

County of Los Angeles  
2025 Leadership Conference  
June 4, 2025

NAVIGATING

THE  
**NEW** NORMAL

*What  
Matters  
Most*

EXECUTIVE OFFICE



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Board of Supervisors  
Chief Executive Office  
Quality and Productivity Commission



# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

## QUALITY AND PRODUCTIVITY COMMISSION



**William B. Parent**  
Chair



**William R. Wright**  
First Vice Chair



**Marsha D. Mitchell**  
Second Vice Chair



**Nichelle M. Henderson**  
Immediate Past Chair



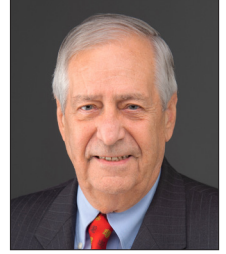
**Jacki Bacharach**  
Chair Emeritus



**J. Shawn Landres**  
Chair Emeritus



**Rodney C. Gibson**  
Chair Emeritus



**Edward McIntyre**  
Chair Emeritus



**Viggo Butler**



**Barry Donelan**



**Nancy G. Harris**



**Huasha Liu**



**E. Scott Palmer**



**Jeffrey J. Penichet**



**Dion Rambo**



**Mark A. Waronek**



**Joe Waz**



**Jackie T. Guevarra**  
Executive Director



**Jane Lam**  
Program Manager



**Betty Belavek**  
Program Support



**Ruben Khosdikian**  
Program Support

22ND ANNUAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

# NAVIGATING NORMAL

*What Matters Most*

JUNE 4, 2025

---

## Quality and Productivity Commission

The Quality and Productivity Commission is in a unique position to recognize best practices throughout the County as a result of its various programs, including the Productivity Investment Fund, Department Visits, and Productivity and Quality Awards Program.

### Mission and Vision Statement

Provide advice, innovative ideas, assistance and support to the County's elected officials, managers, and employees to promote the effectiveness, efficiency, and quality of County public services.



### CONFERENCE OBJECTIVE

*Building resilience in an era of polycrisis.*

The Commission wishes to thank the Productivity Managers' Network for their dedication, energy and commitment in supporting quality and productivity throughout the County.

## 22ND ANNUAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

# NAVIGATING NORMAL

*What Matters Most*

JUNE 4, 2025

---

**Commissioner William B. Parent, Chair  
Quality and Productivity Commission  
Master of Ceremonies**

8:30 – 9:00

**Registration and Continental Breakfast**

9:00 – 9:10

**Welcome and Introductions**

William B. Parent, Chair  
Quality and Productivity Commission

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Specialist Roberto Álvarez, US Army Veteran  
Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

9:10 – 9:20

**Board of Supervisors' Remarks**

Supervisor Kathryn Barger, Chair  
Fifth Supervisorial District

Supervisor Hilda L. Solis  
First Supervisorial District

Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell  
Second Supervisorial District

Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath  
Third Supervisorial District

Supervisor Janice Hahn  
Fourth Supervisorial District

## 22ND ANNUAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

# NAVIGATING NORMAL

*What Matters Most*

JUNE 4, 2025

---

9:20 – 10:00

### **Keynote Speaker**

Dr. Manuel Pastor  
Distinguished Professor, Sociology / American Studies & Ethnicity  
Turpanjian Chair in Civil Society and Social Change  
Director, USC Equity Research Institute

10:00 – 11:15

### **Resilience in a Polycrisis**

Moderator: Dr. D'Artagnan Scorza, Executive Director  
Racial Equity, Anti-Racism, Diversity, & Inclusion  
Chief Executive Office

Dr. Curley Bonds, Chief Medical Officer  
Department of Mental Health

Rafael Carbajal, Director  
Department of Consumer and Business Affairs

Dr. Rita Kampalath, Chief Sustainability Officer  
Chief Sustainability Office  
Board of Supervisors Executive Office

Dr. Carrie Miller, Senior Manager  
Policy Implementation and Alignment Branch  
Chief Executive Office

