



AGENDA & NOTICE

LOS ANGELES CITY/COUNTY
NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2024, 6:30 PM

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: 852 3828 8771
Webinar Passcode: 428536

To View Via Web:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85238288771?pwd=QXGHXIZPJ2u4TQMV5njDKwblQajzTo.1>

Webinar Passcode: 428536

To Provide Public Comment: You may submit written public comment via email to contact@lanaic.lacounty.gov. Please note "LANAIC Public Comment" in subject line. Please submit your public comment or documentation as soon as possible but no later than 5 p.m. the night before the scheduled meeting. Public comment received after this time will be added to the next regular Commission meeting.

SHAWN IMITATES DOG, Chairperson
Lakota

MARK VILLASEÑOR, Vice Chairperson
Fernandeño Tataviam

BRYCE LEWIS-SMITH, Secretary
Citizen Potawatomi Nation

DENISE ESCOTO, Treasurer
Northern Cheyenne

CAROLINE BHALLA, Commissioner
Menominee Tribe of Wisconsin

CHRISSIE CASTRO, Commissioner
Navajo

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

VIVIAN GARCIA, Commissioner
Cherokee

DAWN JACKSON, Commissioner
Saginaw Chippewa

MONA MORALES RECALDE, Commissioner
Gabrieleno Tongva

JOHN ONLY A CHIEF, Commissioner
Pawnee Nation

RUDY ORTEGA JR., Commissioner
Fernandeño Tataviam

TED TENORIO, Commissioner
Tiguan Nation

RICH TOYON, Commissioner
Acjachemen

RENE' WILLIAMS, Commissioner
Colville Tribes

ALEXANDRA VALDES
Executive Director
Tlingit/Athabascan

-
1. CALL TO ORDER
 2. INVOCATION & LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT
 3. ROLL CALL
 4. COMMISSIONER INTRODUCTIONS
 5. PUBLIC COMMENT
 6. ACTION ITEMS

**AGENDA FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
LOS ANGELES CITY/COUNTY NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN COMMISSION
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2024, 6:30 PM**

- 6.1. Adopt absentee excuses
- 6.2. Approve the September 17, 2024 Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission (LANAIC) Unapproved Meeting Minutes
- 6.3. Adopt FY25-26 Budget Request Letter to the Board of Supervisors
- 6.4. Adopt FY25-26 Budget Request Letter to LA City Mayor Karen Bass
- 6.5. Approve the LANAIC cohosting an American Indian and Alaska Native Homelessness research symposium on November 21, 2024 in partnership with the USC Homelessness Prevention Institute

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- 7.1. Discussion of draft LA City/County Native American Indian Commission FY23-24 Annual Report

8. PRESENTATIONS

- 8.1. *LA Metro Commemorative Tap Card, Native American Heritage Month*, Tina Backstrom (Senior Director of Transportation; Mayor Karen Bass Office of Infrastructure), Kidada Malloy (Transportation Policy Manager; Mayor Karen Bass, Office of Infrastructure) and Samuel Harper (Senior Manager of Civil Rights Programs, Diversity & Inclusion; LA Metro Office of Civil Rights, Racial Equity & Inclusion)

9. CHAIR'S REPORT

- 9.1 General Updates
- 9.2 LANAIC Response to Report Back on Proclaiming Native 2023 Native American Heritage Month and Investing in American Indian and Alaskan Native Communities
- 9.3 Establish a Bylaws Ad Hoc and appoint members

10. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- 10.1 General Updates

11. COMMITTEE & AD-HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 11.1 Executive Committee
- 11.2 Self Governance Board
- 11.3 Homelessness Committee
- 11.4 2024 Native American Heritage Month Ad Hoc Committee

12. COMMISSIONER GENERAL COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

13. ANNOUNCEMENTS/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

14. COMMISSION ADJOURNMENT

Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 19, 2024 from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm
Location: Hall of Administration, Room 372, 500 W. Temple Street, LA, CA 90012

Meetings are held in English. If interpretation in other languages or accommodations for persons with disabilities are needed, please contact the Commission at 213-738-3241 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) 738-3241

Approved:

A handwritten signature in blue ink on a yellow rectangular background. The signature appears to read "Shawn Imitates Dog".

