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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS

LOS ANGELES COUNTY

"Enriching lives through effective and caring service"

October 2, 2024

MEMORANDUM TO THE COMMISSIONERS

FROM: Helen Chin, President

SUBJECT: Commission Meeting- Monday, October 7, 2024

Our Commission will meet on Monday, October 7, 2024 at 12:30 p.m., at 510 S. Vermont Ave., 9th Floor, NK02, Los Angeles, California.

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,,980587174#](tel:+12132042512)
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) 639-6089 no later than 9:00 a.m., Monday, October 7th.

The Ad Hoc Committee on Policing will meet from 10:45-12:15pm, in person or [Via Microsoft Teams](#)

Grace Löwenberg
L.A. County Commission on Human Relations
Executive Office of the Board of Supervisors
510 S. Vermont Ave., 15th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90020
(213) 705-6304



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

AGENDA

MEETING OF THE COMMISSION

Monday, October 7, 2024 – 12:30-2:00 pm

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

Conference Room on the Terrace Level, 9th Floor

Also via MS Teams Video and Audio Conferencing [213-204 2512,,980587174#](https://teams.microsoft.com/join/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 September 9, 2024 Meeting Minutes***
- 3. President's Report (12:33)**
 - 3.1. Spotlight on Staff: Ms. Aneisa Bolton, new Commission manager
 - 3.2. United Against Hate Week launch* with Sup. Mitchell, DA Gascon, etc.
 - 3.3. Promotion of LA vs Hate at Chinese American Museum's Historymakers Gala
- 4. Executive Director's Report (12:45)**
 - 4.1. LA vs. Hate United Against Hate Week (UAHW) Sept 20th launch
 - 4.2. Western Justice Center*, Expediente Rojo*, LA vs. Hate Consulate events
 - 4.3. Communications Update - PIO Tony Cowser
 - 4.4. 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)
 - 5.4. Human Rights Education/Culture (Yuen)
 - 5.5. Ad Hoc Committee for Five Year Strategic Plan* (Kulkarni)
- 6. Public Comment (3 minutes per person) (1:05)**
- 7. Action/Discussion Items (1:10)**
 - 7.1. Commission Committees for FY 2024-25*
 - 7.2. Collaboration with County Office of Anti-Racism, Diversity and Inclusion (ARDI)
 - 7.3. LA County Government's purpose and services, and Human Rights*
 - 7.4. Call to Action for Commissioners in Expanding Reach of LA vs Hate
- 8. Commissioner Announcements (2 minutes per Commissioner) (1:55)**
- 9. Adjournment** in memory of [Kris Kristofferson, singer/songwriter and human rights activist](#); and [Dikembe Mutombo, NBA Hall of Famer and humanitarian](#)

Note: The following Commissioners will be participating by teleconference communication from the following corresponding locations: Kevork Keushkerian, 1115 Valley View Avenue, Pasadena, CA 91107; Lisa Dabbs, 6528 Greenleaf Ave., Whittier CA 90601

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.



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 September 9, 2024
Via Microsoft Teams Video & Audio Conferencing

PRESENT:	Helen L. Chin	Guadalupe Montaña
	Lisa Dabbs*	Jason Moss
	Ilan Davidson	Fredrick Sykes
	Isabelle Gunning	Gay Yuen
	Kevork Keushkerian*	
	Preeti Kulkarni	
ABSENT:	Michael Cheung	Jeanette EllisRoyston
	Dandy De Paula	Derric Johnson
STAFF:	Tony Cowser	Robert Sowell
	Jacqueline Gordon	Robin Toma
	Grace Lowenberg	Siranush Vardanyan
GUEST:	Ejim Dike	
	Jordan Long	