11:15 – 11:25

### **Conference Wrap-Up**

J. Shawn Landres, Chair  
Leadership Conference ad hoc Committee

11:25 – 11:30

### **Closing Remarks/Acknowledgements**

William B. Parent, Chair

## MASTER OF CEREMONIES

---



**William B. Parent**  
Chair,  
Quality and Productivity  
Commission

Bill Parent is a recently retired lecturer in public policy at the UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs, where he worked as an administrator and teacher for 20 years. He taught courses on Leadership and Management of Nonprofit Organizations, Leadership in the Public Interest, and Urban Homelessness Policy. He served as Associate Dean for Administration, Associate Dean for Advancement, and Associate Dean for Strategic Initiatives. He was Acting Director of the former UCLA Luskin Center for Civil Society from 2009 to 2015.

In Santa Monica, Bill has served on the Social Services Commission since 2015, including a term as Chair, with a focus on homelessness. He was also Co-Chair of the Santa Monica Homelessness Steering Committee, 2017-2018.

Before joining UCLA in 2000, Bill was on the senior staff of the Harvard Kennedy School from 1986 to 1999, including five years as Executive Director of the Harvard University-Ford Foundation Innovations in American Government Program.

He is a former newspaper reporter who has published articles in the Los Angeles Times, Huffington Post, The Washington Post, The Boston Globe and California Policy Options. He also worked previously for the Paterson New Jersey Board of Education, New York City Board of Education, the California Governor's Office of Appropriate Technology during Governor Jerry Brown's second term, and for the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, where he also received his B.A and Ed.D.



## KEYNOTE SPEAKER

---



**Dr. Manuel Pastor**  
Distinguished Professor,  
Sociology / American  
Studies & Ethnicity,  
Turpanjian Chair in Civil  
Society and Social Change,  
and Director, USC Equity  
Research Institute

Dr. Manuel Pastor is a Distinguished Professor of Sociology and American Studies & Ethnicity at the University of Southern California. He currently directs the Equity Research Institute at USC. Pastor holds an economics Ph.D. from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and is the inaugural holder of the Turpanjian Chair in Civil Society and Social Change at USC.

Pastor's research has generally focused on issues of the economic, environmental and social conditions facing low-income urban communities – and the social movements seeking to change those realities. His most recent (2024) book, *Charging Forward: Lithium Valley, Electric Vehicles, and a Just Future* (co-authored with Chris Benner), delves into the pivotal role of California's Lithium Valley in the "lithium gold rush" and its broader implications for climate challenges, justice, and democracy.

Pastor was the founding director of the Center for Justice, Tolerance, and Community at the University of California, Santa Cruz. He was also the Director at the USC Program for Environmental and Regional Equity (PERE) and the USC Center for the Study of Immigrant Integration (CSII). Pastor speaks frequently on issues of demographic change, economic inequality, and community empowerment and has contributed opinion pieces to such outlets including the *Los Angeles Times*, the *San Jose Mercury News*, the *San Francisco Chronicle*, the *Sacramento Bee*, and *The Hill*, among many others.

In January 2002, Pastor was awarded a Civic Entrepreneur of the Year award from the California Center for Regional Leadership. He received the Liberty Hill Foundation's Wally Marks Changemaker of the Year award for social justice research partnerships in 2012. He received the Champion for Equity Award from the Advancement Project in 2017 for his work with community-based organizations fighting for social change. In 2022, he was elected to the American Academy for the Arts and Sciences for his work in Public Affairs and Public Policy. In recognition of his impactful work, in 2024, Pastor was named by the *Los Angeles Times* as one of the region's most significant civic leaders in their inaugural series, *L.A. Influential*.

## PANEL MODERATOR

---



**Dr. D'Artagnan Scorza**  
Executive Director,  
Racial Equity, Anti-Racism,  
Diversity, & Inclusion,  
Chief Executive Office

Dr. D'Artagnan Scorza is the inaugural Executive Director of Racial Equity for Los Angeles County overseeing the Anti-Racism, Diversity, and Inclusion (ARDI) Initiative and working to expand the County's work on anti-racism, equity, and inclusion.

