



AGENDA & NOTICE

LOS ANGELES CITY/COUNTY
NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 15, 2022, 5:30 P.M.

To Listen Via Telephone: 669-900-6833
Webinar ID: 886 9836 6316

To View Via Web:
https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_U9YwJfy1QrmzmHHta4ocJw

To Provide Public Comment: You may submit written public comment via email to aferguson@lanaic.lacounty.gov. Please submit your public comment or documentation as soon as possible but no later than 5 p.m. the night before the scheduled meeting.

CHERI THOMAS, Chairperson
Quinault/Yurok

CHRISSIE CASTRO, Vice Chairperson
Navajo

KIMBERLY MORALES JOHNSON,
Secretary
Gabrieleno Tongva

SHAWN IMITATES-DOG, Treasurer
Lakota

ANDREA N. GARCIA, M.D., Commissioner
Mandan, Hidatsa, Arikara

ALLISON HICKS, Commissioner
Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation

DAWN JACKSON, Commissioner
Saginaw Chippewa

ROBERT JUDKINS, Commissioner
Apache

FRED LEAF, Commissioner
Potawatomi

RANDALL MURPHY, Commissioner
Choctaw/Lakota

RUDY ORTEGA JR., Commissioner
Fernandeño Tataviam

JOSEPH A. QUINTANA, Commissioner
Kewa Pueblo

TED TENORIO, Commissioner
Tiguan Nation

MARK VILLASEÑOR, Commissioner
Fernandeño Tataviam

RENE' WILLIAMS, Commissioner
Colville Tribes

ALEXANDRA VALDES
Executive Director
Tlingit/Athabaskan

THIS MEETING WILL CONTINUE TO BE CONDUCTED VIRTUALLY TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC, COMMISSIONERS AND EMPLOYEES AS PERMITTED UNDER STATE LAW

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. INVOCATION**
- 3. ROLL CALL**
- 4. COMMISSIONER & STAFF INTRODUCTIONS**
- 5. PUBLIC COMMENT**
- 6. ACTION ITEMS**
 - 6.1. Review and take possible action adopting the February 15, 2022 Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission (LANAIC) Unapproved Meeting Minutes

- 6.2. Appoint a LANAIC Commissioner to serve on the 100 Acre Partnership Community Advisory Committee

7. CARE FIRST, COMMUNITY INVESTMENT (CFCI) ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

- 7.1 CFCI Updates, Joey Williams (LANAIC Lead Designee - CFCI Advisory Committee) & Tencha Espino (LANAIC Alternate Designee – CFCI Advisory Committee)

8. PRESENTATIONS

- 8.1. Introduction to Cogstone Resource Management, Desiree Martinez (President & Principal Investigator for Archaeology), Ashley Dobson (Project Manager) & Kim Glann (Department of Arts & Culture Cross Sector Manager)
- 8.2. Introduction to LANAIC Creative Strategist Jacob Pratt, Jacob Pratt & Kim Glann (Department of Arts & Culture Cross Sector Manager)

9. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- 9.1 Summer 2022 LANAIC Retreat
- 9.2 LA Metro Limited Edition TAP Card

10. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- 10.1. County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors Board Order Updates & Board Priority Updates
 - 10.1.1. Amicus Support for Tribes in Lawsuit Challenging Constitutionality of Indian Child Welfare Act (March 15, 2022)

11. COMMITTEE & AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 11.1. Natives in LA COVID Response Working Group

12. COMMISSIONER GENERAL COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

13. ANNOUNCEMENTS/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

14. COMMISSION ADJOURNMENT

Meetings are held in English. If interpretation in other languages or accommodations for persons with disabilities are needed, please contact the Commission at 213-595-4827 at least 3 business days before the meeting. The meetings of the Native American Indian Commission are accessible to persons with disabilities.

Contact: www.lanaic.lacounty.gov, aferguson@lanaic.lacounty.gov, or 213-595-4827



**LOS ANGELES CITY/COUNTY NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FEBRUARY 15, 2022**

The February 15, 2022 meeting Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission was held virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Call to Order

Chairperson Thomas called the meeting to order at 5:37 p.m.

