



AGENDA & NOTICE

LOS ANGELES CITY/COUNTY
NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2023, 6:30 P.M.

Meeting Location: County of Los Angeles Hall of Administration
Sybil Brand Room 372
500 W. Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

To Listen Via Telephone: (669) 444-9171
Webinar ID: 843 3844 9426

To View Via Web: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84338449426>

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

SHAWN IMITATES DOG, Treasurer
Lakota

DENISE ESCOTO, Commissioner
Northern Cheyenne

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

DAWN JACKSON, Commissioner
Saginaw Chippewa

MONA MORALES RECALDE, Commissioner
Gabrieleno Tongva

RANDALL MURPHY, Commissioner
Choctaw/Lakota

JOHN ONLY A CHIEF, Commissioner
Pawnee Nation

RUDY ORTEGA JR., Commissioner
Fernandeño Tataviam

JOSEPH A. QUINTANA, Commissioner
Kewa Pueblo

TED TENORIO, Commissioner
Tiguan Nation

RICH TOYON, Commissioner
Acjachemen

MARK VILLASEÑOR, Commissioner
Fernandeño Tataviam

RENE' WILLIAMS, Commissioner
Colville Tribes

ALEXANDRA VALDES
Executive Director
Tlingit/Athabaskan

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. INVOCATION & LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT
3. ROLL CALL
4. COMMISSIONER INTRODUCTIONS
5. PUBLIC COMMENT
6. ACTION ITEMS
 - 6.1. Review and take possible action adopting the February 21, 2023 Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission (LANAIC) Unapproved Meeting Minutes

**AGENDA FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
LOS ANGELES CITY/COUNTY NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN COMMISSION
TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2023, 6:30 P.M.**

- 6.2. Review and take possible action adopting proposed responses to the Office of Management & Budget's (OMB) request for comments regarding the revision SPD15 - Standards for Maintaining, Collecting, and Presenting Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity and request that Board Chair Janice Hahn transmit a letter to OMB supporting these adopted responses
- 6.4. Take possible action recommending that the Board of Supervisors take a supportive position on AB 776 - 210 Interstate Highway Renaming
- 6.5. Take possible action selecting a new Secretary to serve on the Executive Committee through January 2024

7. PRESENTATION

- 7.1 *County of Los Angeles Employee Onboarding Process for Commissioners* - (Brandon Turner, Administrative Deputy – LA County Department of Arts and Culture & Heather Rigby, Chief Deputy – LA County Department of Arts and Culture)

8. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- 8.1 Review and discuss proposed Code of Conduct section addition to the Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission Bylaws

9. CHAIR'S REPORT

- 9.1 Retreat Virtual Follow Up
- 9.2 Ad Hoc Committees
- 9.3 Mayor Karen Bass Meeting Preparation
- 9.4 2023 Native American Heritage Month Theme

10. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- 10.1 Creative Strategist Updates

11. COMMISSIONER GENERAL COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

12. ANNOUNCEMENTS/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

13. COMMISSION ADJOURNMENT IN HONOR OF PAULA STARR

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 Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission are accessible to persons with disabilities.

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



**LOS ANGELES CITY/COUNTY NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN COMMISSION
UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FEBRUARY 21, 2023**

The February 21, 2023, meeting Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission (LANAIC) was held virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Call to Order

Chairperson Thomas called the meeting to order at 6:31 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 County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisor's action taken at their February 7, 2023 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 Mona Morales Recalde provided an invocation and lack acknowledgment.

Roll Call

Present: Chair Cheri Thomas
Vice Chairperson Chrissie Castro
Treasurer Shawn Imitates Dog (Joined at 6:45 PM)
Denise Escoto
Andrea Garcia
Dawn Jackson
Mona Morales Recalde
Randall Murphy (Joined at 6:43 PM)
John Only A Chief
Rudy Ortega Jr.
Joseph Quintana (Joined at 6:59 PM)
Mark Villasenor
Rene' Williams

Absent: Rich Toyon (excused)
Ted Tenorio

Quorum was met.

Staff Present: Alexandra Valdes, Executive Director
Stephanie Guadron, Administrative Manager



**LOS ANGELES CITY/COUNTY NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN COMMISSION
UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FEBRUARY 21, 2023**

Commissioner & Staff Introductions

Commissioners provided brief introductions including their names, appointing office and tribal affiliation.

Public Comment

No public comment was given.

Action Items

Review & Approval of the Unapproved January 19, 2023, Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission (LANAIC) Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Andrea Garcia and seconded by Commissioner Rudy Ortega Jr. to approve the unapproved January 19, 2023 LANAIC Meeting minutes as presented. The motion passed.

YES	Garcia, Ortega, Thomas, Castro, Escoto, Morales Recalde, Only A Chief, Villasenor, Williams, Jackson
NO	
ABSTAIN	
ABSENT	Toyon, Tenorio, Imitates Dog (Joined at 6:45), Murphy (Joined 6:43), Quintana (Joined at 6:59)

Review LANAIC Secretary nominations and take possible action selecting a new Secretary to serve on the Executive Committee through January 2024

A vote was conducted via the chat function of Zoom.

