

PRESS RELEASE

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LGBTQ+ Commission Releases First Annual Report, Highlights Achievements and Challenges

LOS ANGELES — The Los Angeles County LGBTQ+ Commission released its first annual report today, providing an in-depth analysis of key accomplishments, obstacles faced, and ongoing long-term projects.

To view the annual report [click here](#).

“I commend the LGBTQ+ Commission for developing a thoughtful strategic plan that will guide its important work moving forward,” said **Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Chair Kathryn Barger, Fifth District (she/her)**. “Establishing a clear roadmap is essential for building lasting partnerships and making meaningful progress. I appreciate the Commission’s commitment to serving all residents with respect and inclusion.”

“I’m proud to have led efforts to establish our first LGBTQ+ Commission, especially now as Los Angeles continues to navigate an unprecedented and difficult year,” said **Los Angeles Chair Pro Tem and First District Supervisor, Hilda L. Solis**. “From the January wildfires to a challenging federal landscape, the Commission’s work has created and strengthened pillars of engagement and collaboration across our County departments, community-based partners, and our residents. This first annual report is a significant step forward in ensuring the County of Los Angeles delivers on its commitment to supporting our LGBTQ+ residents and safeguarding vital resources that help meet the needs of Angelenos across our communities.”

“I’m incredibly proud of the LA County LGBTQ+ Commission’s powerful first year. This annual report offers important insights into the lived experiences of our LGBTQ+ residents and outlines clear steps for the work ahead to turn injustice into progress and build a County where every LGBTQ+ person feels seen, supported, and safe,” shared **Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell, Second District (she/her)**. “Deep thanks to our Second District appointees — Dr. Jerry Abraham, Luis Vasquez, and Yolanda Whittington — and to Executive Director Sunitha Menon, whose leadership has been instrumental in fostering collaboration across LA County. This is just the beginning. Putting these insights into action requires our sustained commitment to shared prosperity and belonging for all.”

“This inaugural report from the LGBTQ+ Commission marks a powerful step forward in our work to create a Los Angeles County where every person—regardless of gender identity or sexual orientation—feels seen,

supported, and safe,” said **Third District Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath (she/her)**. “I’m deeply grateful for the Commission’s steadfast advocacy for our LGBTQ+ communities amid rising hostility and harmful rhetoric. Their resilience, clarity of purpose, and bold vision have already made an impact, and I remain committed to partnering with them to advance inclusive policies, protect access to gender-affirming care, and build systems that truly serve all of our residents.”

“There are too many states and local governments across the country who are moving backwards on LGBTQ rights,” said **Supervisor Janice Hahn, Fourth District (she/hers)**. “I am proud that, with our LGBTQ+ Commission at the helm, L.A. County continues to be on the right side of history and uplifting LGBTQ voices when we need to hear them most.”

The report, which covers the work of the commission from June 2024 to June 2025, was submitted to the Board of Supervisors by Executive Director Sunitha Menon (she/they). The highlighted achievements include:

- Adopting the Commission’s first [Strategic Plan](#), which articulates its vision, mission, core values, priority areas, and priority populations.
- Engaging with over 55 LGBTQ+ community-based organizations to establish long-term partnerships for collaboration and advocacy.
- Providing advice and recommendations in more than 100 meetings with County departments on LGBTQ+ issues.
- Co-hosting a Wildfire Townhall in Altadena in May 2025 with the Williams Institute, which focused on helping LGBTQ+ people who were impacted by the January 2025 wildfires.

Over the past year, the LGBTQ+ Commission encountered challenges that affected both operations and engagement. The rise in anti-LGBTQ+, anti-Transgender, Gender Expansive, Intersex (TGI) and anti-immigrant sentiment created significant obstacles to maintaining smooth operations. In addition, the January wildfires impacted many members in the LGBTQ+ community, including several commissioners. As a result, commission activities were temporarily paused to allow time for recovery and support.

“Trans and Queer (LGBTQIA2S+) people hold grounding roots and thriving futures in Los Angeles County,” said **LGBTQ+ Commission Chair Héctor Plascencia (they/them)**. “May this report solidify our presence and connected direction towards a just and humane County home. We will not be erased.”

“Especially at this time, when we are seeing such a steep rise in anti-LGBTQ legislation, it is critical that the County of Los Angeles be a safe haven for our LGBTQ+ community,” stated **LGBTQ+ Commission Executive Director Sunitha Menon (she/her, they/them)**. “The commissioners have worked hard to provide advice and recommendations to improve the lives of LGBTQ+ people here in the County. We are grateful for the continued support and collaboration with the Supervisors and their offices and have built a solid foundation to ensure our work is as effective as possible in the upcoming year.”

In the upcoming year, the Commission has decided to prioritize helping individuals who have been impacted by the changes from the federal administration. Specifically, the Commission aims to ensure access to gender-affirming care for Transgender and Queer people, support individuals of varied immigration

statuses, and provide recommendations to help keep all communities safe during interactions with law enforcement. In addition, the Commission aims to remain committed to advancing its work through its five core areas – the County workforce, youth, health and mental health, safety, and housing and homelessness.

About the LGBTQ+ Commission

In June 2023, Los Angeles County First District Supervisor Hilda L. Solis and Fourth District Supervisor Janice Hahn introduced a motion to establish the County's first LGBTQ+ Commission to provide advice and recommendations to the Board of Supervisors and County Departments about how to better support LGBTQ+ people. The Commission utilizes engagement activities to ensure the advice and recommendations are inclusive of the broad and varied needs of the diverse LGBTQ+ population around the County. The Commission consists of 15 individuals with unique experiences and diverse backgrounds. For more information about the LGBTQ+ Commission, please visit lgbtq.lacounty.gov.

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