



**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS
FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
LGBTQ+ COMMISSION
KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 140A
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012**

Friday, October 17, 2025

9:30 AM

Audio: [AUDIO LINK](#)

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. Call to Order, Roll Call

Chair Plascencia called the meeting to order at 9:38 AM. Annie Patpatian, administrative staff, called the roll.

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

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

Absent: Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham, Commissioner Tonya Martin and Commissioner Eric Nakano

2. Land Acknowledgement

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

Commissioner Nakano joined the meeting at 9:44 AM.

3. Black Diaspora, Labor, and Inclusion Acknowledgement

Vice Chair Rogers read the Black Diaspora, Labor, and Inclusion Acknowledgment.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

4. Moment of Silence

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

5. Approval of September 12, 2025, meeting minutes

Chair Plascencia 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.

On motion of Second Vice Chair Russell-Slavin seconded by Vice Chair Rogers this item was approved with the following vote:

Ayes: 13 - Chair Héctor Trinidad Plascencia, Vice Chair Sydney Rogers, Second Vice Chair Terra Russell-Slavin, Commissioner Nic Arnzen, Commissioner Steven Fisher, Commissioner Talha Khan-Valbuena, Commissioner Jer-Adrianne Lelliott, Commissioner Eddie Martinez, Commissioner Eric Nakano, Commissioner Alejandro Soria, Commissioner Tony Valenzuela, Commissioner Luis Vasquez and Commissioner Yolanda Whittington

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham and Commissioner Tonya Martin

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

II. DISCUSSION AND ACTIONS

6. Presentation from Unicorn Solutions and Department of Children and Family Services Office of Equity about Rainbow Resource Network: Let's Get Beautiful Together Qlosets to get advice and recommendations on increasing awareness and utilization of these resources.

Elliott Hinkle from Unicorn Solutions, Jessica Brown and Mel Boyadjian from the Los Angeles Children and Family Services Office of Equity presented the importance of the Queer Qlosets project and the goal of ensuring as many people know about these services as possible, especially those working with LGBTQ+ youth who might need gender affirming clothing. Elliot Hinkle, Jessica Brown and Mel Boyadjian responded to questions posed by Commissioners.

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

After public comment this item was received and filed.

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

7. Discuss and take possible action on forming an ad hoc subcommittee to review and provide recommendations to the Department of Mental Health, Prevention Services School Based Community Services Access Point on their newly developed student allyship workshop content.

Kathy Chantraprabhavej, Mental Health Clinical Supervisor, from the Los Angeles County DMH Prevention Services team presented the work that the Student Ally Workshop does for the LGBTQ+ Community. Kathy Chantraprabhavej responded to questions posed by Commissioners.

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

After discussion, on the motion of Vice Chair Rogers, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, the Commission approved the creation of an ad hoc subcommittee with Vice Chair Rogers, Commissioner Martinez and Commissioner Valenzuela to review the student allyship workshop content with the following vote:

Ayes: 13 - Chair Héctor Trinidad Plascencia, Vice Chair Sydney Rogers, Second Vice Chair Terra Russell-Slavin, Commissioner Nic Arnzen, Commissioner Steven Fisher, Commissioner Talha Khan-Valbuena, Commissioner Jer-Adrienne Lelliott, Commissioner Eddie Martinez, Commissioner Eric Nakano, Commissioner Alejandro Soria, Commissioner Tony Valenzuela, Commissioner Luis Vasquez and Commissioner Yolanda Whittington

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham and Commissioner Tonya Martin

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

9. Discuss and take possible action on approving a letter of support asking the Board of Supervisors to prioritize TGI people in LA County across all departments through efforts led by the TGI Wellness and Justice Fellows of the Dr. Beatriz María Solís Policy Institute.

ChiChi Navarro and Jovan Wolf, TGI Wellness and Justice Fellows of the Dr. Beatriz Solís Policy Institute, presented on the importance of the LGBTQ+ Commission support on the letter to the Board of Supervisors to get 38 Departments to create safe spaces for LGBTQ+ Communities. ChiChi Navarro and Jovan Wolf responded to questions posed by Commissioners.

Members of the public Juliette Wong, Michelle Dominguez, Julien De Jesus, Alexandra Close addressed the Commission on this item.

After discussion, on the motion of Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Valenzuela, the Commission approved the letter of support to be sent to the Board of Supervisors with all commissioners being part of the signature with the following vote:

Ayes: 13 - Chair Héctor Trinidad Plascencia, Vice Chair Sydney Rogers, Second Vice Chair Terra Russell-Slavin, Commissioner Nic Arnzen, Commissioner Steven Fisher, Commissioner Talha Khan-Valbuena, Commissioner Jer-Adrienne Lelliott, Commissioner Eddie Martinez, Commissioner Eric Nakano, Commissioner Alejandro Soria, Commissioner Tony Valenzuela, Commissioner Luis Vasquez and Commissioner Yolanda Whittington

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham and Commissioner Tonya Martin

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

8. Discuss and take possible action on sending a letter to the Board of Supervisors highlighting the need to be proactive in public support and in communication around the Transgender, Gender Expansive, and Intersex (TGI) communities in light of the federal government's political attacks directed specifically at the LGBTQ+ and TGI communities.

