County of Los Angeles
Quality and Productivity Commission

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EXECUTIVE OFFICE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
"To enrich lives through effective and caring service"

Los Angeles County
QUALITY AND PRODUCTIVITY COMMISSION

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
August 24, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.
(AMENDED ON OCTOBER 26, 2026)

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, Room 140
500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Members of the public may participate remotely or listen to the meeting via telephone at:
Virtual Meeting
Call in Number: (669) 900-9128
Meeting ID: 831 6184 4984
Passcode: 893037
Join Zoom Meeting

https://bos-lacounty-gov.zoom.us/j/83161844984?pwd=yazX748v0JVXtRsMMKo283QabtQwvI.1

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CALL TO ORDER
Commissioner Parent, Chair, called the meeting of the Quality and Productivity Commission to order at 10:01 a.m.

THE FOLLOWING COMMISSIONERS WERE PRESENT (TAKEN BY ROLL CALL):

Viggo Butler	E. Scott Palmer
Rodney C. Gibson	William B. Parent
Nancy G. Harris	Jeffrey Jorge Penichet
J. Shawn Landres	Dion Rambo
Huasha Liu	Mark A. Waronek
Edward T. McIntyre	Joe Waz
Marsha D. Mitchell	Will Wright

ABSENT

Julian Cepeda	Nichelle M. Henderson
Barry Donelan	

PRODUCTIVITY MANAGERS' NETWORK (PMN)
Heidi Oliva, First Vice Chair, on behalf of Keisha Belmaster, Chair.

CALL TO ORDER/OPENING REMARKS (AGENDA #1)
Commissioner Parent welcomed everyone and noted the meeting was subject to the Brown Act and was being recorded.

He announced that members of the public could send their questions or comments to Jackie Guevarra during the meeting via email at jguevarra@bos.lacounty.gov or via the virtual chat feature and indicate which item(s) they would like to speak on. Any information received will become part of the official meeting record. Members of the public were also given the opportunity to send their comments and questions to Jackie Guevarra by Sunday, August 23, 2026, at 4:00 p.m. No written public comments were received.

He also announced that each Commissioner would have the opportunity to speak on any agenda item, and that a vote on the items would be taken by roll call.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT (AGENDA #2)

On November 1, 2022, the Board of Supervisors adopted a formal Land Acknowledgement for the County. As required by the Countywide Land Acknowledgement Implementation Guide, Commissioner Parent as "the highest-ranking staff member (present) from the host organization" delivered the Land Acknowledgement, which can be read here: https://lacounty.gov/government/about-la-county/land-acknowledgment/.

ROLL CALL (AGENDA #3)

Jackie Guevarra took roll call. No Commissioners attended the meeting remotely.

APPROVAL OF THE JULY 27, 2026, MINUTES (AGENDA #4)

Commissioner Waronek made a motion to approve the minutes of July 27, 2026, seconded by Commissioner Landres. The minutes were approved by voice vote with one abstention.

Yes:	Commissioners Butler, Gibson, Harris, Landres, Liu, McIntyre, Mitchell, Parent, Penichet, Rambo, Waronek, Waz, and Wright
No:	None
Abstain:	Commissioner Palmer

PRESENTATION OF A PRODUCTIVITY INVESTMENT FUND (PIF) PROPOSAL AND FUND BALANCE REPORT AS OF FISCAL YEAR 2026-27, 1ST QUARTER, FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION (AGENDA #5)

Fund Balance Report

Commissioner Wright, Chair, Productivity Investment Board (PIB), reported there were two projects before the Commission for consideration for the 1st Quarter of Fiscal Year 2026-2027. He reported that as of June 30, 2026, the outstanding PIF fund balance is $2,821,870. The proposals being heard at the meeting total up to $465,000. If both projects are approved at the full amount, the revised fund balance would be $2,356,870. However, Commission staff recently met with the Executive Office Fiscal Team and determined that the revised fund balance may be significantly less than $2,821,870. Preliminarily, the estimated revised fund balance may only be $1.4 million. Commission staff are working with Fiscal to reconcile the difference and will provide an updated report at the next PIB meeting.

Presentation of PIF Proposals for Discussion and Possible Action

27.1 – Natural History Museum, *NHMLAC Digital Ecosystems Modernization*, $600,000 Grant. PIB recommends up to $65,000 Grant for Phase 1 of the project. The remaining phases and proposed grant amount were continued as 27.5 to the PIB meeting of November 16, 2026.