Holding Meetings via Teleconference

Chairperson Thomas read the following teleconference statement allowing for the LANAIC meeting to take place via teleconference:

Welcome everybody, before we begin I have a brief announcement; this teleconference meeting is in compliance with Assembly Bill (AB) 361 and the Board of Supervisor's action taken at their February 8, 2021 meeting and subsequently renewed every 30 days to continue meeting by teleconference to limit the spread of Covid-19 and to promote social distancing where possible.

Invocation

Commissioner Judkins provided an invocation.

Roll Call

Present:

Cheri Thomas (Chairperson)
Chrissie Castro (Vice Chairperson)
Shawn Imitates-Dog (Treasurer) (joined at 6:10 p.m.)
Dr. Andrea Garcia
Allison Hicks
Dawn Jackson
Randall Murphy (joined at 6:00 p.m.)
Joseph Quintana
Ted Tenorio (joined at 6:15 p.m.)
Rene' Williams

Absent:

Kimberly Morales Johnson (Secretary) (excused)
Rudy Ortega Jr. (excused)
Fred Leaf (unexcused)
Mark Villasenor (unexcused)

Quorum was met.

Staff Present: Alexandra Valdes, Executive Director



**LOS ANGELES CITY/COUNTY NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN COMMISSION
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Action Items

Review & Approval of the Unapproved January 18, 2022 Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission (LANAIC) Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Garcia and seconded by Vice Chairperson Castro to approve the unapproved January 18, 2022 LANAIC Meeting Minutes with the following edit: note Commissioner Judkins' absence from the January 18, 2022 LANAIC meeting as excused and Commissioner Leaf's absence from the same meeting as unexcused. The motion passed.

YES	Thomas, Castro, Garcia, Hicks, Jackson, Judkins, Quintana, Williams
NO	
ABSTAIN	
ABSENT	Imitates-Dog, Morales Johnson, Leaf, Tenorio, Ortega, Villasenor, Murphy

Presentations

Introduction to Watson Consulting Group, Lisa Watson (Principal) & Crystal Coyazo (Project Manager)

Commissioner Garcia introduced Lisa Watson, Principal of Watson Consulting Group and Crystal Coyazo, Project Manager at Watson Consulting Group. She shared that after a long procurement process Watson Consulting Group was contracted by the County to continue efforts to address Native American homelessness tied to the 2018 AIAN Homelessness Board Motion. Crystal and Lisa provided a brief presentation about themselves, their organization and the work they are charged with leading.

Introduction & Welcome to the Executive Office of the Board of Supervisors, Lorayne Lingat (Assistant Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors)

Alexandra briefly introduced Lorayne Lingat, Assistant Executive Officer with the County Executive Office of the Board of Supervisors (EO). Alexandra shared that with the transition of the LANAIC from the Department of Workforce Development, Aging & Community Services to the EO effective January 16, 2022, that her position now directly reports to Ms. Lingat.

Ms. Lingat provided a warm welcome to EO for the LANAIC. She provided a brief personal introduction and shared how she plans to support the work of the LANAIC and Alexandra in her position of Executive Director.

Introduction to Lucas Museum of Narrative Art, Sandra Jackson-Dumont (CEO & Director)



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Chair Thomas welcomed Sandra Jackson-Dumont, the CEO & Director of the Lucas Museum of Narrative Art to the meeting. She invited her to provide her presentation.

Ms. Jackson shared a brief personal introduction and provided a PowerPoint on the Lucas Museum and their commitment to supporting historically underrepresented communities including the Native American community.

Public Comment

Stephanie Mushrush addressed the LANAIC. She shared about an issue that has come to light in Long Beach, CA that negatively impacts the wellbeing of the Native American community. Ms. Mushrush shared about the reopening of Lincoln Park - the oldest park in the city and previously closed since 2017, due to construction – which reopened with a ribbon cutting on February 11, 2022, touting a new 13-foot Lincoln penny monument and selfie spot. Ms. Mushrush shared that the reopening of this park with the Lincoln name and penny statue is a step backwards for the city and community of Long Beach, which is home to a strong Native American community.

