACCHR requires that we address discrimination and inequity broadly. To fulfill this assignment, we must maintain awareness and agility in identifying and responding to human relations issues and cultural shifts as they emerge. Examples of such matters include the impact of the pandemic on social isolation and targeted communities, change efforts to address housing insecurity, environmental justice (addressing disproportionate impact of environmental hazards), the influence of social media on intergroup relations, justice for persons with disabilities, just immigration policy, and the distinct needs and potential of young people. Adequate response to these and other emerging issues will require ongoing attention to indicators that serve as vital signs of racial equity in our county, hate crime and hate incident data, and narratives and communications from key community partners.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1

GOAL 1

By June 30, 2023, create and implement a process for tracking key indicators and other information to identify emerging human relations issues and relevant cultural shifts.

GOAL 2

Between July 1, 2022, and June 30, 2025, respond to at least 3 identified human relations issues or relevant cultural shifts with: a summary of key information, at least 1 informational and action-planning event, and intervention that contributes to change in public or private institutional policy or practice in LA County.



STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2

INCREASING EQUITY AND JUSTICE IN LA COUNTY'S CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEMS

Racial discrimination and other inequities in our criminal justice systems are among the greatest barriers to our mission of "transforming inequity into justice." Fundamental human rights are at issue when the likelihood of police misconduct, violence, or recidivism in LA County is tied to one's race, gender, disability, or other protected characteristic. We must strategically work to break the cycle of incarceration by addressing root causes of violence in LA County and investing in communities suffering from violence. We must denounce racial and identity profiling among other police practices that undermine positive police-community relations and have triggered the largest episodes of violence in the history of Los Angeles. To eliminate systemic discrimination in our justice systems, we must uplift the community safety continuum that includes non-police agencies responding to crises and addressing the challenges experienced disproportionately by people of color, especially those who are justice-involved. We must also challenge systemic discrimination in our school disciplinary systems which have led to the overrepresentation of young people of color in the school-to-prison pipeline. In doing so, we must invest in building community safety strategies that center trauma-informed and harm-reduction approaches in crisis management and conflict resolution. We want to build on our seminal report, *Redefining Policing with Our Community*, which details action recommendations we intend to advance. We will not be limited to any single law enforcement agency that operates within LA County, but we will turn our attention to whichever agency that is in need of change in its policies, practices, and procedures. We will work in concert with other LA County efforts and entities on all the above-cited issues.



STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2

GOAL 1

Between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2025, achieve a major system reform to produce more equitable treatment in L.A. county criminal justice systems (including its constituent agencies such as the Sheriff's Department, the District Attorney, the Probation Department, and city-based police departments) for at least three groups, at least one of which is affected by housing insecurity, at least one of which is affected by policing inequity (including but not limited to oppression and repression based on race, class and other protected characteristics), and one of which may be affected by other selected issues of fairness.

GOAL 2

Between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2025, increase by at least 10% each year the number of LA County units, cities, and organizations provided with consultation and/or training to build their capacity to provide co-response services and/or non-law enforcement alternatives.



STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3

DOCUMENTING, PREVENTING, AND RESPONDING TO HATE

We must make sure our leadership and communities understand hate-motivated hostility, including hate crimes and incidents, and act to effectively prevent and respond to it in transformational and socially responsible ways. "Transforming hostility into peace" requires that we build on and advance beyond current efforts. We must demonstrate and replicate effective prevention and response strategies in affected neighborhoods and communities instead of relying solely on law enforcement to respond to hate crime based on race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, gender, immigration status, and/or disability. We need to develop restorative justice programs that increase offender empathy for the victim and reduce recidivism instead of adding longer prison sentences for perpetrators. We can create intergroup solidarity by ensuring a message of unity and peace from affected communities and encouraging media not to cover violent hate crime in ways that fuel intergroup tensions."





STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3

GOAL 1

Between July 1, 2022, and June 30, 2025, compile, analyze, and report annually information on hate acts (both hate crimes and hate incidents) in LA County.

GOAL 2

Between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2025, participate in the creation or revision of the policies or practices of at least 3 municipal or LA County government, educational institution, or public accommodation (restaurants, transportation, hotels, and other such businesses serving the public) organizations to strengthen prevention or response to hate acts.

GOAL 3

Between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2025, increase by 10,000 each year the number of people participating in anti-hate messaging and action.

