



STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
LGBTQ+ COMMISSION  
KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION  
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 374  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012

Friday, February 13, 2026

9:30 AM

AUDIO: [AUDIO LINK](#)

I. WELCOME

1. Call to Order, Roll Call

**Chair Rogers called the meeting to order at 9:34 AM. Annie Patpatian, administrative staff, called the roll.**

**A quorum was established with 13 (thirteen) members present.**

Present: Chair Sydney Rogers, Vice Chair Jer-Adrienne Lelliott, Second Vice Chair Eddie Martinez, Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham, Commissioner Nic Arnzen, Commissioner Steven Fisher, Commissioner Talha Khan-Valbuena, Commissioner Héctor Trinidad Plascencia, Commissioner Terra Russell-Slavin, Commissioner Alejandro Soria, Commissioner Tony Valenzuela, Commissioner Luis Vasquez and Commissioner Yolanda Whittington

Absent: Commissioner Tonya Martin and Commissioner Eric Nakano

2. Land Acknowledgement

**Sunitha Menon, Executive Director, read the Los Angeles County Land Acknowledgment.**

**Commissioner Martin joined the meeting at 9:39 AM.**

**3. Black Diaspora, Labor, and Inclusion Acknowledgement**

**Commissioner Arnzen read the Black Diaspora, Labor, and Inclusion Acknowledgment.**

**Attachments:**      [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

**4. Moment of Silence**

**Chair Rogers led the “Moment of Silence” inviting everyone to take three breaths for past, future and present trans and queer LGBTQ+ given and chosen lineage.**

**II. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

**5. Approval of January 9, 2026 meeting minutes**

**Chair Rogers introduced the minutes and asked the Commission if there any requests for revisions regarding the minutes for approval.**

**No members of the public addressed the Commission on this item. Commissioner**

**On motion of Commissioner Abraham seconded by Commissioner Martin this item was approved with the following vote:**

**Ayes:** 14 - Chair Sydney Rogers, Vice Chair Jer-Adrienne Lelliott, Second Vice Chair Eddie Martinez, Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham, Commissioner Nic Arnzen, Commissioner Steven Fisher, Commissioner Talha Khan-Valbuena, Commissioner Tonya Martin, Commissioner Héctor Trinidad Plascencia, Commissioner Terra Russell-Slavin, Commissioner Alejandro Soria, Commissioner Tony Valenzuela, Commissioner Luis Vasquez and Commissioner Yolanda Whittington

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Eric Nakano

**Attachments:**      [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)  
                                 [PUBLIC COMMENT/WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE](#)

**III. DISCUSSIONS & ACTIONS**

6. Presentation by the Williams Institute on the “Impact of the 2025 Eaton Fire on LGBTQ+ Communities” report findings and discussion of findings.

**Brad Sears and Keyanna Taylor from the William Institute, along with Megha Shah from Public Health presented the report and findings of "Impact of the 2025 Eaton Fire on LGBTQ+ Communities" and the rapid needs assessment finding. Brad Sears, Keyanna Taylor and Megha Shah responded to questions posed by Commissioners.**

**Commissioner Nakano joined the meeting at 9:45 AM.**

**No members of the public addressed the Commission on this item.**

**After Comment period closed, this item was received and filed.**

**Attachments:**      [LINK TO THE FINAL REPORT](#)  
                                 [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)  
                                 [PUBLIC COMMENT/WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE](#)

**The Commission took a recess at 11:31 AM and reconvened at 11:41 AM. Annie Patpatian, administrative staff, called the roll to determine if a quorum was present.**

**A quorum was established with 15 (fifteen) members present.**

**Present:**    15 -    Chair Sydney Rogers, Vice Chair Jer-Adrienne Lelliott, Second Vice Chair Eddie Martinez, Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham, Commissioner Nic Arnzen, Commissioner Steven Fisher, Commissioner Talha Khan-Valbuena, Commissioner Tonya Martin, Commissioner Eric Nakano, Commissioner Héctor Trinidad Plascencia, Commissioner Terra Russell-Slavin, Commissioner Alejandro Soria, Commissioner Tony Valenzuela, Commissioner Luis Vasquez and Commissioner Yolanda Whittington

7. Presentation by the Los Angeles County Justice, Care & Opportunities Division (JCOD) about their work and discussion on intersections with the LGBTQ+ community in Los Angeles County. Discuss and take possible action on identifying ways to collaborate between the Commission and JCOD.