The Inglewood, CA native brings years of experience to his role as a national expert on issues focused on poverty, education and public health. Currently, a lecturer in the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, Dr. Scorza's work prepares students to apply community organizing to center community voice and change health policy.

Previously, Dr. Scorza served 14 years as the Executive Director and Founder of the Social Justice Learning Institute (SJLI) leading health, environmental, housing and educational justice. He was a Business Alliance for Local Living Economy Fellow (BALLE), an Education Pioneers Fellow, a UC Regent Emeritus and a former President of the Board of Education for the Inglewood Unified School District. In these positions, he worked to launch programs that helped youth of color become social justice leaders and college graduates, passed policies that prioritized \$160 million for student services across UC campuses, and secured \$350 million to support school construction for K-12 schools.

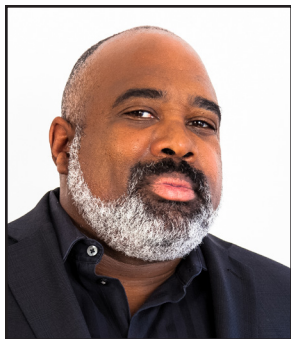
A U.S. Navy Iraq-War Veteran and civic leader, he was recognized as one of the 40 Emerging Civic Leaders under 40 in 2018 and received the UCLA Recent Graduate Achievement Award in 2016.

Dr. Scorza attended both UCLA and National University and earned his Ph.D. in Education from UCLA. His work is cited in multiple publications including The New York Times, Los Angeles Times, Huffington Post, Los Angeles Magazine, and you can hear him in several podcasts.



## PANELIST

---



**Dr. Curley Bonds**  
Chief Medical Officer,  
Department of Mental  
Health

Curley L. Bonds, MD is the Chief Medical Officer for the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health. He has held clinical leadership positions at Charles R. Drew University (CDU) and the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. He holds faculty appointments as Health Sciences Clinical Professor at UCLA and Professor at CDU.

Dr. Bonds earned his BA in Sociology from Emory University and his MD from Indiana University. He completed a residency training at UCLA's Semel Institute. Dr. Bonds is a Distinguished Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association (APA) and a Fellow of the Academy of Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry. He is a past president of the Southern California Psychiatric Society (SCPS).

## PANELIST

---



**Rafael Carbajal**  
Director,  
Department of Consumer  
and Business Affairs

Rafael Carbajal was appointed Director of the Department of Consumer and Business Affairs by the Board of Supervisors in January 2021. He oversees an expansive portfolio of programs that foster a fair and dynamic marketplace and help advance economic justice and the financial wellbeing of our communities. This includes fraud prevention, access to justice programs, and the expansion of the County's tenant and worker protections.

Mr. Carbajal has been with L.A. County for over 25 years and prior to joining the Department of Consumer and Business Affairs, led various efforts in social services, economic and workforce development, legislative affairs, and policy development and implementation.

As a son of undocumented immigrant parents and a first-generation College graduate, he is committed to serving the public and ensuring that equity, diversity, and social justice are woven into the department's programs and services.

## PANELIST

---



**Dr. Rita Kampalath**  
Chief Sustainability Officer,  
Chief Sustainability Office  
Board of Supervisors  
Executive Office

Rita joined the County of Los Angeles's Chief Sustainability Office in June 2017 as a Sustainability Program Director for the office. She supports development and implementation of the County's first sustainability plan, in addition to providing policy support for other County sustainability-related initiatives. In May 2022, she was appointed Acting Chief Sustainability Officer and in August 2023 she became the official Chief Sustainability Officer. Prior to joining the County, Rita was the Science and Policy Director of the non-profit Heal the Bay where she oversaw advocacy and research projects related to water quality and water resources, and guided the development of Heal the Bay's positions on a wide range of policy issues. Before joining Heal the Bay, Rita worked for Geosyntec Consultants on a range of water quality projects, primarily focusing on stormwater. Rita received a B.S. in chemical engineering from Columbia University, and an M.S. in chemical engineering, and a Ph.D. in civil/environmental engineering from UCLA.