- 1. Call to Order and Land Acknowledgment of Indigenous Peoples:** Commission President Helen Chin called the meeting to order at 12:32 p.m. with a quorum in attendance. President Chin began by reading the L.A. County Land Acknowledgment – which can be found at the following link: [Land Acknowledgment – County of Los Angeles \(lacounty.gov\)](https://www.lacounty.gov/land-acknowledgment) - and recognized the Tongva, Tataviam, Serrano, Kizh, and Chumash Peoples as original inhabitants of these lands, honoring and paying respect to their elders and descendants; acknowledged that settler colonization resulted in land seizure, disease, subjugation, slavery, relocation, broken promises, genocide, and multi-generational trauma; reminded us of 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.
- 2. Review & Approval of August 5, 2024 Meeting Minutes:** The motion to approve the minutes of the Commission meeting of August 5, 2024, as presented by Vice-President/Secretary (VP-Sec) Ilan Davidson was made by Commissioner Davidson, and seconded by Commissioner Montaña. VP-Sec Davidson requested an amendment stating he should have had an asterisk next to his name as he joined online. Commissioner Jason Moss also requested an amendment to show he was not present. The motion to approve the minutes with the amendments was made by Commissioner Davidson and seconded by Commissioner Moss. The motion passed unanimously with Commissioner Moss abstaining.

3. President's Report

3.1 Spotlight on Community Partners: Ejim Dike and Jordan Long: President Chin welcomed Ejim Dike and Jordan Long. Ms. Dike introduced herself as a long-time human rights advocate in the U.S. who has been building knowledge of human rights standards and norms, as well as human rights violations as they occur. She has sought to understand what rights people have and the strategies they can access to protect those rights. She explained that she ran a national network of human rights organizations for five years which focused on building a people-centered human rights movement. Ms. Dike continued to explain that about a year ago, The Carter Center reached out to her because of the work she was doing, and they embarked on a partnership to look at the human rights terrain in the US and the existing infrastructure for advancing human rights. Ms. Dike expressed that they were really impressed with the work that the Human Rights Commissions were doing, and particularly with what LA is doing with the LA vs Hate campaign. She invited Jordan Long to talk more about the partnership and working with HRC. Mr. Long shared that he is a Senior Associate Director of the Human Rights Program at The Carter Center. He used to be based in Brussels for five years, working on inclusion across Europe, with different organizations focused on sexual orientation and gender identity for youth and student organizations; then in DC for eight years working for a number of different international and nonprofit organizations such as the American Bar Association's Rule of Law Initiative, the Human Rights Campaign, and most recently Freedom House. Mr. Long shared that now at the Carter Center, he is excited that the LA County Commission has been a willing consultative body to engage in this work of building a human rights culture in the U.S. The Commissioners took turns introducing themselves and shared their gratitude that the Commission is able to work with The Carter Center.

3.2. IAOHRA Conference 2024 in St. Louis, MO: President Chin briefly shared that she was able to attend the IAOHRA Conference in St. Louis with Commissioners Montano and Keushkerian, and it was a wonderful opportunity to hear about the work being done in St. Louis. She said it was a reminder of how county governments, human rights and human relations agencies have a role to play in addressing civil rights and human rights violations in this country. She summarized that the conference allows us to enrich the existing work by allowing us to think about the conditions, to be educated, and to consider what's needed to realize the rights for all people. Executive Director (ED Toma) joined and passed around the official conference booklet. He highlighted one takeaway from the civil rights tour of the city provided as part of the IAOHRA conference: as we prepare for the 2028 Olympics in LA, to consider the development of markers, monuments and memorials at stadiums and other places that help to tell community stories of human rights lost and won there.

3.3. Culver City/LA County Schools Anti-Hate Press Conference: President Chin shared that she was able to attend the press conference that was held in Culver City and it was a wonderful demonstration of solidarity across school districts. She noted that without the work that was previously done by LA vs Hate, it would have been extremely difficult to put this event together. ED Toma added that it began as focused on hate crimes at a specific elementary school, but in working with Supervisor Mitchell, we were able to take the opportunity to talk about hate in schools in general, and to educate them about LA vs Hate's resources for school districts and schools to stop hate.

4. Executive Director's Report

4.1 IAOHRA Conference: ED Toma's comments were made in conjunction with the President's Report on the topic. (See item 3.2 above.)