**Adam Bettino and Ronnie Thomas from Los Angeles County Justice, Care & Opportunities Division (JCOD) presented on their work and the intersection of LGBTQ+ people in Los Angeles County. Adam Bettino and Ronnie Thomas responded to questions posed by Commissioners.**

Members of the public ChiChi Navarro and Byron Jose addressed the Commission on this item.

After Public Comment period closed, this item was received and filed.

Attachments:      [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)  
                                 [PUBLIC COMMENT/WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE](#)

8. Presentation from the Department of Public Health, Health Promotion Bureau, Division of Maternal, Child, & Adolescent Health (MCAH) on available programs and resources and work related to the August 2025 Breast/Chestfeeding Motion. Discussion with the Commission related to this motion, LGBTQ+ people who breast/chestfeed, and program referrals.

**Melissa Franklin and Helen O’Conner from the Department of Public Health, Health Promotion Bureau, Division of Maternal, Child, & Adolescent Health (MCAH) presented on available programs and resources and work related to the August 2025 Breast/Chestfeeding Motion. Melissa Franklin and Helen O’Conner responded to questions posed by Commissioners.**

No members of the public addressed the Commission on this item.

After Public Comment period closed, this item was received and filed.

Attachments:      [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)  
                                 [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)  
                                 [PUBLIC COMMENT/WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE](#)

9. Discuss the outcomes of the February 4, 2026, Know Your Rights and Resources 2.0 event from the LGBTQ+ Immigration ad hoc subcommittee.

**Commissioner Plascencia introduced the item and provided an update about the Know Your Rights and Resources 2.0 event that took place on February 4th 2026.**

**Commissioner Plascencia notified the Commission that the event was a great success with over 65 people participating from across the County. Commissioner Plascencia opened the floor for discussion.**

Member of the public ChiChi Navarro addressed the Commission on this item.

After Public Comment period closed, this item was received and filed.

Attachments:      [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)  
                                 [PUBLIC COMMENT/WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE](#)

The Commission took a recess at 12:00 PM and reconvened at 12:16 PM. Annie Patpatian, administrative staff, called the roll to determine if a quorum was present.

A quorum was established with 12 (twelve) members present.

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- Present:** 12 - Chair Sydney Rogers, Vice Chair Jer-Adrienne Lelliott, Second Vice Chair Eddie Martinez, Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham, Commissioner Steven Fisher, Commissioner Eric Nakano, Commissioner Héctor Trinidad Plascencia, Commissioner Terra Russell-Slavin, Commissioner Alejandro Soria, Commissioner Tony Valenzuela, Commissioner Luis Vasquez and Commissioner Yolanda Whittington
- Absent:** 3 - Commissioner Nic Arnzen, Commissioner Talha Khan-Valbuena and Commissioner Tonya Martin

- 10.** Discuss and take possible action on providing the Board of Supervisors with recommendations relating to the importance of ensuring that relevant LA County Departments continue providing gender affirming care for youth and adults.

**Commissioner Russell-Slavin introduced the item and opened the floor for discussion to identify strategies to provide the Board of Supervisors recommendations on gender affirming care.**

**Commissioner Khan-Valbuena joined the meeting at 12:20 PM.**

**Commissioner Martin joined the meeting at 12:23 PM.**

**Members of the public ChiChi Navarro and Jessica Brown addressed the Commission on this item.**

**After Public Comment period closed, this item was received and filed.**

**Attachments:**      [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)  
[PUBLIC COMMENT/WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE](#)

- 11.** Discuss and take possible actions on recommendations from the County Department Review ad hoc subcommittee on which County Departments the Commission should prioritize working with in the upcoming year.

