



Los Angeles County QUALITY AND PRODUCTIVITY COMMISSION

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF

March 24, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.

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

County of Los Angeles
Quality and Productivity
Commission

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Chair

William B. Parent

First Vice Chair

Will Wright

Second Vice Chair

Marsha D. Mitchell

Immediate Past Chair

Nichelle M. Henderson

Chairs Emeriti

Jacki Bacharach
Rodney C. Gibson, Ph.D.
J. Shawn Landres, Ph.D.
Edward T. McIntyre

Viggo Butler
Nancy G. Harris
Derek Hsieh
Huasha Liu
E. Scott Palmer
Jeffrey Jorge Penichet
Dion Rambo
Mark A. Waronek
Joe Waz

Executive Director

Jackie T. Guevarra, CPA

Program Manager

Jane Lam
Laura Perez

Program Support

Betty Belavek
Ruben Khosdikian

EXECUTIVE OFFICE



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

*"To enrich lives through
effective and caring service"*

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: 811 5672 4955

Passcode: 259390

<https://bos-lacounty->

gov.zoom.us/j/81156724955?pwd=WSq8z81aaJKms6SCVZG8xhraL9lfAT.1

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Parent, Chair, called the meeting of the Quality and Productivity Commission to order at 9:58 a.m.

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

Jacki Bacharach
Viggo Butler
Rodney Gibson
Nancy Harris
Nichelle Henderson
Derek Hsieh
Huasha Liu
Edward McIntyre

Marsha Mitchell
E. Scott Palmer
William Parent
Jeffrey Jorge Penichet
Dion Rambo
Joe Waz
William Wright

ABSENT

J. Shawn Landres
Mark Waronek

PRODUCTIVITY MANAGERS' NETWORK (PMN)

Keisha Belmaster, Chair

OPENING REMARKS

Commissioner Parent welcomed everyone and noted the meeting is 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 chat feature. The public can inform Jackie Guevarra via email or the chat feature which item(s) they have a comment 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 March 23, 2025, 4:00 p.m. No written comments were received.

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

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT (AGENDA #2)

Commissioner Parent announced the Commission will start each Brown Act meeting by playing a video of the Land Acknowledgement, as approved by the Board of Supervisors. For a copy of the Land Acknowledgement, please visit the Department of Arts and Culture at <https://www.lacountyarts.org/about/land-acknowledgment>. To learn more about the First Peoples of Los Angeles County, please visit the Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission website <https://lanaic.lacounty.gov/>.

ASSEMBLY BILL 2449 (AGENDA #3)

Commissioner Parent announced that AB 2449 became effective on January 1, 2023. Provisions of this bill permit members of a legislative body of a local agency to participate remotely and to not identify their location. There were no Commissioners attending the meeting remotely.

APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 27, 2024, MINUTES (AGENDA #4)

Commissioner Bacharach moved to approve the minutes of January 27, 2025, seconded by Commissioner McIntyre. The minutes were approved by the following vote (taken by roll call):

Yes: Commissioners Bacharach, Butler, Gibson, Harris, Henderson, Hsieh, Liu, McIntyre, Mitchell, Parent, Penichet, Rambo and Wright
No's: None
Abstain: Commissioners Palmer and Waz

PRESENTATION OF A PRODUCTIVITY INVESTMENT FUND (PIF) PROPOSAL (FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION) AND FUND BALANCE REPORT, AS OF FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025, 3rd QUARTER (AGENDA #5)

Fund Balance Report

Commissioner Gibson, Chair, Productivity Investment Board (PIB), reported there are two projects before the Commission for consideration in the 3rd Quarter of Fiscal Year 2024-2025. He reported that as of December 31, 2024, the outstanding PIF fund balance is \$6,211,642. The proposals being heard total \$1,098,000. If both projects are approved at the full amount, the revised fund balance would be \$5,113,642.