## PANELIST

---



**Dr. Carrie Miller**  
Senior Manager,  
Chief Executive Office,  
Policy Implementation and  
Alignment Branch Health

Carrie Dunbar Miller is the Senior Manager for the Los Angeles County Chief Executive Office's Policy Implementation and Alignment Branch. In this role, she oversees the Poverty Alleviation Initiative; Chief Information Office; Service Integration Branch; and Municipal and Unincorporated Area Services. Previously, she served as the Executive Director of the Poverty Alleviation Initiative where she developed a Board-adopted Countywide strategic framework for alleviating poverty; led the launch of the County's \$50.9 million guaranteed income program, Breathe, the largest and longest running program in the country; and led several large-scale strategies for addressing poverty. Prior to this, she served as the Assistant Executive Director of the Los Angeles County Office of Child Protection where she led a variety of initiatives in the areas of prevention, child safety, and data sharing. Before this, Miller served as the Manager for the Chief Executive Office's Service Integration Branch (SIB), overseeing the Countywide Gang Strategy, Education Coordinating Council, Information Technology Infrastructure Development Unit, Research and Evaluation Unit, Contracting and Administrative Support Unit, Housing and Homeless Unit, and various initiatives integrating services for system-involved youth across departments. Before joining SIB, she served as the Director of the Los Angeles County Education Coordinating Council, a collaborative body charged with raising the educational achievement of foster and probation youth. Miller received her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from Howard University.

## CONFERENCE WRAP-UP

---



**J. Shawn Landres, Ph.D.**  
Chair  
Leadership Conference  
ad hoc Committee,  
Quality and Productivity  
Commission

Shawn Landres, PhD, a past three-term chair of the Commission, is an award-winning civic leader whose research and impact in social innovation and community development have earned attention in the U.S., Europe, and beyond. He is co-founder of Jumpstart Labs, a philanthropic research and design consultancy, a Senior Fellow at the UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs, and a City of Santa Monica Planning Commissioner. Most recently he founded a multinational grassroots volunteer humanitarian network providing responsive case management for Ukrainians and Ukrainian refugees.

Landres brings to the Commission more than two decades of experience in academic, nonprofit, and philanthropic leadership, social entrepreneurship, network building, and organizational development, including the Clinton Administration's Reinventing Government initiative and projects funded by the U.S. State Department and the British government.

A Founding Advisor of Known, he is a member of the Jewish Council for Public Affairs Board of Directors and the Southern California Grantmakers Public Policy Committee.

Landres served as QPC Chair from January 2017 to December 2019. In 2015, he shepherded the Commission's "Digital by Default" report and led the Commission's Strategic Plan Update, including the formalization of its annual operational trends update. In 2020-21 he was a working group leader for the Commission's NACO Award-winning ProsperLA initiative. Landres co-chaired United Against Hate Week in 2022.

# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

---



**Kathryn Barger**  
Chair  
Supervisor, 5th District



**Hilda L. Solis**  
Supervisor, 1st District



**Holly J. Mitchell**  
Supervisor, 2nd District



**Lindsey P. Horvath**  
Supervisor, 3rd District



**Janice Hahn**  
Supervisor, 4th District

## SPECIAL THANKS

---

### 2025 Leadership Conference ad hoc Committee

J. Shawn Landres, Chair

Jacki Bacharach, Vice Chair

Huasha Liu

Edward McIntyre

Marsha D. Mitchell

William B. Parent

Mark A. Waronek

Louisa Ollague, Productivity Manager, Probation Department

### Productivity Managers' Network

### Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

QPC Staff

[illegible]

[illegible]





[qpc.lacounty.gov](http://qpc.lacounty.gov)

#QPCLC2025



To access the conference program book,  
scan the QR code above.