4.2 Top Ten Productivity and Quality Award for ‘LA vs Hate’: ED Toma announced that 98 applications were submitted by county agencies for this award, and ours for LA vs Hate was selected for the top 10. There will be a big event where all of the county department heads, their top people and of the County Supervisors participate, and LA vs Hate may be selected for one of the top three. Additionally, there will be a large gathering of all county community-based organization partners on Friday with over 60 organizations as part of the anti-hate networks gathering with the state-government funded Stop the Hate network in LA County.

4.3 Communications Update - PIO Tony Cowser: PIO Tony Cowser presented TV coverage of the El Marino Language Elementary School Anti-Hate [press conference](#) in Culver City on August 8 (discussed in item 3.3 above). Tony discussed how he worked closely with Spectrum News to craft an impactful story that involved residents and their reactions to the hate crime incident and the resources put forth by the County to report and respond to hate ahead of the new school year. Tony indicated the goal was to craft more storytelling opportunities with community engagement in future media coverage, where applicable.

4.4 Other Program and Administrative Updates (Culver City and DA Press conferences): ED Toma (who commented previously about the Culver City press conference) reported that he was invited by District Attorney George Gascon to be part of a press conference in which he was announcing the sentences handed down to those persons involved in committing several serious hate crimes in LA County. ED Toma mentioned the opportunity to highlight DA Gascon’s support for the advanced hate violence prevention strategy of developing transformative and restorative justice programs for those who’ve committed hate crimes. Also, he shared that he and Robert were invited by the Jewish Federation of LA to attend a powerful exhibit about the Nova music festival at which over 400 in Israel were killed during the October 6th attack by Hamas, and commissioners are also invited to attend before the exhibit leaves in October.

5. Committee Reports

5.1. Transformative Justice Committee: Commissioner Gunning, chair, indicated that the Committee met and are working to get all the insight and wisdom from the jail visits, from which they will create a report and recommendations.

5.2. Policy and Advocacy (Legislation) Committee: Commissioner Montaña, Chair, said there was no report at this time.

5.3. LA vs Hate Committee: Commissioner Montaña, Chair, shared that Commissioner Kulkarni and she attended the Third District Commissioners breakfast and received many compliments regarding LA vs Hate and the work that the Commission is doing. Additionally, they connected with keynote speaker because of the help he received from the Commission. Commissioner Montano stated a new meeting will be scheduled, Terri Villa McDowell has also joined, and that United Against Hate Week is coming up.

5.4. Human Rights Education/Culture Committee: Commissioner Yuen, Chair, stated she is waiting for direction.

5.5. Ad Hoc Committee for Five Year Strategic Plan: Commissioner Kulkarni, Chair, thanked PIO Cowser for all his work. Additionally, shared that she spoke with AED Sowell regarding Eddie Yen and supporting his work. ED Toma shared that the strategic plan would need to be approved by the Commission by June 30th of next year, and the importance of creating a 5-year plan to include the role of LA County in the 2028 Olympics in LA City.