She shared that the coalition is asking for support from the Native community near and far in the form of petition signatures and petition sharing, as well as support from allies and organizations. She also invited Commissioners to be present for the gathering the coalition is hosting on so called President's Day Monday, February 21 at 2 pm, at Lincoln Park in Long Beach, CA.

Care First, Community Investment Advisory Committee Report

CFCI Updates, Joey Williams (LANAIC Lead Designee - CFCI Advisory Committee)

Tencha Espino, LANAIC Alternate Designee – CFCI Advisory Committee, provide the monthly CFCI updates in Joey Williams absence. Ms. Espino shared that the County has hired Street Level Strategy as the community engagement consultant and that the search of a Third Party Administrator is still underway.

Alexandra shared that \$450,000 of the \$500,00 in Care First Community Investment funds that were secured to address Native American housing insecurity and homelessness have been contracted through an open competitive Request Statement of Interest process to Pukuu Cultural Community Services and United American Indian Involvement, Inc. Services will become available to eligible clients in late March.

Executive Director's Report

County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors Board Order Updates & Board Priority Updates

- **Truth, Healing & Transformation Projects**

Alexandra shared that through a open competitive Request for Proposal process administered by the Department of Arts & Culture Cogstone Resource Management has been selected to



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facilitate engagement with tribal leaders and members of the American Indian and Alaska Native community in the service of creating a set of proposals for Land Acknowledgment and Land Access policies, protocols and toolkits for the County.

Chairperson’s Report

Appointments to the 2022 Elections Committee

Chairperson Thomas shared that per the LANAIC bylaws she has appointed Commissioners Tenorio, Villasenor and Williams to serve on the 2022 Elections Committee. Alexandra shared that she would be reaching out to the members soon to schedule the first meeting.

Committee & Ad Hoc Committee Reports

Natives in LA COVID Response Working Group

Commissioner Dr. Garcia shared a brief update about the work of the Natives in LA COVID Response Working Group. She shared that the Group continues to meet bi-weekly and respond to the emergent needs of the AIAN community.

Executive Committee

Alexandra shared that the Executive Committee held a meeting on Thursday February 3, 2022 to review a letter of support for Los Angeles County’s American Rescue Plan Act Good Jobs Challenge EDA Grant application. The letter was adopted unanimously.

YES	Thomas, Castro, Imitates-Dog & Morales Johnson
NO	
ABSTAIN	
ABSENT	

Commissioner General Comments on Non-Agenda Items

No general comments were provided.

Announcements/Future Agenda Items

Commissioner Garcia shared that in a role she performs outside of the LANAIC, she supports a diabetes research project with Dr. Claradine Soto. They have partnered with Project Angel Food to provide two meals a day for three months to eligible American Indian and Alaska Native participants with diabetes. They are currently enrolling their second cohort of participants and requested Commissioners help spread the word with their respective networks.



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Commissioner Murphy shared that he has a meeting scheduled with Commissioners on the Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission. He noted that he is attending this meeting outside of his LANAIC Commissioner capacity.

Commission Adjournment

The Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission meeting of February 15, 2022 was adjourned by Chairperson Thomas at 7:01 p.m.

DRAFT



Community Advisory Committee Description and Application

Project Summary

The Taylor Yard Paseo del Río and Proposition O Water Quality Improvement Projects are a joint effort of the Mountains Recreation & Conservation Authority (MRCA), City of Los Angeles (City), and the California Department of Parks and Recreation (State Parks), operating as the “100 Acre Partnership at Taylor Yard” (Partnership).

The overall goal is to transform the river’s edge at the Taylor Yard- Bowtie (State Parks) and G2 (City of LA/MRCA) parcels into the Paseo del Río, a one-mile public use greenway to benefit the adjacent communities and the region, increase river access on the east side of the river, and also to design and build a water quality improvement feature on G2, both of which will increase river access on the east bank. To ensure that the Paseo del Río and Prop O Water Quality projects reflect community input on the design and development of the greenway and water elements, the Partnership is establishing a Community Advisory Committee (CAC).