GOAL 4

Between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2025, increase by 15 the number of organizations collaborating to provide services to persons targeted by hate acts.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4

ENGAGING INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL STAKEHOLDERS WITH A COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY

The LACCHR has faced major changes and transitions in recent years. In order to fulfill its mission and vision, the Commission needs to develop a greater ability to assert and protect the fundamental human rights of vulnerable populations, especially during times of crisis. We need to create greater autonomy in our actions without having to be concerned about severe budget reductions or structural changes that can weaken the Commission's effectiveness. We can do so by increasing the visibility, awareness and support of our Commission's work among key stakeholders and the public and ensuring our programs are based on relationship building, practice-based evidence, and evidence-based practices. We aim to integrate human rights education and advocacy into our work, increase human relations proficiencies among staff, and promote such proficiencies in our department and throughout county government.



STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4

GOAL 1

By January 1, 2023, develop and implement systems and procedures to address priority requests, including establishing criteria and procedures to prioritize requests, for the purpose of improving the quality of LACCHR's response to requests for assistance from all constituents including: Board of Supervisors, CEO, Commissioners, Department executives, partners, organizations, constituents and other stakeholders.

GOAL 2

Between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2025, increase the scope and frequency of communications with partners and constituents to at least one weekly communication, in order to strengthen engagement and expand network of stakeholders.

GOAL 3

By June 3, 2023, establish metrics to track responses from LA County Board offices and other stakeholders to communications from the Commission and staff.





STRATEGIC PRIORITY 5

BUILD CAPACITY OF LA COUNTY AGENCIES, CITIES, AND ORGANIZATIONS TO ADVANCE EQUITY AND PROMOTE POSITIVE HUMAN RELATIONS

To have a greater impact with limited staff resources in such a large and populous county, we need to increasingly build the capacity of communities and institutions, and away from service delivery-oriented projects that are dependent on our individual staff relations and skills and cannot be institutionalized or replicated in other contexts. As the County's Human Relations Commission, we need to strengthen our leadership among the other governmental and non-governmental human relations agencies in our county. Sharing resources and information can produce impactful results and increase coordination and collaboration on key issues and solutions. Education and training are important parts of capacity-building work.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 5

GOAL 1

Between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2025, increase by at least 10% each year the number of LA County agencies, cities, and organizations provided with consultation and/or training to build their capacity for advancing equity and promoting positive human relations.

GOAL 2

Expand the sharing of information and resources among the city-based human relations commissions and similar agencies in the county by increasing the number of new partnerships to 25% of those entities by June 30, 2025, with the goal of undertaking or joining in coordinated efforts to advance a human relations end, such as joining the LA vs Hate campaign.







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(213) 738-2788 • V

**Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations
PAST COMMITTEES (FY 2022-23)**

To Consider for Action at Commission Meeting in July for FY 2024-25

JAF AWARDS EVENT COMMITTEE	TRANSFORMATIVE JUSTICE COMMITTEE	POLICY AND ADVOCACY COMMITTEE	LA VS. HATE COMMITTEE	AD HOC STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE
<i>Guadalupe Montaño (Chair)</i>	<i>Isabelle Gunning (Chair)</i>	<i>Guadalupe Montaño (Chair)</i>	<i>Guadalupe Montaño (Chair)</i>	<i>Preeti Kulkarni (past chair in 2022-23)</i>
Ilan Davidson**	Derric Johnson	Isabelle Gunning	Helen Chin	
Kevork Keushkerian	Preeti Kulkarni	Derric Johnson	Azusena Favela	
Sandra Thomas	Jeanette Ellis Royston	Jeanette Ellis-Royston	Isabelle Gunning	
Gay Q. Yuen	Fredrick Sykes		Derric Johnson	
	Sandra Thomas		Gay Q. Yuen	
	Gay Yuen			
	<i>Tonya McKenzie (non-commissioner member)</i>			
Staff: Robert Sowell	Staff: Robert Sowell Pierre Arreola Joshua Parr	Staff: Robin Toma	Staff: Robin Toma Terri Villa-McDowell Robert Sowell Fidel Rodriguez Valentina D'Alessandro	Staff: Robin Robert

(*) Our Commission Bylaws (Article IX) require that each year, our Commission ratify the committees and its members.

(**) The Commission President is an ex-officio member of all committees, per the Commission's Bylaws.

5/30/2024 11:05 AM