Chairperson Shawn Imitates Dog



LOS ANGELES CITY/COUNTY NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN COMMISSION UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 17, 2024

The September 17, 2024, meeting Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission (LANAIC) was at County of Los Angeles Hall of Administration, Sybil Brand Room 372, 500 W. Temple Street, Los Angeles, California, 90012.

Call to Order & Land Acknowledgement

Chairperson Shawn Imitates Dog called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. and read the Los Angeles County Land Acknowledgment.

Invocation

Commissioner Ted Tenorio provided an invocation.

Roll Call

Heather Rigby shared that Commissioner Dr. Andrea Garcia is joining virtually under the Just Cause exemption of AB 2449.

Present: Chairperson Shawn Imitates Dog
Vice Chairperson Mark Villaseñor
Treasurer Denise Escoto
Chrissie Castro
Dr. Andrea Garcia
Vivian Garcia
Bryce Lewis-Smith
John Only A Chief
Ted Tenorio
Rene' Williams

Absent: Caroline Bhalla (Excused)
Dawn Jackson (Excused)
Mona Morales Recalde (Excused)
Rudy Ortega Jr. (Excused)
Rich Toyon (Excused)

Staff: Alexandra Valdes, LANAIC Executive Director (Virtually)
Heather Rigby, Chief Deputy Department of Arts and Culture
Megan Moret, Board Liaison & Special Assistant Department of Arts and Culture

Quorum was met.

Commissioner & Staff Introductions

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



**LOS ANGELES CITY/COUNTY NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN COMMISSION
UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 17, 2024**

Public Comment

Tenchá Chavez, the LANAIC Alternate Designee on the Care First Community Investment Advisory Body, provided information about the Thursday, September 19, 2024 CFCI Advisory Body meeting at Magic Johnson Park. At the meeting the CFCI Advisory Body will be voting on recommendations for how the Board of Supervisors should budget the next 12 million dollars in CFCI. She encouraged Commissioners to attend the meeting gradually or in person and shared that she would send Alexandra the meeting flyer.

No items of correspondence were provided.

Action Items

6.1 Adopt absentee excuses

A motion was made by Vice Chairperson Villasenor and seconded by Commissioner Rene' Williams to adopt Commissioners Bhalla, Jackson, Morales Recalde, Ortega Jr., and Toyon's absentee excuses for the September 17, 2024 meeting. The motion passed.

YES	Imitates Dog, Villasenor, Escoto, A. Garcia, V. Garcia, Castro Lewis-Smith, Only A Chief, Tenorio, Williams
NO	
ABSTAIN	
ABSENT	Bhalla, Jackson, Morales Recalde, Ortega Jr., Toyon

6.2 Approve the August 20, 2024 Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission (LANAIC) Unapproved Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Andrea Garcia and seconded by Commissioner Williams to approve the unapproved August 20, 2024 LANAIC Meeting Minutes with the following revisions:

- In section 10.2 Homelessness Committee edit Housing Policy Summit to Homelessness Policy Research Institute Symposium.
- In section 7.1. Discussion on the July 16, 2024 Presentation on the Report Back on Proclaiming November 2023 as Native American Heritage Month and Investing in American Indian and Alaska Native Communities add "Commissioner John Only A Chief suggested inviting Board of Supervisors to LANAIC meetings over the next year or schedule every 3 months and Chair Imitates Dog suggested first inviting Board Chair Horvath."



**LOS ANGELES CITY/COUNTY NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN COMMISSION
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The motion passed.