Presentation of PIF Proposal for Discussion and Action

25.8 – Military and Veterans Affairs, *Veteran Mental Health and Wellbeing Pilot Program*, \$800,000 Grant. PIB recommends \$820,000 Grant

Director James Zenner, Roberto Alvarez, Manuel Gomez, and Allan Ochoa were in attendance to support and answer questions regarding the project.

Commissioner Harris presented the project. Funds will be used to hire expert consultants to develop localized, innovative mental health interventions for 3,500 Veterans, technology development, training, and program evaluation.

After discussion and questions, Commissioner Bacharach made a motion to approve the project for a \$820,000 Grant. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mitchell. The motion was approved by the following vote (taken by roll call):

Yes: Commissioners Bacharach, Butler, Gibson, Harris, Henderson, Hsieh, Liu, McIntyre, Mitchell, Palmer, Parent, Penichet, Rambo, Waz and Wright
No's: None
Abstain: None

Presentation of PIF Proposal for Discussion and Action

25.6 – Military and Veterans Affairs, Military Transition Initiative, \$279,000 Grant. (Formerly *With Your Shield Initiative*, \$400,000 Grant.) PIB recommends \$278,000 Grant.

Director James Zenner, Roberto Alvarez, Manuel Gomez, and Allan Ochoa were in attendance to support and answer questions regarding the project.

Commissioner Parent presented the project. Funds will be used for consulting services, program implementation, marketing initiatives, and community engagement events.

After discussion and questions, Commissioner Wright made a motion to approve the project for a \$278,000 Grant. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Liu. The motion was approved by the following vote (taken by roll call):

Yes: Commissioners Bacharach, Butler, Gibson, Henderson, Hsieh, Liu, McIntyre, Mitchell, Palmer, Parent, Penichet, Rambo, Waz and Wright
No's: None
Abstain: None

Commissioner Harris was not present and did not vote.

Commissioner Gibson announced the following:

- Copies of the PIF Annual and Final Reports were distributed to all Commissioners. They are asked to review the reports and forward questions or comments to Commission Staff and the PIB will discuss them at their next meeting.

Director Guevarra stated The PIB reviews the Reports at their May meeting every year for further discussion. Departments with outstanding PIF projects—those approved during the year plus ongoing projects—are required to submit an Annual status report on the progress of the project. Final reports are submitted when the project is completed and all funding has

been withdrawn and used by the department. For these projects, the department may or may not have unused funding to return.

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

Commissioner Parent, reported the following:

- The next QPC meeting is April 28, 2025. The planned speaker is Jacqueline Chun, Associate Director, Center for Strategic Partnerships. She will provide an update on the County's fire response in partnership with the City and private philanthropy.
- Commissioner Teresa Dreyfuss resigned effective February 15, 2025 and is here today so that we can acknowledge her work and contribution to the Commission.
 - Teresa was appointed to the Commission by the 1st District on September 10, 2019. In her almost six years with the Commission, she served in all ad hoc committees. In particular, she has served as an Officer, as 2nd Vice Chair in 2022, as Vice Chair of the PQA ad hoc Committee, and as Chair of the Nominating Committee. She has attended numerous Department Visits and PQA site visits over the years.
- Commissioner Parent welcomed Commissioner Joe Waz Jr. as the replacement for Teresa Dreyfuss. The 1st District appointed Joe Waz Jr. to the Commission on March 11, 2025.
 - Joe brings a diverse background in telecommunications, public policy, and government relations, with a career spanning more than 30 years at NBCUniversal and Comcast. Most recently, he served as senior strategic advisor for both companies, following his tenure as corporate senior vice president at Comcast from 1994 to 2011. At Comcast, Joe was a key figure in shaping the company's strategy and public policy, addressing issues in telecommunications, copyright, tax, and other legal matters. He also reorganized NBCUniversal's legal, policy, and technical teams to protect the company's creative content from digital piracy and helped establish the first industry-wide global anti-piracy organization.