Secretary Nominees	First Vote	Run-Off Vote
Rene' Williams	5 votes	6 votes
Randall Murphy	5 votes	5 votes

Care First, Community Investment Advisory Committee Report

CFCI Updates, Tencha Chavez (LANAIC Alternate Designee - CFCI Advisory Committee)

Tencha Chavez provided a brief update on the FY23-24 budget process for Care First Community Investment.



LOS ANGELES CITY/COUNTY NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN COMMISSION UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FEBRUARY 21, 2023

Chair's Report

Return to In Person Meetings in March 2023

The LANAIC will seek hybrid options for constituents. AB2449 requires that a quorum of eight (8) members meet in person; joining a meeting virtually will require “just cause” or an emergency and is limited to 20% of the meetings held in a year or 3-month limit. If attending meetings virtually due to “just cause” or an emergency Commissioners must use video and audio features.

2023 LANAIC Strategic Planning Retreat Logistics

Chair Thomas summarized the 2023 Strategic Planning Retreat. She mentioned that at the retreat the ad hoc committees were identified and commissioners who are interested in joining a committee should identify their interest via a Google form that she will develop by the end of the week. She also mentioned that she would like to appoint committees at the March meeting.

Executive Director's Report

Harms Report

Alexandra shared that the Harms Report has been filed with the Board of Supervisors. There will be various versions of the report, including digital and paper versions, that will be shared with the public and distributed. All Tribal Planning Group participants will receive a bounded copy of the report. Staff is working with the County to prepare the report to be posted online on a frequently visited page.

Creative Strategist Updates

Alexandra shared that Creative Strategist Jacob Pratt had pivoted his project due to access issues with an immersive experience business. He is now producing a short film to be shown on a large LED screen in late April. Alexandra will send out save the dates as soon as the date and time is confirmed. She also reminded the Commission that Jacob requested the assistance of the Commission to identify locations in Los Angeles that depict or represent AIAN communities and people.

Commissioner General Comments on Non-Agenda Items

No general comments were provided.

Announcements/Future Agenda Items

Commissioner Andrea Garcia revisited need to develop Code of Conduct for Commissioners.



**LOS ANGELES CITY/COUNTY NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN COMMISSION
UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FEBRUARY 21, 2023**

Commission Adjournment

The Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission meeting of February 21, 2023 was adjourned by Chairperson Thomas at 7:30 PM.

DRAFT



LOS ANGELES CITY/COUNTY NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN COMMISSION

Chairperson
CHERI THOMAS
Quinault/Yurok

Vice Chairperson
CHRISSIE CASTRO
Navajo

Treasurer
SHAWN IMITATES-DOG
Lakota

Secretary
VACANT

DENISE ESCOTO
Northern Cheyenne

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

DAWN JACKSON
Saginaw Chippewa

MONA MORALES RECALDE
Gabrieleno Tongva

RANDALL MURPHY
Choctaw/Lakota

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JOSEPH A. QUINTANA
Kewa Pueblo

TED TENORIO
Tiguan Nation

RICH TOYON
Acjachemen

MARK VILLASEÑOR
Fernandeño Tataviam

RENE' WILLIAMS
Colville Tribes

ALEXANDRA VALDES
Executive Director

March 21, 2023

The Honorable Janice Hahn
Chair of the Board
500 W. Temple Street, Room 822
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Chair Hahn,

On March 21, 2023 the Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission (LANAIC) adopted the below responses to the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) proposed changes to SPD-15: Standards for Maintaining, Collecting, and Presenting Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity.

We respectfully request that you consider sending a letter to OMB as Chair of the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors sharing these responses. OMB has not revised SPD-15 in nearly 30 years. This is an incredible opportunity to improve standards of practice and advance the interests of equity and racial justice, particularly for communities that are small, mixed, or otherwise obscured.

We support for the principle of self-identification and the importance that any data collected regarding race and ethnicity accurately and completely represents the respondent's identity. These principles uplift self-identification, disaggregation, and complete reporting of multiple racial/ethnic identifications as the issues of most central importance in this effort. Our recommended responses focus on how the proposed changes may affect the American Indian and Alaska Native (AIAN) community, but we support the work of our peers advocating on behalf of other communities and defer to their authority and expertise in defining and advocating for the boundaries of their own communities.

Below, we have provided responses to OMB's request for feedback on a selection of questions regarding its proposed changes.

1. Collect race and ethnicity information using one combined question.

1b. To what extent would a combined race and ethnicity question that allows for the selection of one or more categories impact people's ability to self-report all aspects of their identity?

We strongly support the proposed change consolidating race and ethnicity to a single combined question. As is well documented the combined question reduces confusion differentiating between race/ethnicity and delivers more consistent responses, particularly among Latino/Hispanic-identified respondents.