The following staff attended in person to support and answer questions regarding the project: Dr. Lori Bettison-Varga (Director), Danny Inukai (Alternate Productivity Manager), Lien Gray, Matt Jefferson, and Dana Earl.

Commissioner Landres presented a summary on behalf of the Department. The Department seeks a grant to support the strategic modernization of the Museum's audience-facing digital ecosystem in support of a comprehensive rebranding and program expansion initiative in connection with the major renovation of the La Brea Tar Pits ahead of the 2028 LA Olympics and Paralympics.

After discussion and questions, Commissioner Landres made a motion to approve a $65,000 grant to fund Phase 1 (Discovery Phase) and Phases 2 and 3 of the project were continued to the next PIB meeting on November 16, 2026. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Butler and unanimously approved by voice vote.

Yes: Commissioners Butler, Gibson, Harris, Landres, Liu, McIntyre, Mitchell, Palmer, Parent, Penichet, Rambo, Waronek, Waz, and Wright
No: None
Abstain: None

27.2 – Public Health, *Student Wellbeing Centers: Impact through Data Use Agreements*, $400,000 Grant. PIB recommends up to $400,000 Grant.

The following staff were in attendance to support and answer questions regarding the project: Remote – Dr. Barbara Ferrer (Director), Rachel Baker Devine (Alternate Productivity Manager), and Edith Hernandez; in person – Rachel Bonkovsky (Director, Education Sector Unit, Office of Planning, Integration, and Engagement [PIE]), Juliana Sinh (Productivity Manager), and Aneidra Carrion.

Commissioner Mitchell presented a summary on behalf of the Department. The Department seeks a grant to hire a consultant to work with school districts across Los Angeles County to establish Data Use Agreements, allowing Public Health to more effectively analyze the effectiveness of its programs on school campuses and ensure the most optimal impact on K-12 students across the County.

After discussion and questions, Commissioner Landres made a motion to approve the project in two phases, with the second phase contingent upon the documented completion and initial workshopping of the template data use agreement. The motion for $400,000 was seconded by Commissioner Mitchell and approved by voice vote with one abstention.

Yes: Commissioners Butler, Gibson, Harris, Landres, Liu, Mitchell, Palmer, Parent, Penichet, Rambo, Waronek, Waz, and Wright
No: None
Abstain: McIntyre

CHAIR'S REPORT: ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS, AD HOC COMMITTEE STATUS (AGENDA #6)

Commissioner Parent, Chair, reported the following:

- The next QPC meeting after today is Monday, October 26, 2026. The PIB last met on August 3, 2026, to hear four PIF proposals for funding consideration. The PIB continued two of the four projects to the PIB meeting of November 16, 2026, with stipulations for changes to the proposals.
- Citizens' Economy and Efficiency (E&E) Commission Update
  - Joe Waz attended the E&E artificial intelligence (AI) Task Force meeting on August 12, 2026, at 12:00 p.m. AI Task Force members include Cathy Hood and Josh Yahr.
  - Jackie Guevarra also connected the AI Task Force members with the ISD speakers on AI from the Commission's July 27, 2026 meeting, and provided the Task Force with copies of the County's AI Policy and framework.
- 2027-2032 Strategic Plan Update
  - We are waiting for the Executive Office Contracts Division to finalize the scores and notify the ad hoc Committee of the overall outcome of the bidding process.
  - Typically, the consultant would be introduced at a Commission meeting before they start the work, but our next meeting will not be until October 26, 2026. Therefore, the Chair and ad hoc Committee members will meet with the consultant for the kickoff meeting once they are onboarded. We will provide a schedule of tasks and a timeline to Commissioners after the kickoff meeting.
  - Jackie Guevarra and Commissioner Parent are scheduled to meet with Joe Nicchitta, Chief Executive Officer, and Jeramy Gray, Chief Deputy, for QPC's semi-annual meeting on Thursday, September 10, 2026 (1:00 p.m.). Commissioners are encouraged to provide Jackie Guevarra with topics for discussion at the meeting.