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

Keisha Belmaster, Chair, reported the following:

- A new manager's orientation meeting was held virtually on February 5th. New managers from the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk, Youth Development, Health Services, Assessor, and Probation participated.
- On February 12th, the first general meeting and training of the Productivity Managers' Network (PMN) was held virtually via Zoom. This meeting was supposed to be held in-person; however, due to the fires and with many Managers participating as Disaster Service Workers, it was decided to change to a virtual meeting. Over 43 Managers attended. The following was discussed during the meeting:
 - A presentation on the Productivity Investment Fund (PIF) was given by Arman Depanian, Chair of the Productivity Investment Board Advisory Committee, and Stephanie Todd, Productivity Manager, Chief Information Office.
 - Stephanie Canfield, Principal Analyst, Workforce Wellbeing Programs Division, Department of Human Resources, gave an informative presentation on the NACo and CSAC application processes. Managers received an overview of the 2025 NACo Achievement Awards, a step-by-step application process.

- Laura Perez, Program Manager, provided Commission announcements, and wrapped-up the meeting by picking two raffle winners: Angelica Vicente (Beaches and Harbors) and Jamie Wells (Health Services-LA General).
- The Executive Committee will meet again on April 2nd. This meeting will include the Productivity and Quality Awards (PQA) Ad Hoc Committee Chair and will kick off the PQA season. They will also plan the May 7th PMN General Meeting and Training which includes PQA training.

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

Jackie Guevarra, Executive Director, reported the following:

- On behalf of Commission Staff, Director Guevarra acknowledged and thanked Commissioner Dreyfuss for her service.
- Staff have been working on and/or preparing for various meetings:
 - The Spring 2025 Quarterly Newsletter is due out by March 31, 2025
 - The 2024 Annual Report is in progress
 - Leadership Conference save-the-dates were sent to the CEO, Executive Office, Board Officer and Productivity Managers
 - There are 21 Department Visits scheduled for 2025. Staff is preparing a confirmation list to each Commissioner
 - Email reminders were sent out for new Commissioner Training classes
 - Conflict of Interest / Form 700: Due April annually
- Fiscal Year 2024-25 Budget Update:
 - Hiring Freezes
 - Budget curtailment exercises include: 3% scenario of \$22,000, 5% scenario of \$37,000 and an 8% scenario of \$58,000.
- Director Guevarra welcomed Jane Lam as the new Program Manager for the Commission. Jane was the previous productivity manager for Public Health.
- Director Guevarra was assigned to work on a temporary project to oversee the Commission Services Division within the Executive Office as an Acting leadership role capacity to oversee operations and identify areas for improvement in late January/early February.

DEPARTMENT VISIT AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORT (AGENDA #9)

Nichelle Henderson, Chair, Department Visit ad hoc Committee, reported the following:

- She thanked Commissioners Rambo (Vice Chair), Bacharach, Butler, Gibson, Hsieh, Mitchell, and Palmer
- We have completed 2 of the 21 visits for the year
- The following Department Visit report is before the Commission:
 - Department of Youth Development (March 6, 2025)
There were no questions or further discussions. The report was received and filed.
 - Commissioner Henderson thanked Commissioner Rambo for leading the visit.
- Reminder: Maximize the number of Commissioners that attend each visit. Commission Staff will confirm scheduled visits. Please let staff know as soon as possible if you need to cancel.

STRATEGIC LEARNING AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORT (AGENDA #10)

Will Wright, Chair, Strategic Learning ad hoc Committee, reported the following:

- Committee members: Ed McIntyre (2024 Report Lead), Rod Gibson, Teresa Dreyfuss, Shawn Landres, Huasha Liu, and Bill Parent
- The ad hoc Committee met on March 8, 2025, and reviewed the draft Operational Trends Report and selected examples to use for each trend as follows:
 - Mature: Streamlining Operational Collaboration, Multidisciplinary Approach, and Integrated Delivery of Services
 - Current: Overcoming Challenges to Workforce Development, Retention, and Pipelines/Pathways to County Employment
 - Emerging: Making Data More Accessible with Artificial Intelligence (AI), Drones, and Other Technologies
- The second draft report is in progress and will be sent to the ad hoc Committee for review

LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORT (AGENDA #11)

Jacki Bacharach, Vice Chair, Leadership Conference ad hoc Committee, reported the following:

- Committee members: Shawn Landres (Chair), Teresa Dreyfuss, Huasha Liu, Ed McIntyre, Marsha Mitchell, Bill Parent, and Mark Waronek
 - Date: Wednesday, June 4, 2025, 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
 - Place: Music Center, Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, Grand Ballroom
 - Theme: *Navigating the New Normal: What Matters Most*
 - Objective: *Building resilience in an era of polycrisis.*
 - Panel Speakers:
 - Moderator: Dr. D'Artagnan Scorza, Executive Director, Anti Racism, Diversity and Inclusion-confirmed

PQA AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORT (AGENDA #12)

Nancy Harris, Chair, PQA ad hoc Committee, reported the following:

- Committee members: Huasha Liu (Vice Chair), Nichelle Henderson, Bill Parent, Jeff Penichet, Dion Rambo, Mark Waronek and Will Wright
 - Date: Wednesday, October 15, 2025
 - Venue: Music Center, Dorothy Chandler Pavilion
 - The ad hoc Committee met on February 19 and March 18, 2025
 - The following changes/updates to the application and awards were agreed upon minor changes to the application:
 - Page 1 – After “One-time Only” – ADD (when did the project start and end)
 - Page 5 – ADD the word “government” after County in the definitions portion (cost avoidance, cost savings, and revenue). Also, add the word government before the word entities
 - During the review of the PQA application on June 25, 2025, three PQA ad hoc Commissioners will be invited to attend to review applications that the PMN Executive Committee may have questions on. This will assist with questions/concerns that arise with a department’s application.
 - Plaque Orders - After discussion, the following was agreed upon to save on costs:

- Only order plaques for collaborators who are receiving a Top Ten award and Commission Specials
- Plaques will no longer be ordered for the Special Merit and Traditional Plaque winners; they will only get a certificate
- All other winners will continue to get Certificates

COUNTY WIDE CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATION COMMITTEE (CCJCC) UPDATE (AGENDA #13)

Ed McIntyre, reported the following from the March 12, 2025 General Committee Meeting:

- IV. Los Angeles County Annual Report on Hate Crimes
 - Presentation of the Commission on Human Relations Annual Report on Hate Crimes
- V. Commission on Alcohol and Other Drugs (CAOD)
 - Motion to recommend El Monte Police Chief Jake Fisher as CCJCC's public safety agency representative on the CAOD (Motion)
- VI. Proposition 36
 - Discussion of Prop. 36 mandatory treatment provision and local implementation/coordination

COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCEMENTS REGARDING CONFERENCES, MEETINGS, AND GATHERINGS OF INTEREST TO THE COMMISSION (AGENDA #14) – FOR DISCUSSION ONLY

Commissioner Bacharach announced that the South Bay City Council of Governments' Annual General Assembly is scheduled for Thursday, March 27, 2025. They will highlight accomplishments of the last 30 years and a discussion on looking forward to the next 30 years. Also, there will be an emphasis on resilience and a panel discussion with 20-year-olds regarding the future that they want and what Cities should be thinking of. The conference is free and an RSVP is required to attend.

COMMISSIONER DISCUSSION ON GOALS, IDEAS, FUTURE PROJECTS, AND/OR DIRECTION OF THE COMMISSION (AGENDA #15) – FOR DISCUSSION ONLY

None

MATTERS NOT ON THE POSTED AGENDA TO BE PRESENTED AND PLACED ON A FUTURE AGENDA (AGENDA #16) – FOR DISCUSSION ONLY

None

PUBLIC COMMENT (AGENDA #17)

None

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Mitchell moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Butler. The meeting adjourned at 12:03 p.m. The next full Commission meeting will be on Monday, April 28, 2025, at 10 a.m.