YES	Imitates Dog, Villasenor, Escoto, A. Garcia, V. Garcia, Castro Lewis-Smith, Only A Chief, Tenorio, Williams
NO	
ABSTAIN	
ABSENT	Bhalla, Jackson, Morales Recalde, Ortega Jr., Toyon

6.3 Select a Secretary to fill the current vacancy and serve until January 19, 2026

A roll call vote was taken and Commissioner Bryce Lewis-Smith was selected to serve as the Secretary until January 19, 2026.

	Bryce Lewis-Smith	Mona Morales Recalde	Abstain	Absent
Imitates-Dog		X		
Villasenor		X		
Escoto		X		
Bhalla				X
Castro	X			
A. Garcia	X			
V. Garcia	X			
Jackson				X
Lewis-Smith	X			
Morales-Recalde				X
Only A Chief		X		
Ortega Jr.				X
Tenorio	X			
Toyon				X
Williams	X			



**LOS ANGELES CITY/COUNTY NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN COMMISSION
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6.4 Approve letter to Supervisor Hilda Solis requesting free access for Native American residents to County parks and museums during 2024 Native American Heritage Month

A motion was made by Chair Imitates Dog and seconded by Treasurer Escoto to approve a letter to Supervisor Hilda Solis requesting free access for Native American residents to County parks and museums during 2024 Native American Heritage Month.

The motion passed.

YES	Imitates Dog, Villasenor, Escoto, A. Garcia, V. Garcia, Castro Lewis-Smith, Only A Chief, Tenorio, Williams
NO	
ABSTAIN	
ABSENT	Bhalla, Jackson, Morales Recalde, Ortega Jr., Toyon

Discussion Items

7.1. Discussion of draft letter to Board of Supervisors objecting to the findings of the Report Back on Proclaiming November 2023 as Native American Heritage Month and Investing in American Indian and Alaska Native Communities (Item No. 8, Agenda of November 7, 2023)

Chairperson Imitates Dog facilitated a discussion and invited Commissioners to provide edits to the draft letter that he and Commissioners Castro, Jackson and Ortega Jr. drafted. Commissioner Castro shared that the letter was broad but named support for a County Office of Tribal Affairs Office and opposition to reconstituting the Commission.

Commissioner comments and suggested edits included that the letter did not include mention of the changes to the LANAIC since joining the Department of Arts and Culture, the desire to include explicit language about the need for LA City and LA County to renegotiate the outdated MOU, questions around the use of self-determination and self-governance and its implications, the need to clarify what an Indian 101 training is and the need to be bolder in the ask to the County for required trainings.

Heather Rigby shared that County Counsel reviewed the draft letter as is standard practice, and that Counsel noted that referencing the LANAIC as a self-governing body is inaccurate because it was established by the Board of Supervisors and so is subject to County policy and governance. Heather Rigby also shared County Counsel's recommendation to change the language regarding LANAIC's right to self-governance, to instead request meaningful



LOS ANGELES CITY/COUNTY NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN COMMISSION UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 17, 2024

consultation with the County, which would be more accurate. She also acknowledged the LANAIC could accept or decline such recommendation.

Commissioners discussed that, historically, since they have had their own bylaws that County Counsel reviewed, that they have been operating with the assumption of self-governance and determining their own rules of procedure. Commissioners discussed solutions including the body advocating to the Board to codify the tripartite nature of the LANAIC or seek to be established as a joint powers authority.

Kim Ortega, Communications Deputy with the Office of Supervisor Solis, shared that she is excited to receive the letter and reiterated that her Office had no intention of dismantling the Commission. She shared that the County had been proactive about engaging with City regarding updating the MOU however the City has been nonresponsive.

The discussion concluded with Chair Imitates Dog noting that the letter would be edited and that the Executive Committee would hold a meeting to approve the final draft letter to ensure it is submitted to the Board of Supervisors as soon as possible.