In Southern California, and Los Angeles County in particular, individuals identifying as American Indian Alaska Native (AIAN) are racially and ethnically mixed. According to Census 2020, only 6% of the AIAN population is AIAN alone, 17% are AIAN alone or in combination (non-Hispanic), and 83% of AIANs also identify as Latino/Hispanic. In total, 94% of the AIAN population of Los Angeles County is racially or ethnically mixed. Consolidating these multiple questions into a single question format reduces confusion for respondents who wish to select multiple identities and as a result encourages AIAN respondents to share their full identities.

Additionally, and perhaps more impactfully, the shift of the Hispanic/Latino category to categorical equivalence with the other minimum racial categories discourages the common practice of top-coding Hispanic/Latino ethnicity and only reporting non-Hispanic/Latino racial selections. Top-coding has the effect of erasing the racial identities of individuals who also identify as Hispanic/Latino. In the case of Los Angeles County, top-coding Hispanic/Latino erases 83% of AIANs, dropping AIANs from 3.3% of the population to 0.73% of the population. Top-coding is an existential threat to AIAN populations.

Although we believe shifting to a single question format will reduce the utilization of top-coding practices – discouragement through design – we strongly urge the OMB to **prohibit** the use of this practice by reporting federal agencies and local jurisdictions. Although the value top-coding ethnicity brings to the complete and accurate reporting of racial self-identification is unclear, the damage it offers, to AIAN communities in particular, is plain.

2. Add “Middle Eastern or North African” (MENA) as a new minimum category.

Per the stated principles of this group, we support the creation of categories that allow people to indicate their full racial/ethnic identities, including MENA, we defer to the MENA advocates regarding the completeness and appropriateness of this measure.

3. Require the collection of detailed race and ethnicity categories by default.

3a. Is the example design seen in *Figure 2* inclusive such that all individuals are represented?

Selection formats, like checkboxes, more effectively capture complete responses than write-in formats. Additionally, selection formats more easily allow for multiple selections, which is not as straightforward for write-in boxes. Many AIANs report multiple tribal affiliations, which could be challenging to indicate in a write in format. Thus, we strongly recommend maximizing inclusivity by further testing the possibility to utilize check box or other selection options, and that a single write-in option, which functions as a more exclusionary format, be reduced in prominence.

3b. The example design seen in *Figure 2* collects additional detail primarily by country of origin. What other potential types of detail would create useful data or help respondents to identify themselves?

Additionally, we recommend the use of some intermediate sub-population groupings with direct relevance not only to tribal affiliation, but to other political statuses in the United States. We recommend creating three exclusive sub-categories of AIAN: 1. US-based Native Americans, 2. Canada-based First Nations, 3. Latin America-based Indígena. The unique political sovereignty of US-based tribes has implications in terms of health care, housing, education and other legal statuses. The consequential immigration patterns of the latter two groups strongly supports the case for disaggregation into these categories as well.

3d. What should agencies consider when weighing the benefits and burdens of collecting or providing more granular data than the minimum categories?

Moreover, we support the collection of more granular data than the minimum categories. Beyond the relevant distinctions between the 3 proposed large subcategories, disaggregation to the most granular level possible is essential for capturing other relevant distinctions, including tribe, access to healthcare/legal resources, capturing the multiracial composition of the AIAN category, examining intertribal affiliations, and federally recognized and state recognized tribes.

3e. Is it appropriate for agencies to collect detailed data even though those data may not be published or may require combining multiple years of data due to small sample sizes?

We believe it is essential to collect detailed data for AIAN populations even if data are unlikely to see immediate or certain use. We understand the ethical ramifications of collecting data without explicit or expedient purpose, but that concern is resolved by making this data available to communities and researchers (observing privacy safeguards) and superseded by the perpetual lack of data on these communities. In the AIAN community, lack of data implies a lack of population which in turn implies less priority to collect additional detailed data; it is a self-defeating cycle of erasure and “data genocide” (Friedman J, Hansen H, Gone JP. Deaths of despair and Indigenous data genocide. *Lancet*. 2023 Mar 11; Urban Indian Health Institute. Data genocide of American Indians and Alaska natives in COVID-19 data. Feb 15, 2021). Even if data has no immediate specific intended use beyond analyses with aggregate populations, these data may become important in future studies or in projects that use small population techniques that combine numbers from multiple years.

3f. What guidance should be included in SPD 15 or elsewhere to help agencies identify different collection and tabulation options for more disaggregated data than the minimum categories? Should the standards establish a preferred approach to collecting additional detail within the minimum categories, or encourage agencies to collect additional information while granting flexibility as to the kind of information and level of detail?

3g. Is the current “default” structure of the recommendation appropriate? Should SPD–15 pursue a more voluntary approach to the collection of disaggregated data, as opposed to having a default of collecting such data unless certain conditions are met?