**Commissioner Whittington introduced the item and provided an update to the Commission on the work of the Ad Hoc Committee. Commissioner Whittington explained the two documents that the Ad Hoc Subcommittee created and how those can be used by commissioners and the public. Commissioner Whittington opened the floor for discussion.**

**Member of the public ChiChi Navarro addressed the Commission on this item.**

**After Public Comment period closed, this item was received and filed.**

Attachments:     [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)  
                           [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)  
                           [PUBLIC COMMENT/WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE](#)

- 12.**     Discuss and take possible action on creating a 2026 annual retreat ad hoc subcommittee. Discuss and take possible action on identifying topics, goals, date, location, and time.
- Chair Rogers introduced the item and opened the floor for discussion regarding the Commissions opinions on moving forward with an annual retreat.**

**No members of the public addressed the Commission on this item.**

**After discussion, on the motion of Commissioner Plascencia, seconded by Commissioner Martin, the Commission approved to create an ad hoc subcommittee comprised of Commissioner Martin, Commissioner Plascencia and Commissioner Valenzuela tasked to develop and facilitate an annual retreat with the following vote:**

**Ayes:**   14 -   Chair Sydney Rogers, Vice Chair Jer-Adrienne Lelliott, Second Vice Chair Eddie Martinez, Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham, Commissioner Steven Fisher, Commissioner Talha Khan-Valbuena, Commissioner Tonya Martin, Commissioner Eric Nakano, Commissioner Héctor Trinidad Plascencia, Commissioner Terra Russell-Slavin, Commissioner Alejandro Soria, Commissioner Tony Valenzuela, Commissioner Luis Vasquez and Commissioner Yolanda Whittington

**Absent:**   1 -   Commissioner Nic Arnzen

Attachments:     [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)  
                           [PUBLIC COMMENT/WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE](#)

**Commissioner Nakano left the meeting at 1:16 PM.**

**IV. UPDATES**

- 13.**     Update from the Community Engagement Standing Subcommittee on work-to-date.

**Commissioner Plascencia provided the Commission an update on the tasks and meetings that the Community Engagement Standing Subcommittee is currently working on.**

**No members of the public addressed the Commission on this item.**

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**After Public Comment period closed, this item was received and filed.**

**Attachments:**      [PUBLIC COMMENT/WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE](#)

- 14.** Update from the TGI Townhall ad hoc subcommittee on work-to-date.

**Commissioner Russell-Slavin provided the Commission with an update on the tasks and meetings that the TGI Townhall Ad Hoc Subcommittee is currently working on.**

**No members of the public addressed the Commission on this item.**

**After Public Comment period closed, this item was received and filed.**

**Attachments:**      [PUBLIC COMMENT/WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE](#)

**Vice Chair Lelliott left the meeting at 1:30 PM and Commissioner Russell-Slavin left the meeting at 1:33 PM.**

- 15.** Update from the LGBTQ+ Youth ad hoc subcommittee on work-to-date

**Commissioner Soria provided the Commission an update on the tasks and meetings that the LGBTQ+ Youth Ad Hoc Subcommittee is currently working on.**

**No members of the public addressed the Commission on this item.**

**After Public Comment period closed, this item was received and filed.**

**Attachments:**      [PUBLIC COMMENT/WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE](#)

- 16.** Update from the Housing and Homelessness ad hoc subcommittee on work-to-date.

**Commissioner Whittington provided the Commission an update on the tasks and meetings that the Housing and Homelessness Ad Hoc Subcommittee is currently working on.**

**Member of the public ChiChi Navarro addressed the Commission on this item.**

**After Public Comment period closed, this item was received and filed.**

**Attachments:**      [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

**V. MISCELLANEOUS**

**Matters Not Posted**

17. Matters not on the posted agenda to be placed on the agenda for discussion and action at a future meeting of the LGBTQ+ Commission.

**Commissioner Martin announced the State Capital event in recognition of the upcoming June Pride Month. Commissioner Martin also shared that Long Beach Pride will host a Job Fair on February 21. For additional information, please contact [info@longbeachpride.com](mailto:info@longbeachpride.com)**

**Commissioner Plascencia announced that the SGV Quince Brunch Fundraiser has been rescheduled to March 22, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

**Commissioner Plascencia also shared information regarding the upcoming March concerts of the Gay Men’s Chorus of Los Angeles, including tabling opportunities. Additionally, they inquired about potential partnership opportunities with the Los Angeles LGBTQ Chamber of Commerce.**

**Chair Rogers announced the Los Angeles LGBT Center Black History Month event, Highly Favored, scheduled for February 21 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**

**Public Comment**

18. Public Comment

**Member of the public ChiChi Navarro addressed the Commission on this item.**

**Attachments:      [PUBLIC COMMENT/WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE](#)**

**Adjournment**

19. Adjournment of the February 13, 2026 LGBTQ+ Commission meeting.

**Chair Rogers adjourned the meeting at 1:46 PM. The next meeting is scheduled for March 13, 2026, at 9:30 AM**