About the Community Advisory Committee

The CAC will be comprised of local stakeholders which include local residents from the neighborhoods adjoining the project site, along with a student, and small business owners from the communities of Atwater Village, Cypress Park, Elysian Valley and Glassell Park. The CAC will advise the Partnership on site development, outreach, programming, and planning, while also serving as community ambassadors. The CAC will provide a local perspective on the Project to the Partnership, with a focus on identifying and addressing both opportunities and challenges, and help the Partnership solicit community feedback.

The CAC will help guide the vision of ecosystem restoration and community amenities, which could include trails, native habitat, water quality improvement features, trail recreational opportunities,

passive recreational features, community gathering spaces and outdoor classrooms, restorative elements, and amenities such as parking, access points, restrooms, gates, lighting, and interpretive signage/elements. It will be important for the CAC to provide their input, feedback and guidance on the brownfield/remediation cleanup goals and on the possible site programming to be provided, once Projects are completed and public access becomes available.

The Partnership's goal is that the 15 CAC members will come from a diverse cross-section of community and professional backgrounds that will help ensure the project reflects and addresses the concerns of the communities served by the development of Paseo del Río and the Proposition O Water Quality Projects. Each member will play an active role in shaping what the project ultimately looks like and will serve as a direct representative of the community.

Categories

- There shall be three members from Cypress Park
- There shall be three members from Glassell Park
- There shall be three members from Elysian Valley
- There shall be three members from Atwater Village
- There shall be one student ambassador who attends the local high school (non-voting member)
- One member appointed by the 1st Council District
- There shall be two members from local environmental or non-governmental organizations

Stipend

Each member of the CAC representing themselves as an individual of the communities listed above shall receive a stipend of \$25 per meeting attended. Members of the CAC demonstrating low-income status will receive a stipend of \$50 per meeting attended.

Meeting Date, Time, and Location

CAC meetings will be held on a bi-monthly/quarterly basis throughout the life of the project on the third Wednesday of the month at 6:00 PM. The meetings will be organized and facilitated by the Lee Andrews Group. These meetings will take place in person at Rio de Los Angeles State Park. Should public health guidelines require, the meetings will take place virtually via Zoom. The total timeline for the project is approximately three years, we would request that CAC members serve for a one year term minimum, subject to change.

Selection Process

The Partnership will open the application process in December 2021. The due date for applications will be February 4, 2022. The application form and nominations will serve as a continuous process as vacancies become available in the future. It is anticipated that members of the Partnership will evaluate all applications in coordination with area elected officials to make the recommendations to complete the composition of the CAC. (The CAC Selection committee will be comprised of one member of MRCA, City of LA, State Parks, CD 1, and Mayor's office). The goal will be to host the first Community Advisory Committee meeting by March 2022.



Community Advisory Committee Application

Full Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Supplemental Questions:

1. Are you a resident, student, non-profit leader or business owner in the communities of Atwater Village, Cypress Park, Elysian Valley or Glassell Park?
2. If so, which community are you a resident, student, non-profit leader or business owner in?
3. Have you had the opportunity to be a local community leader, if so, through what capacity/experiences?

4. Do you have prior experience, service and/or involvement on issues related to the Los Angeles River?
5. If you answered yes to the question above, please briefly describe your prior experience, service or involvement. If none, please write N/A
6. Would you be available to participate (in-person and/or virtually) in bi-monthly or quarterly meetings regarding projects at Taylor Yard?
7. Would you be available to attend night and/or weekend events to discuss projects at Taylor Yard with the community?
8. What are opportunities that you foresee at Taylor Yard?
9. What are challenges that you foresee at Taylor Yard?
10. Will you submit for a stipend?
11. How did you hear about this opportunity?

