

Thursday, July 31, 2025

Minutes

1. The YCC was called to order at 5:30pm.

Commissioner Name	SD	Attended
Shay'La Price	SD 1	X
Eliana Ibarra	SD 1	X
Rene Jimenez	SD 1	X
Joie Mitchell	SD 1	No
Alyssa Jaipersaud	SD 2	X
Emmanuel Alcantar	SD 2	X
Kevin Patel	SD 2	X
Sim Bilal	SD 2	X
Madison Jennings	SD 3	X
Kerry Sempelsz	SD 3	X
Kian Gholibeik	SD 3	No
Max Riley	SD 3	X
Justin Wilken	SD 3	X
Jorge Diaz	SD 4	No
Guisel Hernandez	SD 4	X
Jordan Salcido	SD 4	X
Mayra Catalan-Orozco	SD 4	X
Rebecca Gloyer	SD 4	X
Emily Ng	SD 5	X
Karissa Rodriguez	SD 5	X
Niloofer Sahimi	SD 5	X
Arianna Lawrence	SD 5	No
Ryan Valenzuela-Holguin	SD 5	X

Chief Sustainability Office: Victoria Simon, Rita Kampalath, Julie Gomez
Consultant: Christy Zamani, Catalina Gonzalez

2. Public Comment – The meeting included public comments on biodiversity and transit projects in Los Angeles County.

Rosalind Helfand emphasized the importance of LA's participation in global biodiversity initiatives.

Steven Sann supported the Sepulveda transit corridor, highlighting its potential impact on sustainability and climate change.

3. Approval of minutes

Minutes from April 3, 2025.

Commissioner Price motioned to approve the meeting minutes and second by Commissioner Jaipersaud.

4. Presentations

- Ryan Jackson from LA Composted presented on Composting for Community
- Rita Kampalath from the LA County Chief Sustainability Office presented on the 2025 County Sustainability Plan, focusing on equity and climate resilience.

5. Presentation on the Sepulveda Transit Corridor Project and Letter of Recommendation to the Board

Commissioner Max Riley presented and led the discussion on the Sepulveda Transit Corridor Project

The Sepulveda Transit Corridor project is designed to address the pressing issues of traffic congestion and pollution in Los Angeles. A key component of the proposal includes improved transit connections to UCLA and the new Purple Line, aiming to enhance accessibility across the region. The project underscores the broader goal of strengthening public transportation as a means to support social mobility and foster stronger community connections. During the meeting, participants reviewed and discussed amendments to a support letter for the heavy rail alternatives, with particular attention given to addressing the housing displacement concerns associated with the proposed construction.

Victoria Simon will talk to County Council about including Metro on the letter of recommendation to the Board.

Commissioner Riley motioned to adopt the letter with amendments and Chair Patel second the motion. Commissioners Jaipersaud, Alcantar, and Ng abstained.

6. Discussion of the California Global Biodiversity Working Group and Letter of Recommendation to the Board

Commissioner Madison Jennings led the discussion of County Membership in California Global Biodiversity Working Group and Approval of Letter of Recommendation to the Board.

The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) is an international treaty aimed at protecting global biodiversity. The treaty includes 23 specific targets, and while complex, they align closely with California's environmental goals. Although California is already a signatory, LA County is being encouraged to join independently to strengthen local commitment and contribute more effectively to the broader goals. The proposal includes three main recommendations: for LA County to officially join

the CBD, to assess how current County plans align with CBD targets, and to have the Chief Sustainability Office join the California Global Biodiversity Working Group. This would not only enhance internal sustainability efforts but also connect LA County to global biodiversity and climate action efforts, especially ahead of the next CBD meeting in Armenia.

Commissioner Alcantar motioned for approval of the Letter of Recommendation to the Board and Chair Patel second the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Report Back from the Legislative Ad Hoc Committee

The committee reviewed around 15 bills across priority areas such as clean air, green buildings, and healthy food. Four bills were selected for further analysis: SB 655, SB 279, AB 1264, and SB 18. Although some bills were reviewed for potential support, not all aligned with the County's legislative agenda or had strong connections to climate change. For example, while a letter of recommendation will not be pursued for certain bills, there is interest in alternative actions such as hosting listening sessions or awareness campaigns in partnership with the County Department of Public Health. The committee will continue monitoring legislation using tracking tools and will follow the formal process for making recommendations to the Board of Supervisors. Despite some bills not moving forward, the process was valuable in raising awareness among departments and ensuring thoughtful, well-researched decisions that reflect the commission's scope and priorities.

8. Discussion on District Coalition Work

The master calendar has been a valuable tool this year, helping the YCC stay organized and focused compared to previous years. A district-by-district overview of pop-ups and coalition meetings was shared as a friendly reminder to stay engaged, especially with a busy month ahead. New outreach materials, including flyers and YCC stickers, were distributed to support upcoming events. The "Sustainable Summer" calendar, developed in response to youth feedback, successfully promoted existing community events and reached new audiences online. Members were encouraged to use the calendar to plan district meetups and attend events together. The success of recent district Zoom meetings and

coalition gatherings was highlighted, with recordings available for those who missed them. Members were also invited to suggest events or request support for booths at community gatherings. A potential partnership with TreePeople was discussed, offering a venue for a youth forum or other collaborative events. Additionally, a September social is being planned, with LA Compost and the Marine Mammal Center in San Pedro as possible hosts. Members were encouraged to share ideas and take initiative in planning future events, with support and funding available to bring them to life.

The Commission continues to explore creative and engaging ways to connect with youth and the broader community. The Commission is also considering a “Clean Air Challenge,” where youth from each district submit project ideas to improve air quality, with winners receiving microgrants to implement their plans. This initiative would empower young people to take ownership of local climate solutions. The team is working on a plan to get legal approval and funding in place.

As the commission prepares to finalize its annual report, there’s a renewed push to meet the goals outlined in the work plan—particularly around hosting district meetings and tabling events. The emphasis remains on building momentum, deepening community connections, and ensuring the commission’s work reflects the voices and priorities of young people across LA County.

Meeting adjourned at 8:33pm