6. **Public Comment: (3 minutes per person):** None was offered.
7. **Action/Discussion Items:**
 - 7.1 **Commission Committees for FY 2024-25:** President Chin reviewed the Committees list for FY 2024-25 and invited any changes as needed. Commissioner Moss asked to join the Strategic Planning Committee. Commissioner Yuen corrected the name of the Human Relations Committee to the Human Rights Education/Culture Committee. A motion was made by Commissioner Kulkarni to approve the committees with the amendments; and was seconded by Commissioner Davidson. The motion passed unanimously.
 - 7.2 **Collaboration with County Office of Anti-Racism, Diversity, and Inclusion (ARDI):** AED Sowell explained that they have been working with two different interdepartmental teams- the Board of Supervisors and ARDI to assess and report back on what the county is doing to counter identity-based hate and so there have been regular meetings as a part of this. Also, there is a pilot project through eight departments for the interdepartmental Culture Climate workgroup, and a project to identify specific actions that can be taken in departments to cultivate cultures of belonging.
 - 7.3 **Commission Recommendations re: State Proposition 3*:** ED Toma shared that there is a memo in the meeting packet explaining that he was asked by the CEO's office to provide comment for the Board on the constitutional right to marriage regardless of sex or perceived gender identity, and he noted the importance of this whole body to ratify that statement. A motion to ratify was made by Commissioner Kulkarni and seconded from Commissioner Yuen to ratify the statement, which was approved unanimously.
 - 7.4 **LA County Government's purpose and services, and Human Rights:** This item was tabled without objection.
 - 7.5 **LA vs Hate United Against Hate Week (UAHW) Sept 20th launch:** ED Toma shared that United Against Hate Week launches on September 20th and encouraged all Commissioners to get the word out. ED Toma stated that he wants to make sure Commissioners are supported whether it is through posters or brochures. Commissioner Moss suggested a save-the-date to prepare. Commissioner Yuen shared that the Chinese American Museum is having their annual Gala and expecting 600 people, so having an LA vs Hate table or presentation would be very helpful.
- 8 **Commissioner Announcements:** Commissioner Moss stated he is beginning the FBI Citizens Academy to learn what the FBI does and their strategies. Additionally, Commissioner Moss stated the city of Pasadena is having a resource fair on Sunday, September 25th.
- 9 **Adjournment:** The motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Davidson in memory of James Earl Jones and seconded by Commissioner Gunning. The motion passed unanimously, and President Chin adjourned the meeting at 2:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ilan Davidson
Commission Vice President-Secretary

Item 3.2. United Against Hate Week launch with Sup. Mitchell, DA Gascon and others

<https://www.dailynews.com/2024/09/20/ahead-of-elections-la-county-community-partners-unite-against-hate/> (Click on the link to see all the photos not shown below).

Ahead of elections, LA County, community partners unite against hate

Over 200 cities nationwide — including Los Angeles — have committed to being "United Against Hate" through the week of civic action.



Community members attend LA vs Hate's press conference to launch the 7th annual United Against Hate Week on Friday, Sept. 20, 2024 in front of the "Unity Under the Sun" mural in Watts. (Photo by Sarah Reingewirtz, Los Angeles Daily News/SCNG)

By ALLYSON VERGARA | avergara@scng.com



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SPONSORED CONTENT

Frankie Aguirre has had enough when it comes to anti-gay harassment.

At a Friday event at the Watts Historic Train Station, the Los Angeles resident shared his story of being harassed for years by neighbors, saying it was "so bad" that he didn't feel comfortable inviting visitors.

It took calling the county's anti-hate hotline, connecting with resources and a care coordinator for Aguirre to get help moving to another place where he felt "safe and finally free" from the constant harassment. Now, Aguirre urges others to do the same and find the help that works for them.

Elected officials and leaders from L.A. vs. Hate, the county's [anti-hate program](#) under the Human Relations Commission, [CA vs. Hate](#) and other statewide coalition partners came together in Watts on Friday, Sept. 20 to condemn such attacks. They also launched the annual [United Against Hate Week](#).

Now in its seventh year, over 200 cities nationwide — including Los Angeles — have committed to being "United Against Hate" through the week of civic action.

The week calls for an end to rising "hate, discrimination and implicit biases that negatively impact diverse communities and neighborhoods," officials said in a news release. Events and rallies will take place nationwide from Sept. 21 and 27, calling on local agencies to work with community members.

Officials at Friday's conference included L.A. County Supervisor Holly Mitchell; Human Relations Commission director Robin Toma; state Civil Rights Department Director Kevin Kish; Executive Director of the city's Civil Rights Department Capri Maddox; and L.A. District Attorney George Gascón. Nathan Hochman, who is challenging Gascon in the DA race, was also on hand.

"United Against Hate Week is a powerful reminder that everyone can do something to stand up to hate, and it starts with making a daily commitment to not allowing or perpetuating racism, homophobia, antisemitism, islamophobia, anti-Asian, anti-Black, or any form of hate that only serves to divide us," said Mitchell in her remarks. "Our work to end hate is a shared responsibility that we must take seriously."

"I am proud to see the 'whole of government' standing united against hate," said Maddox.