Second Vice Chair Russell-Slavin introduced the item and opened the floor for discussion.

No members of the public addressed the Commission on this item. After discussion, on the motion of Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Arnzen, the Commission approved the letter of solidarity to be sent to the Board of Supervisors with all commissioners being part of the signature with the following vote:

Ayes: 12 - Chair Héctor Trinidad Plascencia, Vice Chair Sydney Rogers, Second Vice Chair Terra Russell-Slavin, Commissioner Nic Arnzen, Commissioner Steven Fisher, Commissioner Talha Khan-Valbuena, Commissioner Jer-Adrienne Lelliott, Commissioner Eddie Martinez, Commissioner Alejandro Soria, Commissioner Tony Valenzuela, Commissioner Luis Vasquez and Commissioner Yolanda Whittington

Abstentions: 1 - Commissioner Eric Nakano

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham and Commissioner Tonya Martin

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

The Commission took a recess at 11:31 AM and reconvened at 11:53 AM. Annie Patpatian, administrative staff, called the roll to determine if a quorum was present.

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

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

Absent: Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham and Commissioner Tonya Martin

10. Discuss and take possible action on approving the Best Practices and Guiding Principles document created by the Cultural Competency 101 ad hoc subcommittee.

Commissioner Whittington presented the Best Practices and Guiding Principles document created by the Cultural Competency 101 ad hoc subcommittee. Commissioner Whittington opened the floor for discussion.

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

After discussion, on motion of Second Vice Chair Russell-Slavin, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, the Commission approved the to approve the Best Practices and Guiding Principles document as finalized and added to our website as a resource with the following vote:

Ayes: 12 - Chair Héctor Trinidad Plascencia, Vice Chair Sydney Rogers, Second Vice Chair Terra Russell-Slavin, Commissioner Nic Arnzen, Commissioner Talha Khan-Valbuena, Commissioner Jer-Adrianne Lelliott, Commissioner Eddie Martinez, Commissioner Eric Nakano, Commissioner Alejandro Soria, Commissioner Tony Valenzuela, Commissioner Luis Vasquez and Commissioner Yolanda Whittington

Abstentions: 1 - Commissioner Steven Fisher

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham and Commissioner Tonya Martin

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

11. Discuss and take possible action on reviewing and approving the “LGBTQ+ Dates of Significance” document to be submitted to each of the communications teams for the Board of Supervisors, created by the Community Engagement Standing Subcommittee.

Commissioner Arnzen informed the Commission that the Community Engagement Standing Subcommittee had decided to include the itemized “10 Dates of Significance” document and distribute it to the Communications Departments for the Board of Supervisors, with the recommendation that it be shared on social media platforms. Commissioner Arnzen opened the floor for discussion.

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

After discussion, on motion of Second Vice Chair Russell-Slavin, seconded by Vice Chair Rogers, the Commission approved the dates of significance and to be send to the different communications teams for the Board of Supervisors with the following vote:

Ayes: 13 - Chair Héctor Trinidad Plascencia, Vice Chair Sydney Rogers, Second Vice Chair Terra Russell-Slavin, Commissioner Nic Arnzen, Commissioner Steven Fisher, Commissioner Talha Khan-Valbuena, Commissioner Jer-Adrianne Lelliott, Commissioner Eddie Martinez, Commissioner Eric Nakano, Commissioner Alejandro Soria, Commissioner Tony Valenzuela, Commissioner Luis Vasquez and Commissioner Yolanda Whittington

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham and Commissioner Tonya Martin

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

- 12.** Discuss and take possible action on solidifying a process for the nominations and voting of the 2026 role of Chair, Vice Chair, and Second Vice Chair for the LGBTQ+ Commission.

Chair Plascencia notified the Commission that within the Commissions Bylaws and in the Commissioner Manual we all received, the role and responsibilities of the Chair, Vice Chair, and Second Vice Chair are delineated. Chair Plascencia opened the floor for discussion on whether commissioners would like to follow the same process or modify it in any way.

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

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

Attachments: [Link to LGBTQ+ Commission Ordinance](#)
[PUBLIC COMMENT/WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE](#)

13. Discuss and take possible action on establishing an ad hoc subcommittee to work with the Department of Human Resources on updating the Transgender Awareness Training for LA County employees.

Chair Plascencia notified the Commission that DHR will be releasing a new LA County Transgender Awareness Training and DHR has asked of the Commission to form an ad hoc subcommittee that could work with DHR as needed, on providing advice and recommendations for this employee training. Chair Plascencia opened the floor for discussion.

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

After discussion, on the motion of Vice Chair Rogers, seconded by Commissioner Arnzen, the Commission approved to create an ad hoc subcommittee with Chair Plascencia, Vice Chair Rogers and Commissioner Khan-Valbuena to provide advice and recommendations to DHR on the Transgender Awareness Training with the following vote:

Ayes: 13 - Chair Héctor Trinidad Plascencia, Vice Chair Sydney Rogers, Second Vice Chair Terra Russell-Slavin, Commissioner Nic Arnzen, Commissioner Steven Fisher, Commissioner Talha Khan-Valbuena, Commissioner Jer-Adrienne Lelliott, Commissioner Eddie Martinez, Commissioner Eric Nakano, Commissioner Alejandro Soria, Commissioner Tony Valenzuela, Commissioner Luis Vasquez and Commissioner Yolanda Whittington

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham and Commissioner Tonya Martin

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

14. Discuss the October 5, 2025, Next Steps Writers' Festival and take possible action on discharging the Next Steps Writers' Festival ad hoc subcommittee.