7.2. Discuss the LANAIC co-hosting an American Indian and Alaska Native Homelessness research symposium on November 21, 2024 in partnership with the USC Homelessness Prevention Institute

Commissioner Dr. Andrea Garcia shared that the USC Homelessness Prevention Institute wrote a report for the LANAIC in past about data on homelessness. She shared that the Institute offered to host a symposium and provide the virtual platform and marketing.

Commissioner Garcia shared that the purpose of this agenda item is to ensure the intention of the proposed partnership and virtual symposium is clear. Chair Imitates Dog shared that next steps would be to formalize the partnership via an action item at the October meeting,

7.3 Discussion of draft FY25-26 Budget Request Letter to the Board of Supervisors

The LANAIC discussed the draft letter and requested that Alexandra add language to the letter requesting that the BOS allocate funding to develop a mandated Countywide training to increase the understanding of the County workforce about the AIAN community. Alexandra confirmed she would add that language and that the final draft letter will be included in the October agenda as an action item.

7.4 Discussion of draft FY25-26 Budget Request Letter to LA City Mayor Karen Bass

The LANAIC discussed the draft letter and requested that Alexandra add language to the letter requesting that the Mayor allocate funding for a full time employee within LA City dedicated to supporting the LANAIC, increase the City's annual contribution to the LANAIC and dedicate ongoing funding for Native American Heritage Month and Indigenous Peoples' Day. Alexandra



LOS ANGELES CITY/COUNTY NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN COMMISSION UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 17, 2024

confirmed she would add that language and that the final draft letter will be included in the October agenda as an action item.

Presentations

8.1 Overview of Community Programs, LA Health Services – Housing for Health, Office of Diversion and Re-Entry and Harm Reduction Division (Angel Martinez, Jeanette Ban West, Jessica Reyes, Jocelyn Vilchez)

Angel Martinez, Jeanette Ban West, Jessica Reyes and Jocelyn Vilchez from the LA County Department of Health Services provided a 10 minute presentation on the projects and initiatives within the Housing for Health, Office of Diversion and Re-Entry and Harm Reduction Division.

Chair's Report

9.1 General Updates

Chair Imitates Dog expressed gratitude to Commissioner Chrissie Castro for the time and energy she put into drafting the letter to the Board (Item 7.1).

Committee & Ad-Hoc Committee Reports

10.1 Self Governance Board

Alexandra Valdes shared a report out on behalf of SGB Chair Dawn Jackson. She shared that an order had been made for custom LANAIC and LANAIC SGB table clothes to be utilized at community events including upcoming events where the SGB will be disseminating the [Community Services Block Grant Community Needs Assessment survey](#).

10.2 Homelessness Committee

No report was provided.

10.3 2024 Native American Heritage Month Ad-hoc Committee

Chair Imitates Dog shared that there will be a presentation in LA City Hall Council Chambers on November 1, 2024 hosted by Councilwoman Monica Rodriguez. He shared that the 2024 NAHM Ad Hoc is still working to secure a space to host a reception and that he reached back out to Sean Starkey with CD7 about the allowability of using the City Hall Forecourt if food is provided via food trucks across the street.

10.4 FY23-24 Annual Report Ad Hoc Committee

Alexandra shared that the purpose of the Committee was to draft content of the Commission's achievements in FY23-24. Committee Chair Castro asked Alexandra to draft the report as she had in previous years and suggested utilizing LANAIC meeting minutes as a reference of work



LOS ANGELES CITY/COUNTY NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN COMMISSION UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 17, 2024

completed. Alexandra shared she would include a draft report for discussion at the October agenda.

10.5 Legislative Agenda Ad Hoc

No report was provided. Commissioner Castro inquired when this ad hoc and the Annual Report ad hoc would sunset. Alexandra shared she would check her records and report back to the body in October.