Across California, [reported hate crimes have nearly doubled from 1,015 in 2019 to 1,970 in 2023](#), according to research from the state Department of Justice. Reported hate crimes in L.A. County also rose 63%, from 405 in 2019 to 664 in 2023, officials said. It was the most reported hate crimes in the state, with [nearly 60% — 397 — occurring in the city of Los Angeles](#).

Attacks against LGBTQ+, Jewish and Muslim communities significantly rose across the state last year, the [report](#) noted.

Since its launch in September 2019, L.A. vs Hate has received more than 2,700 reports of hate, including over 800 in 2023 alone. Around 88% of callers have asked for personal assistance in case management, which officials said demonstrates the critical need for hate victim support.

A [new "State of Immigrants" report in L.A. County](#) revealed ongoing barriers for L.A.'s diverse, growing immigrant population, and the need for equity in fields from food security to medical care.

The annual anti-hate campaign — typically held in November — was moved to late September to account for the November election and the UN International Day of Peace, organizers said.

At [Friday's presser](#), coalition officials addressed the increase in [divisive rhetoric](#) and community tensions — including some violence — often seen during highly-charged election years.

The kickoff event also launched a new non-partisan campaign — called ["Stop Hate. Vote."](#) — aimed to fight division, encourage civility and civic engagement, officials said. The campaign will be posted across L.A. transportation and parks signage, lifeguard towers and more.

For more information and to report any incidents, visit [LAvsHate.org](#) or call the multilingual hotline, 2-1-1. Visit [www.unitedagainsthateweek.org](#) for a list of UAHW events and programming nationwide.

Originally Published: September 20, 2024 at 6:56 p.m.

RELATED LINKS

Latest "State of Immigrants" report reveals ongoing barriers for LA County's fastest-growing group

Leaders condemn recent racist, homophobic graffiti at Culver City elementary school

Los Angeles Daily News

Star-studded commission launched to combat rising hate in LA County

It took calling the county's anti-hate hotline, connecting with resources and a care coordinator for Aguirre to get help moving to another place where he felt "safe and finally free" from the constant harassment. Now, Aguirre urges others to do the same and find the help that works for them.



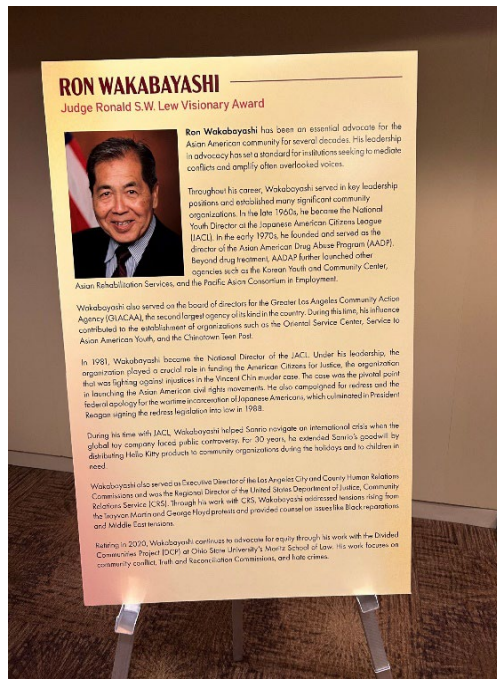
1 of 10

Robin Toma, ex. dir. of the Los Angeles Human Relations Commission speaks during LA vs Hate's press conference launching the 7th annual United Against Hate Week on Friday, Sept. 20, 2024 in front of the "Unity Under the Sun" mural in Watts. (Photo by Sarah Reingewirtz, Los Angeles Daily News/SCNG)

Elected officials and leaders from L.A. vs. Hate, the county's [anti-hate program](#) under the Human Relations Commission, [CA vs. Hate](#) and other statewide coalition partners came together in Watts on Friday, Sept. 20 to condemn such attacks. They also launched the annual [United Against Hate Week](#).

Now in its seventh year, over 200 cities nationwide — including Los Angeles — have committed to being "United Against Hate" through the week of civic action.