To capture relevant disaggregated data most effectively, we recommend 2 approaches to collecting tribal affiliation detail. When using electronic data collection tools, we recommend offering a selection list of all 574 federally recognized tribes as well as a list of state recognized tribes relevant to the local jurisdiction. For data collection formats more constrained by space, such as paper surveys or phone surveys, respondents should be allowed to provide a short response, including multiple responses indicating multiple affiliations. These approaches should be used by default and only departed from in exceptional circumstances with justification.

3h. What techniques are recommended for collecting or providing detailed race and ethnicity data for categories with smaller population sizes within the U.S.?

Beyond the aggregation of detail into minimum reporting categories, the best ways to collect and report data for small populations or specific communities should be informed by the community itself. We recommend working with local tribes, tribal organizations and urban AIAN entities alike for support gathering data from AIAN respondents and consulting with tribal data experts such as National Congress of American Indians, Urban Indian Health Institute (UIHI), and beyond on best practices with analyzing and reporting those data.

4. Update Terminology in SPD-15

Terminologies used within categories:

The Working Group proposes that the American Indian or Alaska Native minimum category description be changed to: “The category ‘American Indian or Alaska Native’ includes all individuals who identify with any of the original peoples of North, Central, and South America.”

We support the working group’s proposed change to the AIAN description: “The category ‘American Indian or Alaska Native’ includes all individuals who identify with any of the original peoples of North, Central, and South America.” Within AIAN communities, Native identity has a diversity of expressions. It is a complex concept comprised of overlapping cultural, ancestral, political, and kinship networks. Additionally, Native history of removal and genocide has challenged meaningful definitions of “attachment.” The proposed changes to this language will enhance the capture of all individuals who identify as AIAN.

5. Guidance is necessary to implement SPD 15 revisions on Federal information collections.

5d. How should race and ethnicity be collected when some method other than respondent self-identification is necessary (e.g., by proxy or observation)?

As stated in our principles, we strongly support self-identification as the only appropriate way to collect race and ethnicity data except in very limited circumstances. In circumstances involving the identification of deceased or incapacitated individuals, a close relative or official with personal knowledge of the individual’s self-identified race/ethnicity might provide this data on their behalf. Observation is not a reliable way to identify race/ethnicity, particularly among individuals with multi-racial or multi-ethnic ancestry and should not be used under any circumstances. Indicating that an individual’s race/ethnicity is “unknown” is preferable to recording observation by a third party with no personal knowledge of that individual’s self-identity.

Sincerely,

(Add Signature if Adopted by LANAIC)

Cheri Thomas
Chairperson

Assembly Bill 776 –210 Interstate Freeway Renaming

Assemblymember Chris R. Holden

SUMMARY

AB 776 encourages the Department of Transportation, in formal consultation with the California Native American Heritage Commission, the California Advisory Committee on Geographic Names and Los Angeles and San Bernardino County to work with California Indian tribes local to their region or tribes historically located in their region to identify the appropriate location of signs to recognize tribal lands along Interstate 210.

BACKGROUND

It has been estimated that when Europeans first came to California, the native population was close to 300,000--13 percent of the indigenous peoples in North America.¹ California was an exuberant clamor of Native American economies, languages, tribes, and individuals. Indigenous people had worshiped, loved, traded, and fought in California for at least 12,000 years.² Numerous highways in the State of California follow closely the courses of aboriginal trade routes³.

Today, California's native community is the smallest among all major racial and ethnic groups, with just 1.3% of Californians identifying as Native American alone or in combination with some other race.⁴ In 2019, Governor Gavin Newsom issued an apology through Executive Order N-15-19 on behalf of California to California Native American Peoples for the many instances of violence, mistreatment and neglect inflicted upon California Native Americans throughout the state's history.

In 2022, ACR 177 was adopted which removed the Christopher Columbus Transcontinental Highway designation from the portion of Interstate 10 in the state,

¹ The First Peoples of California: early California history: An Overview: The Library of Congress.
<https://www.loc.gov/collections/california-first-person-narratives/articles-and-essays/early-california-history/first-peoples-of-california/>

² Material, R. (2022, January 4). Precontact California Indians: Their Life Prior to Genocide. Riot Material.
<https://www.riotmaterial.com/precontact-california-indians-prior-to-genocide/>

³ Davis, James (1961) Trade Routes and Economic Exchange among the Indians of California. The University of California Archaeological Survey.

as well as any signage and markers memorializing that designation. California has remained committed to increasing awareness and promoting cultural sensitivity of the Native American community.

To continue these efforts, AB 776 seeks to rename Interstate 210, an 86 mile long freeway that runs from the Sylmar district of Los Angeles to Redlands. Los Angeles County is home to the largest concentration of persons of any part American Indian descent in the United States.⁵ The U.S. Census in 2020 estimated that the Los Angeles County population of persons identifying as fully or partly American Indian or Alaskan Native to be 156,646.

EXISTING LAW

Existing law: Streets and Highways Code: Section 510

THE SOLUTION

AB 776 will:

- Amend the Streets and Highway Code Section 510 to be known as the Southern California Native American Freeway.
- Require the Department of Transportation to place signage along interstate 210 to recognize tribal lands.
- Increase awareness of the Native American Communities in Los Angeles and San Bernardino County.