Commissioner General Comments on Non-Agenda Items

Chair Imitates Dog shared that he would like the body to consider holding meetings at different community spaces. He shared that in the past a lot of LANAIC meetings were held at other agencies and moved around. Commissioner Castro supported the idea. Chair Imitates Dog shared that the Hall of Administration was not accessible for the community and suggested holding meetings at the Autry Museum of the West.

Commissioner Castro shared that she received an email from Department of Arts and Culture regarding LA Regional convenings on the Olympics. Heather Rigby shared about the email is about multi-part series of convenings related to the Olympics that the Department of Arts and Culture is helping to coordinate with LA Commons, CARs, LA City and LA28. She confirmed that all LANAIC commissioners should have received the email referenced by Commissioner Castro for the convening on September 30.

Announcements/Future Agenda Items

Commissioner Williams shared that California Native Vote Project will be hosting the Skoden Music event on October 26 and that she will send out more information once it is finalized.

Commission Adjournment

Chairperson Imitates Dog shared that the next meeting of the LANAIC will be Tuesday, October 15, 2024 from 6:30 pm at the Sybil Brand Room 327 in the Hall of Administration. He adjourned the meeting at 8:05 PM in honor of Glenda Ahhaitty.



LOS ANGELES CITY/COUNTY NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN COMMISSION

Chairperson
SHAWN IMITATES-DOG
Lakota

Vice Chairperson
MARK VILLASEÑOR
Fernandeño Tataviam

Secretary
BRYCE LEWIS-SMITH
Citizen Potawatomi Nation

Treasurer
DENISE ESCOTO
Northern Cheyenne

CAROLINE BHALLA
Menominee Tribe of Wisconsin

CHRISSIE CASTRO
Navajo

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

VIVIAN GARCIA
Cherokee

DAWN JACKSON
Saginaw Chippewa

MONA MORALES RECALDE
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JOHN ONLY A CHIEF
Pawnee Nation

RUDY ORTEGA JR.
Fernandeño Tataviam

TED TENORIO
Tiguan Nation

RICH TOYON
Acjachemen

RENE' WILLIAMS
Colville Tribes

ALEXANDRA VALDES
Executive Director

October 15, 2024

Honorable (Insert Supervisor's Name)
Supervisor, (Insert Number) District
500 W Temple St
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisor (Insert Name),

I am sending this budget request letter on behalf of the Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission (Commission). We appreciate the opportunity to formalize our budget requests for the County of Los Angeles' FY25-26 budget.

At the May 18, 2021 Commission meeting the body adopted a resolution recommending that the County create an Office of Tribal Affairs. The need for this type of office has been uplifted by local tribal leaders and members of the AIAN community in numerous County-led processes. We request that the Board allocates funding for the creation of this critical office.

On September 20, 2023 the Commission transmitted letters to you and your colleagues on the Board of Supervisor's requesting a sustainability plan to build on the great work of the "Identifying, Supporting, and Serving American Indians and Alaska Natives Who Are at Risk of or Experiencing Homelessness" Board Motion (October 2019). The Commission also uplifted this request in our FY24-25 budget request letter submitted on October 17, 2023. Unfortunately, this critical work remains unfunded. We respectfully request that you support funding in the FY25-26 budget for a dedicated position within CEO Homelessness Initiative to ensure that the County of Los Angeles continues to prioritize fighting American Indian and Alaska Native homelessness.

At the direction of the Board in 2021 we collaborated with the Department of Human Resources to develop a 2 part *DIALOGUE* event focused on building the awareness and understanding of the American Indian and Alaska Native population by the County workforce. While these webinars were highly attended and effective we believe a Countywide mandated training focused on building the understanding of the County's workforce on unique history and issues facing Native American people in Los Angeles would have a far greater impact. We request that the Board allocates funding and directs CEO to procure the training.