The week calls for an end to rising "hate, discrimination and implicit biases that negatively impact diverse communities and neighborhoods," officials said in a news release. Events





Program

EXPEDIENTE
ROJO
project

Annual Fundraising Luncheon Expediente Rojo Project

For Agenda Item 4.2

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2024
EVENT TIME 12:30 PM - 3:30 PM

12:30 PM - 1:00 PM

ARRIVAL/WELCOME VISIT TO THE HOUDINI GARDENS

1:00 PM - 2:10 PM

LUNCH, MUSIC, AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS TO SPONSORS
LUZ MA. RUIZ & JULIE CHAVEZ

WELCOMING ADDRESS BY MA. ELENA GARCIA VILLALOBOS
& EDGARDO GAZCON

OPENING REMARKS BY ZULLY ROMAN

URBAN HERO AWARD TO EMADA TINGIRIDES
DEPUTY CHIEF, LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT

FIRESIDE CHAT GRACIELA ARREOLA-MUÑOZ, ROBIN TOMA
& CARLOS NARRO

2:10 PM - 2:20 PM

GUEST SPEAKER HYDEE FELDSTEIN SOTO, LA CITY
ATTORNEY

2:20 PM - 2:30 PM

MUSIC PERFORMANCE BY HUGO CASTILLO

2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

CLOSING REMARKS, SWEETS, COFFEE AND MORE MUSIC



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, October 7, 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

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 September 9, 2024 Meeting Minutes (10:47)**
- 3. Discussion: Sheriff Accountability (10:50)**
 - 3.1. LA County Custody Facilities Visits
- 4. Discussion: Staff & County Updates (11:30)**
 - 4.1. Regional Projects
- 5. Public Comment (3 Minutes Per Person) (12:00)**
- 6. Action Items (12:05)**
 - 6.1. LA County Custody Facilities Visits
- 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.*

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COMMISSION STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS – FY 2024-25
DRAFT TIMELINE

Primary Objective: Commission approval of Strategic Plan for FY 2025-2030 by July 2025 (current FY 2022-2025 strategic plan concludes on June 30, 2025)

Main Steps of the Process:

- 1) Define objectives, process, roles and timeline
- 2) Take stock of past process (review of our programs, achievements, and challenges)
- 3) Conduct environmental scan and SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) analysis
- 4) Review/update our mission, vision and guiding principles
- 5) Determine proposed strategic priorities (**by Commission meeting of April 7, 2025**)
-Possible Commissioners' retreat prior to April 7, 2025)
- 6) Engage key gov't and community stakeholders in a 30-Day Public Comment Period on proposed strategic priorities (and strategic meetings) (***starts April 15; ends on May 15, 2025***)
- 7) Commission Consideration of Stakeholder Feedback (***at Commission meeting of June 2, 2025***)
- 8) Commission Adoption of FY 2025-29 Strategic Priorities and Goals (***by Commission meeting of July 7, 2025***)

Stakeholders:

Commission members (commissioners) and staff
Board of Supervisors
CEO
BOS Executive Office

Key County departments, community partners, communities in general (public)

Particular Circumstances to Consider:

- 1) New organizational environment (new EO dept head)
- 2) Development of HRC's Human Rights Role
- 3) Major international events in LA (New Presidency in 2025; FIFA World Cup in LA in 2026; Olympics in 2028)
- 4) Board proposal to expand County Gov't to 9 supervisors and elected County Exec (mayor)