PRODUCTIVITY MANAGERS NETWORK (PMN) CHAIR'S REPORT: GENERAL MEETING AND TRAINING (AGENDA #7)

Heidi Oliva, PMN First Vice Chair, reported the following on behalf of Keisha Belmaster, PMN Chair:

- The Productivity and Quality Awards (PQA) hybrid evaluations were held from July 28 to August 3, 2026. A total of 95 applications were evaluated by 45 Productivity Managers from 26 departments and by 10 Commissioners.
  - 6 people reviewed applications in-person only
  - 41 people reviewed applications online only
  - 8 people reviewed applications both in-person and online
- Compared to last year, we saw an increase in Commissioner participation (from 8 to 10) and a decrease in Productivity Manager participation (from 53 to 45).
- This is the first year the PQA evaluations used a hybrid approach. Some Commissioners had issues accessing the site due to the County's firewalls and

security, which delayed application review. Commissioners who were able to review online felt the process worked out well once they had access to the site.

- Overall, the Managers who participated online liked the process, sharing that it saved them a lot of time and was more convenient and accommodating for their busy schedules. We had a few Managers who missed the in-person review and preferred to return to our all-day in-person reviews.
- The full PQA winners list was sent to the Productivity Managers' Network, Department Heads, and Commissioners on August 12, 2026.
- Top Ten site visits started on August 18, 2026 with four visits completed during the week. Six more site visits are scheduled. Video recording of materials for use at the Awards luncheon will take place from August 31 to September 14, 2026.
- The next PMN General Meeting and Training will be held on November 4, 2026 at the Los Angeles County Development Authority headquarters in Alhambra. The PMN Executive Committee will meet to plan for that meeting on October 13, 2026, as well as to discuss the election of the 2027 PMN Executive Committee.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: COMMISSION EVENTS UPDATE, CALENDAR OF EVENTS, DEADLINES, ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS (AGENDA #8)

Jackie Guevarra, Executive Director, reported the following:

- Staff have been working on and/or preparing for various meetings
  - Fall 2026 Quarterly Newsletter due out on September 30, 2026
  - Working on possible speakers for future meetings
- 2026 PQA
  - Invitations to the awards ceremony were sent out
  - Based on the number of projects submitted and the collaborators listed, we are at maximum capacity for the venue
  - The meal count is due much earlier this year due to new vendor requirements
  - Main entrée choices are salmon or vegetarian
  - All commissioners were asked to respond to Commission staff upon receipt of their invitations
- Top Ten video recording is scheduled for August 31–September 14, 2026
- Working on the 2027 ad hoc Committees
  - Jackie Guevarra will solicit Commissioners' interest on which ad hoc Committees they want to participate in 2027
  - Per Commission Policy 2.0, Commissioners are to participate on a minimum of two Committees
- Working on the Nominating ad hoc Committee for this year's Commission elections
  - Per Commission protocol, Jackie Guevarra will work with the Commission Chair to appoint the ad hoc Committee Chair
  - Jackie Guevarra will meet with the ad hoc Committee Chair to identify the additional members of the ad hoc Committee
  - Members of the ad hoc Committee may not run for one of the three offices: Chair, First Vice Chair and Second Vice Chair
  - As reported at the Commission meeting on July 27, 2026 and based on discussions with the Officers, it was determined that there are no changes to the Commission's Conflict of Interest code at this time. The completed

Certification was submitted to the Conflict of Interest Division on August 17, 2026

- The Governance Reform Task Force (GRTF) meetings include GRTF ad hoc Subcommittee updates on their progress and work plans
  - GRTF ad hoc Subcommittee on Commissions
  - GRTF ad hoc Subcommittee on Expansion of the Board
  - GRTF ad hoc Subcommittee on the Independent Ethics Commission
  - GRTF ad hoc Subcommittee on Labor Relations
  - GRTF ad hoc Subcommittee on Public Budget Presentations and Five-Day Posting
  - Requirement for non-urgent legislation
  - GRTF Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Public Engagement Strategy

  If anyone is interested in joining upcoming GRTF meetings, the schedule follows:
  - August 26, 2026 (5:00 p.m.) at The Lundquist Institute (Torrance)
  - August 28, 2026 (9:00 a.m.) at the Hall of Administration, Room 140
  - September 9, 2026 (5:00 p.m.) at the East Los Angeles Library
  - September 23, 2026 (5:00 p.m.) at The Lundquist Institute (Torrance)