SUPPORT

Contact: KaBria Payden, Legislative Aide
KaBria.Payden@asm.ca.gov

⁴ California's Native American Community. (2023, January 24). Public Policy Institute of California.
<https://www.ppic.org/blog/californias-native-american-community/>

⁵ American Indian and Alaska Native Population, Los Angeles County, California
<https://www.laalmanac.com/population/po15.php#:~:text=Although%20Los%20Angeles%20County%20is,American%20Indian%20and%20Alaska%20Native>



Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission Secretary Election

Secretary Nominees

- Commissioner Randall Murphy
- Commissioner Rene' Williams
- Commissioner Mark Villasenor

Duties of the LANAIC Secretary

Secretary

- The Secretary shall work with the Executive Director to record the minutes, and maintain records of acts, and reports of the Commission and Executive Committee meetings.
- The Secretary shall be responsible for notification of action for nonattendance.
- In the absence of the Chair and Vice-Chair, the Secretary shall exercise the power and perform the duties of the Chair.



Proposed Bylaws Revisions & Addition

ADDITION

Section XXI: Code of Conduct

(A) Commissioners will exercise mutual respect and professionalism during commission and committee meetings, in the exercise of all County and City business, and at all times while publicly representing the Commission. This includes maintaining a respectful approach to debate and disagreement, interactions with Commission staff, City and County contractors and community as well as seeking to proactively resolve conflicts through the exercise of open and respectful feedback;

(B) Commissioners will respect the diversity, dignity, and expression of views of all individuals, groups, and organizations within the community and/or involved with the Commission including Commission staff;

(C) The Chair and/or other members of the Executive committee will speak up if they observe anything during a Commission meeting that is in violation of this Code of Conduct. However, any member of the Commission may speak to observed conflicts with this Code of Conduct.

(D) Commissioners should not use language that is threatening, obscene, or slanderous, including profanities, insults or other disparaging remarks or gestures directed toward other Commissioners.

(E) Commissioners' conduct shall not be limited to points A through D above but shall also reflect the codes of conduct outlined by their respective appointing bodies.

REVISIONS

- Retitle Section XXI: Ethics to Section XXII: Ethics
- Retitle Section XXII: Calendar to Section XXIII: Calendar

**Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission
2019 Bylaws**

(Adopted July 23, 2019)

Section I: Name

- A. The Commission shall be known as the Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission (LANAIC). As used in these bylaws, the word "Commission" refers to the LANAIC. For the purposes of the LANAIC, American Indians/Alaska Natives (AIAN) is inclusive of AIAN of the United States, who are residents of the Los Angeles City and County, and is inclusive of federally-recognized and state-recognized Tribes.

Section II: Legal Authority

- A. The Commission is authorized by Article CXIII as added to Ordinance No. 11409 § 1 (part), 1976: Ord. 4099 Art. 113 § 21010, 1942) entitled "Administrative Code of the County of Los Angeles." The Commission shall prepare and adopt by a majority vote rules and regulations for the internal governance and operations of its business and designate the time and place of holding its meetings, provided that such rules and regulations are not inconsistent with any other County Ordinance or Statute.

Section III: Purpose

- A. The primary purpose of the Commission is to improve the health and well-being of the Los Angeles AIAN community. It accomplishes its purpose through many strategies, including but not limited to increasing the acquisition of funding resources available to the AIAN community, advocating for policy that will improve the health and well-being of AIANs, and gathering and disseminating information about AIANs in Los Angeles County. In performing these functions, the Commission will represent the interests and concerns of AIAN of all tribal and cultural backgrounds, religious convictions, gender identities, and social circumstances.

Section IV: Membership Composition

- A. The Commission shall consist of fifteen (15) members, five (5) to be appointed by the Board of Supervisors, five (5) by the City of Los Angeles, and five (5) selected by the Los Angeles Indian community pursuant to elections conducted by the Commission.
- B. Each person who is a member of the Commission shall serve at the pleasure of his or her appointing authority for the remainder of their term.
- C. Each Commission member shall continue to serve following expiration of their term until their successor is appointed or elected.

Section V: Member Qualifications

- A. In appointing members to the Commission, the appointing agencies shall, insofar as possible, appoint individuals based on the following criteria:
 - 1. Members should be reflective of the diversity of AIANs in the city and county, and

- consideration should be given to various tribal backgrounds, age groups, gender identities, lifestyles, and federally recognized and state recognized tribes;
2. Members should have demonstrated capabilities of effective leadership within a specific area of community activity;
 3. Members should have demonstrated knowledge or ability in an area which has a significant bearing upon the purpose and duties of the LANAIC.