DRAFT

JAF AWARDS EVENT COMMITTEE	TRANSFORMATIVE JUSTICE COMMITTEE	POLICY AND ADVOCACY COMMITTEE	LA VS. HATE COMMITTEE	AD HOC STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE	HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION/ CULTURE COMMITTEE
<i>Ilan Davidson (Chair)</i>	<i>Isabelle Gunning (Chair)</i>	<i>Guadalupe Montaña (Chair)</i>	<i>Guadalupe Montaña (Chair)</i>	<i>Preeti Kulkarni (Chair)</i>	<i>Gay Yuen (Chair)</i>
Kevork Keushkerian	Jeanette EllisRoyston	Lisa Dabbs	Helen Chin**	Derric Johnson	Helen Chin**
Guadalupe Montaña	Azusena Favela	Jeanette EllisRoyston	Ilan Davidson	Guadalupe Montaña	Ilan Davidson
Gay Q. Yuen	Derric Johnson	Isabelle Gunning	Isabelle Gunning	Jason Moss	Guadalupe Montaña
	Preeti Kulkarni	Derric Johnson	Jason Moss		Fredrick Sykes
	Fredrick Sykes	Jason Moss	Gay Q. Yuen		
Staff: Robert Sowell	Staff: Robert Sowell Pierre Arreola Joshua Parr Paul Smith	Staff: Robin Toma	Staff: Robin Toma Robert Sowell Deysy Donis-Santos Fidel Rodriguez Valentina D'Alessandro	Staff: Robin Toma Robert Sowell	Staff: Robin Toma Robert Sowell Aneisa Bolton

(*) 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.

Hate Crime and Human Rights

Hate crimes are not only illegal under state and federal laws, they also violate human rights as defined by the international community.

In the aftermath of World War II, leaders from many nations came together in 1948 to establish the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR). Among the principles included in this declaration are affirmations that all human beings are equal in dignity and rights and no one is to be subject to torture or to cruel, inhumane, or degrading treatment. Groups and nations around the world continue to work diligently to turn the UDHR's powerful principles into action.

Since 1965, the U.S. and 176 other nations have signed the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD), which compels signatory nations to combat racial and national origin discrimination. Under this treaty, hate crimes are considered serious human rights abuses. The CERD Committee has stressed that government action as well as inaction can violate CERD, and there is no excuse for complacency or indifference by a government toward either public or private discrimination, particularly when it involves violence.

When the U.S. and 167 other nations signed the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), they committed to respect and fulfill the right to life and the security of the person regardless of race, color, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth, or other status.

The U.S. Constitution states that the Constitution and treaties are the supreme law of the land. Thus, all levels of government in the U.S. – including counties, cities, and school districts – and individuals have a duty to uphold these treaty obligations to address discrimination in any form, including hate crime.

Human Rights First (www.humanrightsfirst.org/discrimination) suggests the following strategies for responding to hate crime:

- Acknowledge and condemn hate crimes whenever they occur. Senior leaders should send immediate, strong, public, and consistent messages that violent hate crimes—including against migrants, refugees, and asylum seekers—will be investigated thoroughly and prosecuted to the full extent of the law.
- Strengthen enforcement and prosecute offenders. Governments should ensure that those responsible for hate crimes are held accountable under the law and that the prosecution of hate crimes against any individuals regardless of their legal status in the country is a priority for the criminal justice system.
- Develop educational and transformative approaches, particularly restorative justice mechanisms, for hate crime offenders. Governments need to use effective methods to heal communities and reduce recidivism.
- Monitor and report on hate crimes. Governments should maintain official systems of monitoring and public reporting to provide accurate data for informed policy decisions to combat hate crimes.
- Reach out to community groups. Governments should conduct outreach and education to communities to reduce fear and assist victims, advance police-community relations, encourage improved reporting of hate crimes to the police, and improve the quality of data collection by law enforcement bodies.

CONNECTION BETWEEN HUMAN RIGHTS AND OUR COMMISSION MANDATE

We invest our time, expertise, creativity, and resources in advocacy and action for the full effectuation of the human rights of all persons and peoples in LA County in fulfillment of the County law's mandate to our Commission and staff to:

- work for the elimination in our County of injustices and inequities resulting from prejudice, intolerance, and discrimination;
- advance public welfare and security;
- cultivate good will and better relations among all people;
- foster civic peace and intergroup understanding; and
- promote equal opportunity and full acceptance of all community members in all aspects of community life.

In compliance with the Board's explicitly assigned duties for accomplishing our mandate from them, we:

- Engage in research and education;
- Design, deliver, and manage programs;
- Collaborate with and help coordinate throughout the County the work of partner agencies and groups;
- Collaborate with County departments; and
- Recommend to the Board needed policies, including legislation.