  Most of their recent meetings have focused on:
  - Presentation, discussion, and potential action: draft recommendations Report for implementation of the 120-hour posting requirement for non-urgent legislation
  - Presentation, discussion, and potential action: continued development of elected county executive recommendations
- Economy and Efficiency Commission (E&E) Update
  - Kellie Johnson plans to attend the next E&E meeting on September 3, 2026. The issue of the merger/collaboration with the QPC may come up.
- FY 2026-27 Budget
  - Commission staff provided additional justification to the Executive Office and Chief Executive Office (CEO) in support of the Supplemental Budget Request
  - Jackie Guevarra also reached out to CEO Joe Nicchitta directly to provide a status on the PIF fund balance as of June 30, 2026, and the total request for the first quarter of Fiscal Year 2026-27

DEPARTMENT VISIT AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORT (AGENDA #9)

Committee: Commissioners Harris (Chair), McIntyre (Vice Chair), Butler, Gibson, Liu, Palmer, Rambo and Waronek. Nancy Harris, Chair, reported the following:

- We have completed 15 of the 16 visits this year
- The following is on the agenda to be received and filed:
  - Department of Consumer and Business Affairs (July 3, 2026)
- The Department Visit with Public Health was scheduled for August 6, 2026. However, the official visit was cancelled because the Department Head was no longer available to attend. Since multiple speakers were already scheduled to attend and present, the Commission agreed to conduct an unofficial site visit with the speakers to learn about one of the Department's programs: the Public Health Councils (PHC) Program. There will be no formal report issued for the site visit. Public Health's official Department Visit will be rescheduled for a date after the PQA on October 7, 2026.

PRODUCTIVITY AND QUALITY AWARDS AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORT (AGENDA #10)

Committee: Commissioners Waz (Chair), Rambo (Vice Chair), Donelan, Harris, Henderson, Liu, McIntrye, and Penichet. Commissioner Waz, Chair, reported the following:

- PQA details (previously reported):
  - Date: Wednesday, October 7, 2026, 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
  - Venue: Music Center, Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, Grand Hall
  - Theme: *Catalysts for Innovation*
  - Emcee: Amrit Singh, Spectrum News
- 95 applications were received for awards consideration
- Commissioner Waz thanked all the Commissioners and Productivity Managers who participated in the PQA evaluation between July 28 - August 3, 2026
- On August 11, 2026, the Top Ten and Commission Special award winners were finalized based on the Commissioners and PMN scores
- Award notifications went out on August 12, 2026, and the Top Ten site visits started on August 18, 2026. Commissioner Waz thanked the Commissioners who attended the first four site visits: Department of Children and Family Services, Sheriff's Department, LA Health Services, and Department of Economic Opportunity
- There are six remaining site visits scheduled:
  - Tuesday, August 25 (10:00 a.m.) – Mental Health
  - Tuesday, August 25 (1:30 p.m.) – Regional Planning
  - Wednesday, August 26 (10:00 a.m.) – Public Health
  - Wednesday, August 26 (1:30 p.m.) – Parks and Recreation
  - Thursday, August 27 (10:00 a.m.) – Health Services
  - Friday, August 28 (1:30 p.m.) – Fire
- Commissioner Waz asked that all Commissioners turn in their completed score sheets—only for the site visits they attended—to Jane Lam by Friday, August 28, 2026
- Invitations to the PQA also went out to all Commissioners. The RSVP deadline is Tuesday, September 8, 2026. Please contact Betty Belavek with meal choices

COMMISSIONERS ANNOUNCEMENTS REGARDING CONFERENCES, MEETINGS AND GATHERINGS OF INTEREST TO THE COMMISSION (AGENDA #11)

None

COMMISSIONER DISCUSSION ON GOALS, IDEAS, FUTURE PROJECTS AND/OR DIRECTION OF THE COMMISSION (AGENDA #12)

Commissioners discussed the Commission's budget (e.g., funding request process, justification for funding, etc.) and the upcoming strategic planning efforts, including the potential retreat, and the idea of conducting an County internal survey to better understand the Commission's shared priorities and direction. Commissioner Wright shared recent positive insights from a reception with Adam Burke, LA Tourism CEO, and suggested bringing in external speakers to provide data-driven, optimistic perspectives on the County's economy.

MATTERS NOT ON THE POSTED AGENDA TO BE PRESENTED AND PLACED ON A FUTURE AGENDA (AGENDA #13)
None

PUBLIC COMMENT (AGENDA #14)
None

ADJOURNMENT
Commissioner Mitchell moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Wright. The meeting adjourned at 12:36 p.m. The next full Commission meeting will be held on Monday, October 26, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.