Commissioner Fisher provided an update that the Next Steps Writers' Festival was held last weekend on Sunday, October 5th and was an incredible community event. Commissioner Fisher notified the Commission that the ad hoc subcommittee was formed, it was tasked with supporting the Library Department on this event and that event has ended and will be recommending the Commission to discharge the subcommittee. Commissioner Fisher opened the floor for discussion.

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

After discussion, on motion of Commissioner Arnzen, seconded by

Commissioner Fisher the Commission approved the motion to discharge the Next Chapter Writers' Festival ad hoc subcommittee, with the following vote:

Ayes: 13 - Chair Héctor Trinidad Plascencia, Vice Chair Sydney Rogers, Second Vice Chair Terra Russell-Slavin, Commissioner Nic Arnzen, Commissioner Steven Fisher, Commissioner Talha Khan-Valbuena, Commissioner Jer-Adrienne Lelliott, Commissioner Eddie Martinez, Commissioner Eric Nakano, Commissioner Alejandro Soria, Commissioner Tony Valenzuela, Commissioner Luis Vasquez and Commissioner Yolanda Whittington

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham and Commissioner Tonya Martin

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

- 15.** Discuss and take possible action on establishing a maximum number of items on the LGBTQ+ Commission Meeting agenda and establishing a maximum amount of time for presentations.

Commissioner Martinez provided an update on a newly structured agenda and opened the floor to discuss whether the Commission should take action on establishing a maximum number of items on the LGBTQ+ Commission Meeting agenda and establishing a maximum amount of time for presentations.

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

After further discussion, this item was received and filed.

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

III. UPDATES

- 16.** Update from the Wildfire Townhall about the September 27, 2025, event and ongoing work.

Commissioner Arnzen provided an update from the Wildfire Townhall ad hoc subcommittee about the success of the September 17, 2025, townhall.

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](#)

17. Update from the LGBTQ+ youth ad hoc subcommittee on work to date.

Commissioner Vasquez provided an update from the LGBTQ+ Youth ad hoc subcommittee work.

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](#)

18. Update from the fall TGI townhall ad hoc subcommittee.

Second Vice Chair Russell-Slavin notified the Commission that the ARDI team was informed by the CEO's their priorities have shifted through the end of the year and they still look forward to holding the TGI Townhall early 2026.

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](#)

19. Update on the submission process for the LGBTQ+ Commission's first Annual Report.

Chair Plascencia notified the Commission that Annual Report is complete and will be formally released with a press statement going out soon.

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](#)
 [PUBLIC COMMENT/WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE](#)

IV. MISCELLANEOUS**Matters Not Posted**

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

Vice Chair Russell Slavin noted that October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month, highlighting the heightened risk faced by LGBTQ+ survivors, the erasure of LGBTQ+ references in resources, and the broader public health challenge this represents.

Commissioner Whittington would like the Commission to discuss the need to better serve constituents by advising and recommending to supervisors, suggesting the Commission prioritize among the 38 departments to focus efforts where support is most needed, such as comparing DPW and DHS, to improve time management and impact.

Commissioner Martinez announced that LEA will host its annual Calavera event this Saturday, October 18 at 6–10 PM in Boyle Heights, uniting the Latino and LGBTQ+ communities. On November 8, Mi Centro will celebrate its 10th anniversary from 4–8 PM.

Vice Chair Rogers reminded the Commission that TDOR is next month, noting West Hollywood’s event on November 22 at the Chambers and DTLA’s on 11/20. They are coordinating with the LGBT Center, Trans Lounge, and Trans Wellness Center. Dia de los Muertos will be observed at the end of the month.

Commissioner Valenzuela noted the ongoing Circa Queer History Festival, featuring 24 events, including one with Vice Chair Rogers on the 25th. More info at www.circafestival.org.

Chair Plascencia announced the closing of the first health study of SGV’s trans and queer community, Trans and Queer Voices of the San Gabriel Valley,

Chair Plascencia announced on November 9th, the San Gabriel Valley LGBTQ Center will host its first Pride and Power Guide and Gala.

Chair Plascencia announced, they’re also working with OIA to address LGBTQ+ immigrant needs and connect centers with county resources.

Commissioner Vasquez said Rainbow Labs is focused on amplifying youth voices in politics and invited referrals. On October 30, 2025, the Attorney General will visit to discuss gender-affirming care with youth.

Public Comment

21. Public Comment

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

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

Adjournment

22. Adjournment of the October 17, 2025, LGBTQ+ Commission meeting.

Chair Plascencia adjourned the meeting at 1:27 PM. The next meeting is scheduled for November 14, 2025, at 9:30 AM