For more information contact Joey Legaspi
at 562-714-3733 or jlegaspi@leeandrewsgroup.com

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS HILDA L. SOLIS
AND JANICE HAHN

March 15, 2022

Amicus Support for Tribes in Lawsuit Challenging Constitutionality of Indian Child Welfare Act

On February 28, 2022, the Supreme Court of the United States granted certiorari to four consolidated cases (*Haaland v. Brackeen*, *Cherokee Nation v. Brackeen*, *Texas v. Haaland*, and *Brackeen v. Haaland*), regarding the constitutionality of the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA), Pub. L. 95-608, 92 Stat. 3069. The case will review an en banc 5th Circuit U.S. Court of Appeal that held six provisions of the ICWA as unconstitutional because they impermissibly commandeer states (25 U.S.C. §§1912(a), (d), (e)-(f), 1915(a)-(b), (e), and 1951(a)) and violate equal protection or fail to satisfy the rational-basis standard of *Morton v. Mancari* (25 U.S.C. §1915(a)(3), (b)(iii)).

ICWA was enacted in 1978 in response to the systematic separation of Native American and Alaskan Native (AIAN) children from their families. Native children were taken from their families and either adopted by non-Native families or sent to residential schools to “assimilate” to the “American way of life.” Congress saw this as a crisis and enacted ICWA to “protect the best interests of Indian children and to promote the stability and security of Indian tribes and families” (25 U.S.C. § 1902). ICWA sets federal

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requirements that apply to state child custody proceedings involving an Indian child who is a member of or eligible for membership in a federally recognized tribe.

Among the protections for AIAN children, the ICWA requires caseworkers to make several considerations when handling an ICWA case, including:

1. Providing active efforts to the family;
2. Identifying a placement that fits under the ICWA preference provisions—starting with a preference for the child’s family members;
3. Notifying the child’s tribe and the child’s parents of the child custody proceeding; and
4. Working actively to involve the child’s tribe and the child’s parents in the proceedings.

Although progress has been made as a result of the ICWA, out-of-home placement still occurs more frequently for AIAN children than it does for the general population—to be clear, AIAN children are disproportionately represented in the child welfare system.

Despite the advances achieved since 1978, the ICWA’s protections are still needed.

California law confirms that it is in an AIAN child's best interest to enhance and protect connection to the tribe and tribal community. This protection occurs by complying with the minimum federal standards set forth in the ICWA. California has 109 federally recognized tribes, and Los Angeles County is home to the largest urban Native American population of any county in the United States. The California Legislature has enacted the ICWA wholesale into its state statutes and expanded on federal requirements.

Los Angeles County is committed to the spirit of the ICWA and compliance with its provisions. The ICWA has largely been celebrated as the gold standard of child welfare

policy. Available data shows that ICWA compliance decreases the number of days a child in the child welfare system spends as a child in foster care. Los Angeles County is home to the first in the state specialized ICWA unit within its child-welfare department, is home to a dedicated ICWA courtroom within the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Juvenile Division, and has one of the largest child welfare court dockets involving AIAN families in the entire United States.

The ICWA, when fully implemented, offers best practice and long-term cost savings associated with child welfare cases, by, for example, decreasing the number of days a child spends in foster care.

Haaland v. Brackeen is a harmful attack on tribal sovereignty, threatens to undo decades of federal Indian law and child welfare precedent, and is counter to Los Angeles County policy. Los Angeles County cannot sit idle while the constitutionality of a 40-year-old law implemented to protect its Native children is attacked.

WE THEREFORE MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct:

1. The Office of the County Counsel to work in collaboration with a national county counsel and/or state attorneys association or coalition to join and/or file an amicus brief in the *Haaland v. Brackeen* case in support of the constitutionality of the ICWA.
2. The Office of the County Counsel, in the alternative, to work in collaboration with other California county counsels, to join and/or file an amicus brief in the *Haaland v. Brackeen* case in support of the constitutionality of the ICWA.

3. The Office of County Counsel to consult with the national Tribal Supreme Court Project, a coalition of tribal entities working to advocate for the protection of the ICWA and tribal sovereignty, regarding an amicus brief in *Haaland v. Brackeen*.

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HLS:ew