Section VI: Terms and Vacancies

- A. Each member of the Commission shall serve at the pleasure of their appointing authority.
- B. A member's position on the Commission shall become vacant upon his or her death, resignation, or removal by their appointing authority.
- C. Upon a vacancy occurring in the Commission, a successor shall be appointed in the same manner as was their predecessor. When a vacancy occurs for any reason, the person filling such vacancy shall hold office for the unexpired term of their predecessor.
- D. Should the appointing authority not appoint a successor at the end of the Commissioner's term, the Commissioner will continue to serve in their position until a replacement is named.
- E. Sections 5.12.050, 5.12.060 and 5.12.090 of this code, and their successors, shall not apply to the commission.

Section VII: Conduct of Elections

The entire Commission shall prescribe procedures for the election of the five representatives from the AIAN Community. All electors and candidates must meet the below criteria:

- A. Criteria
 1. Must be a resident of Los Angeles County.
 2. Must be eighteen (18) years of age or older.
 3. Must be American Indian/Alaska Native meeting one of the following definitions:
 - a. Enrolled member of a federally or state recognized tribe, now under Federal or State jurisdiction.
OR:
 - b. North American Indian from the United States or Alaskan Native community with a Certificate Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) with supporting genealogical documentation.
OR:
 - c. North American Indian from a United States or Alaskan Native community with genealogical documentation.
- B. No candidate may be an employee or affiliate of a current grant recipient.
- C. Nominations and Election
 1. Each candidate must have the nominating petition signed by ten (10) eligible voters. Eligible voters are persons who are; 1) enrolled member of any state or federally recognized Indian tribe or Alaska Native village, or, North American Indian with a Certificate Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) with provided genealogical support, or, member of an Indian community with genealogical documentation; 2) resident of the County of Los Angeles; 3) eighteen years of age or older.

2. All petitioners must be in legible handwriting. Printed signatures or signatures of petitioners residing out of the county of Los Angeles are not valid.
3. Nominees cannot list themselves as a petitioner.
4. Each nominee must turn in the completed **Declaration of Candidacy** on or before a **date determined by the Elections Committee**. Any petitions submitted after this deadline will be ruled invalid.
5. Nominees must provide proof that they meet the eligibility requirements. Proof includes a copy of tribal enrollment, or Indian CDIB with genealogical documentation, or tribal affiliation through genealogical record; and a photo ID with your current address within Los Angeles County.
6. The Elections Committee, appointed by the Commission, will provide the official ballots, conduct the election, verify election results, and verify voter and candidate eligibility.
7. There may be no electioneering within 100 feet of a polling site.
8. The Elections Committee will verify the election results. The Commission will notify candidates and provide the media with official election results.
9. Observers. Each Candidate for Commissioner may appoint one (1) observer for the counting of ballots. The name shall be submitted to the Elections Committee no later than five (5) days prior to the election date. No Candidate for any office shall be an observer.
10. Candidates will not be reimbursed for any costs incurred during the election process.
11. The State of California has ruled that county and state election codes do not apply to Commission elections.
12. Candidate's names will be placed on the ballot with excerpts from the community involvement and statement as to why they want to serve as a Commissioner.
13. A plurality of one (1) vote constitutes a winner. A tie will be broken by lot with both parties in attendance in the Commission office and witnessed by the Elections Committee.
14. NO QUESTION WHEN NO CONTEST. If only five (5) Candidates file for candidacy for election as Commissioners, no question shall be placed on the ballot for that candidacy. The act of filing for Commissioner shall be counted as an affirmative vote for such Candidate's selection, therefore the Candidates shall be elected by a one-vote margin.

Section VIII: Duties of the Commission

- A. It shall be the duty of the Commissioners to employ, supervise and terminate the Executive Director and other employees in accordance with the policies and procedures of the Los Angeles County Government and Civil Service Code.
- B. No action shall be taken by any Commission member on behalf of or in the name of the Commission unless specifically authorized by the Commission.

Section IX: Duties of Commissioners

- A. It shall be the duty of Commissioners to:
 - 1. Attend monthly Commission meetings.
 - 2. Participate actively in committees to fulfill the purpose and duties of the commission.
 - 3. Listen to the concerns of the community.
 - 4. Identify opportunities to advance the purpose and duties of the commission.
 - 5. Serve as a connector between government agencies and the AIAN community.
 - 6. Promote development of community programs that meet community needs.
 - 7. Mobilize AIAN peoples and allies to advance the health and well-being of the community.
 - 8. Understand and promote policy that positively impacts the AIAN community.
 - 9. Attend community forums and/or other events hosted or co-hosted by the Commission.

B. Mayoral Appointees

The duties of the Mayoral Appointees are to develop and sustain relations and contacts with the Mayor's office, city councilmembers and city government officers and agencies in order to promote collaboration and fundraising goals of the Commission. All planned meetings with the Mayor's office or city officials will be coordinated with the Executive Committee. The chairperson will appoint the Mayor's Committee Chair.

C. Board of Supervisor Appointees

The duties of the Board of Supervisor Appointees are to develop and sustain relations and contacts with the County Board of Supervisor's office and County government officers and agencies in order to promote collaboration and fundraising goals of the Commission. All planned meetings with County Supervisors and officials will be coordinated with the Executive Committee. The chairperson will appoint the County Committee Chair.

Section X: Officers

- A. The Commission's officers will consist of a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer, and such other officers as the Commission deems necessary. Nominations and election will be at the regular meeting in January, with installation taking place immediately after the election results are announced. Election shall be by secret ballot. Term of office is two years, with no more than two consecutive terms in the same office.

Section XI: Duties of Officers

A. Chairperson

- 1. The Chairperson shall have general supervision of the business, and shall preside at all meetings of the Commission. The Chairperson shall appoint all committees and committee chairs, and shall be ex-officio member of all committees.

2. The Chairperson shall authenticate by their signature, when necessary, all the acts, orders, and proceedings of the Commission.
3. The Commission has the authority to hold an election for a new Chairperson prior to the completion of their term, which can only be executed with a $\frac{3}{4}$ majority vote of the Commission.

B. Vice-Chairperson

1. The Vice-Chairperson shall perform the duties of the Chairperson in their absence. They shall attend all meetings of the Commission and perform all other duties which may be assigned to them.

C. Secretary

1. The Secretary shall work with the Executive Director to record the minutes, and maintain records of acts, and reports of the Commission and Executive Committee meetings.
2. The Secretary shall be responsible for notification of action for nonattendance.
3. In the absence of the Chair and Vice-Chair, the Secretary shall exercise the power and perform the duties of the Chair.

D. Treasurer

1. The Treasurer will work with the Executive Director to create and monitor the Commission's budget, as well as program and events budgets.
2. The Treasurer will work with the Executive Director to set internal fiscal policies and procedures to promote the fiscal health of the Commission.

Section XII: Executive Director

- A. The Executive Director of the Commission shall serve as head of the Commission staff. Subject to the supervision of the Chairperson and pursuant to appropriate Civil Service provisions of the Los Angeles
- B. County Charter, the Executive Director of the Commission is responsible, as the administrative head of the Commission staff, for implementing and executing the policy and programs of the Commission.
- C. The Commission has the authority to request appropriate staffing infrastructure in order to fulfill its duties as required by law.

Section XIII: Duties and Functions

- A. The Commission interprets Ordinance 11409 § 3.42.110 to mean that the duties and functions of the Commission are to:
 1. Promote the health and well-being of AIAN in Los Angeles.
 2. To advocate for the development of funding resources and programs to serve urban AIANs and AIAN organizations;

3. To advocate legislation and policy favorable to urban AIANs;
4. To research, prepare, and disseminate information about AIAN affairs, including but not limited to collaboration with federal, state, and local agencies.
5. To advise and collaborate with non-Indian community organizations and private agencies working for the concerns of AIAN people.
6. To assist and coordinate collaboration among federal, state, county, and city agencies, and with AIAN agencies and organizations.
7. To foster pride among AIANs, and raise visibility of AIAN culture among Los Angeles City and County residents.
8. To educate the public about the accurate history and contemporary issues of Tribes in Los Angeles and California, and center Los Angeles Tribes and Tribal Members.
9. To engage and understand by means of conferences and public hearings conditions which affect the health and well-being of AIANs.
10. To develop recommendations to the Board of Supervisors, Mayor and City Council that address the health and well-being of AIANs in Los Angeles.
11. To advise the Board of Supervisors, the Mayor, the City Council, and the departments and agencies of these respective governments, and/or other organizations and institutions on matters involving the health and well-being of AIANs in Los Angeles.

Section XIII: Committees

A. Executive Committee

There shall be an Executive Committee consisting of four Commissioners: the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson, the Secretary, and the Treasurer. The duties of the Executive Committee shall be as follows:

1. The Executive Committee shall take action when necessary in behalf of the Commission between regular meetings of the Commission. A summary of any action taken by the Executive Committee shall be reported at the next regular meeting of the Commission. The Executive Committee shall have authority to act for the Commission between its business meetings. It may not take any action that conflicts with resolutions or acts of the Commission or these by-laws. It shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Commission and may prepare recommendations for its review and action.
2. The Executive Committee shall provide direction to the Executive Director in the conduct of the affairs of the Commission when required
3. The Executive Committee shall determine its own dates, times and places for meeting. Meetings of the Executive Committee may be called by the Chair; upon written request of three (3) of its members; or the Executive Assistant as needed.

B. Standing Committees

The Commission may establish standing committees as necessary for carrying out its business. The standing committees, other than the Executive Committee, are as follows and include but are not limited to the following responsibilities.

C. Nominations and Elections Committee

This committee will oversee the preparations for elections, conduct elections, monitor elections, create guide lines for determining eligibility of electors and candidates, and will rule on petitions of verification of Indian identity. The committee will submit its guidelines for determining Indian identity to the Commission for approval. The committee will accept nominations, and make and monitor rules and procedures for nominations. The Chairperson shall appoint the chair and members of the Nominations and Elections Committee. The members nominated by the Chairperson shall be ratified by the Commission. Members shall serve until expiration of their term of office.

D. Ad Hoc Committees

The Commission may establish ad hoc committees at its discretion, and define their area of operation and concern. Such committees may be composed of persons not holding membership on the Commission, except that the chairperson of each committee shall be a Commission member and there must be a majority of Commission members on the committee, unless approved in writing by the Executive Committee.

Section XV: Annual Report

- A. The Commission will render a report to the Board of Supervisors, the Mayor, the City Council, and American Indian Community at least once each fiscal year a report of its activities.

Section XVI: Meetings

- A. The Commission should hold regular monthly meetings on the third Tuesday of each month at such place and time as determined by the Commission, except that the Commission may change the date of the meeting at its discretion as long as at least one regular meeting is held each month. Meetings shall be scheduled at a time suitable to accommodate a regular work schedule in private industry (Monday-Friday) and regular work hours (8:00 AM to 5:00 PM), so as not to be in conflict with Commission meetings.
- B. It shall be the duty of all Commission members to attend all meetings of the Commission.
- C. If a member of the Commission shall fail to attend two (2) regular meetings, without good cause and timely notification to the Chairperson or their designee within a 12 month period, such member shall be given notice that two (2) regular meetings have been missed.
- D. If a member of the Commission shall fail to attend any three (3) regular meetings without good cause and timely notification to the Chairperson or their designee during a 12 month period, such absences shall be reported to the appointing authority by the Executive Committee, and request the appointing authority to intervene and/or replace said member, or in the case of community elected members, the Chairperson may name a replacement. The successor may be appointed by the same authority as was their predecessor to fill the balance of the term.
- E. Meetings of the Commission shall be governed by the provisions of Chapter 9 of the California Government Code, also known as the Ralph M. Brown Act, commencing at Sec. 54950 of Part I. Division 2. Title 5. All meetings of the Commission shall be open and public, and all persons shall be permitted to attend any meeting and receive notice of such meetings as provided in the Act.
- F. The Commission shall provide by resolution for the agenda, date, time and place of each regular meeting. Adequate notice in English of each regular Commission meeting shall be given to the public at least 72 business hours in advance of the meeting.

- G. Persons who are not members of the Commission may attend Commission and Commission committee meetings and will be offered a reasonable opportunity to be heard whether or not on the agenda.
- H. Special meetings may be called by the Chair or upon the request of two-thirds of current Commissioners to the Chair. In addition, the Executive Assistant may call a special meeting when necessary.
- I. Whenever possible, written notice together with the agenda for that meeting shall be provided to each Commission member so as to be received 72 business hours in advance. No other business than that on the agenda may be conducted at a special meeting.
- J. Written minutes shall be kept for each meeting of the Commission and its committees.
- K. A copy of all minutes shall be forwarded to all Commission members at least 72 business hours prior to the next regular meeting. The minutes shall be available for inspection. Translation shall be made available upon request.

Section XVII: Quorum

- A. Fifty percent plus one (50 % +1) of the non-vacant seats on the Commission shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. An official Commission meeting may not take place until this quorum is met. The approval of a majority of those present is required to pass any resolution or transact any business. If at any time the quorum is not met, official actions of the Commission cannot be made. These provisions apply to any committee or other group appointed by the Commission to assist in the conduct of its business.

Section XVIII: Proxy

- A. There shall be no proxy voting.

Section XIX: Amendments

- A. These rules may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the sitting Commission members. Notice of intention to amend the rules and copies of the proposed amendment must be provided to Commissioners 72 hours in advance of a Commission meeting, pursuant to meeting notice requirements. The Commission will review and discuss the proposed amendments during a monthly meeting. The vote on the amended changes cannot take place during the meeting where initial review and discussion takes place; the vote must take place at a subsequent meeting.

Section XX: Meeting Format and Decision-Making

- A. Meetings will be conducted in a culturally appropriate manner, using any methods the Chairperson deems effective to accomplish the work of the Commission. The Commission's voting procedures shall be conducted by Robert's Rules of Order.

Section XXI: Ethics

- A. Commissioners shall act with integrity and transparency in all matters.

- B. No member of the Commission shall make any commitment or promises by the Commission, unless first approved by the Commission nor shall any member of the Commission speak or act in the name of the Commission, unless specifically authorized by resolution of the Commission to do so.
- C. Any act on the part of a Commission member which would give the impression of a lack of unanimity of purpose, or of integrity on the part of the Commission or any member thereof shall be considered an unethical act, except as otherwise indicated herein.
- D. No member of the Commission shall divulge confidential information of the Commission to anyone until the minutes of the Commission containing such subject matters are approved.
- E. Commissioners shall comply will all requirements of the Conflict of Interest Laws in California and the County of Los Angeles.

Section XXII: Calendar

- A. For budgetary and fiscal practices the Commission utilizes the County fiscal year calendar, July 1 to June 30. For all other planning purposes, the Commission uses the calendar year.