At the May 21, 2024 Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission (LANAIC) meeting the Commission unanimously adopted a letter requesting that that the County of Department of Arts and Culture

allocate funding and qualified resources to support the development of a new website for the LANAIC. The LANAIC website is a key communication tool with and the American Indian and Alaska Native (AIAN) community and public, plays a pivotal role in disseminating information, sharing County and Commission services and events, and highlighting Commission accomplishments. The outdated design and functionality of our current website hinders our ability to effectively communicate with and engage AIAN community members. We request that the Board allocates funding for the Commission to develop a new website.

Thank you for considering the Commission's FY25-26 budget requests.

Sincerely,

Shawn Imitates Dog, Chairperson
Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission



LOS ANGELES CITY/COUNTY NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN COMMISSION

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RICH TOYON
Acjachemen

RENE' WILLIAMS
Colville Tribes

ALEXANDRA VALDES
Executive Director

October 15, 2024

Mayor Karen Bass
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Mayor Bass,

I am sending this budget request letter on behalf of the Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission (LANAIC). We appreciate the opportunity to formalize our budget requests for LA City's FY25-26 budget.

On September 20, 2023 the LANAIC transmitted a letter to you, as well as to the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors, requesting a funding plan to build on the great work of the "Identifying, Supporting, and Serving American Indians and Alaska Natives Who Are at Risk of or Experiencing Homelessness" County Board Motion (October 2019). The LANAIC also uplifted this request in our FY24-25 budget request letter submitted to you on October 17, 2023. Unfortunately, this critical work remains unfunded. We respectfully request that you support funding in the FY25-26 budget to fund, in partnership with the County, a dedicated position within the LA County CEO Homelessness Initiative to ensure that LA City prioritizes fighting American Indian and Alaska Native homelessness.

As shared at our meeting with you on September 19, 2023 and recommended in our FY23-24 budget request letter to you transmitted on October 17, 2023, the work of the LANAIC and its ability to support and advise the City would be greatly improved by the creation of a full-time dedicated City staff position. Currently the LANAIC has two FTE positions, both of which are County positions. We request that you support funding in the FY25-26 budget for an FTE placed within a City department. Additionally, the City's annual contribution to the LANAIC, \$47,000, has remained stagnant for many years. We respectfully ask for an increase in the annual contribution of the City to the LANAIC, as well as participation from your office in renegotiating the MOU between the City and County from the 80s.

Each year \$13,000 of funding is included in the City's budget for the Department of Cultural Affairs to support Native American Heritage Month. Historically, this funding was used to support a reception at City Hall this year however the funding was aligned with the way DCA supports four other heritage months. The annual City Hall NAHM reception has become a beloved community event. We

request ongoing funding to support a NAHM reception. Additionally, given LA City's role in the establishment of Indigenous People's Day (IPD), and former Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell's role in producing large scale IPD events, we think it is important for the Mayor's Office to support an ongoing IPD budgetary line item in the City's budget akin to the dedicated funding for heritage months

Thank you for considering the LANAIC's FY25-26 budget requests.

Sincerely,

Shawn Imitates Dog, Chairperson
Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission

FY2023-2024 Annual Report

DRAFT



Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission
500 W. Temple Street, B-79-2
Los Angeles, CA 90012
LANAIC.lacounty.gov | (213) 738-3241

The County of Los Angeles recognizes that we occupy land originally and still inhabited and cared for by the Tongva, Tataviam, Serrano, Kizh, and Chumash Peoples. We honor and pay respect to their elders and descendants — past, present, and emerging — as they continue their stewardship of these lands and waters. We acknowledge that settler colonization resulted in land seizure, disease, subjugation, slavery, relocation, broken promises, genocide, and multigenerational trauma. This acknowledgment demonstrates our responsibility and commitment to truth, healing, and reconciliation and to elevating the stories, culture, and community of the original inhabitants of Los Angeles County. We are grateful to have the opportunity to live and work on these ancestral lands. We are dedicated to growing and sustaining relationships with Native peoples and local tribal governments, including (in no particular order) the

Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians

Gabrielino Tongva Indians of California Tribal Council

Gabrieleno/Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians

Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation

San Manuel Band of Mission Indians

San Fernando Band of Mission Indians

LANAIC Roster (2024)

Chairperson Shawn Imitates-Dog, Lakota, Community Elected
Vice Chairperson Mark Villasenor, Fernandño Tataviam, Mayoral Appointee
Secretary Bryce Lewis-Smith, Citizen Potawatomi Nation, Mayoral Appointee (June 17, 2024-Present)
Treasurer Denise Escoto, Northern Cheyenne, Community Elected
Caroline Bhalla, Menominee Tribe of Wisconsin, Second Supervisorial District Appointee (February 20, 2024-Present)
Chrissie Castro, Navajo, Mayoral Appointee
Andrea N. Garcia, M.D., Mandan, Hidatsa, Arikara, Mayoral Appointee
Vivian Garcia, Cherokee, Mayoral Appointee (June 17, 2024-Present)
Dawn Jackson, Saginaw Chippewa, Community Elected
Mona Morales Recalde, Gabrieleno Tongva, Community Elected
John Only A Chief, Pawnee Nation, Community Elected
Rudy Ortega Jr., Fernandño Tataviam, Third Supervisorial District Appointee
Ted Tenorio, Tiguana Nation, First Supervisorial District Appointee
Rich Toyon, Acjachemen, Fifth District Appointee
Rene' Williams, Colville Tribes, Fourth Supervisorial District Appointee

LANAIC Roster (2023)

Chairperson Cheri Thomas, Quinault/Yurok, Second Supervisorial District Appointee
Vice Chairperson Chrissie Castro, Navajo, Mayoral Appointee
Secretary Rene' Williams, Colville Tribes, Fourth Supervisorial District Appointee
Treasurer Shawn Imitates-Dog, Lakota, Community Elected
Andrea N. Garcia, M.D., Mandan, Hidatsa, Arikara, Mayoral Appointee
Denise Escoto, Northern Cheyenne, Community Elected
Dawn Jackson, Saginaw Chippewa, Community Elected
Mona Morales Recalde, Gabrieleno Tongva, Community Elected
Randall Murphy, Choctaw/Lakota, Mayoral Appointee (January 1, 2023-April 1, 2023)
John Only A Chief, Pawnee Nation, Community Elected
Rudy Ortega Jr., Fernandño Tataviam, Third Supervisorial District Appointee
Joseph Quintana, Kewa Pueblo, Mayoral Appointee (January 1, 2023 – April 17, 2023)
Ted Tenorio, Tiguana Nation, First Supervisorial District Appointee
Rich Toyon, Acjachemen, Fifth District Appointee
Mark Villasenor, Fernandño Tataviam, Mayoral Appointee
Audra Wise, Zia Pueblo/Laguna Pueblo, (April 25, 2023 – Present)

Staff

Alexandra Valdes, Executive Director

Mission Statement

The primary purpose of the Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission (LANAIC) is to improve the health and well-being of the Los Angeles American Indian and Alaska Native (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.

Duties & Responsibilities

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-AIAN 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.

Historical Background

On June 25, 1976, Los Angeles County Supervisor Kenneth Hahn and City of Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley signed an ordinance establishing the Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission (LANAIC) at the Los Angeles Civic Mall, which is now Grand Park. The establishment of the LANAIC came at the advocacy efforts of the City and County's American Indian and Alaska Native (AIAN) communities. For over 45 years, the LANAIC has uplifted and advocated for the concerns and needs of the AIAN community, the largest of any county in the U.S. The LANAIC is comprised of five members appointed by the LA County Board of Supervisors, five appointed by the Mayor of the City of Los Angeles, and five elected by Los Angeles County's AIAN community through elections held every 4 years by the LANAIC.

In the early 1990s the Board of Supervisors established the LANAIC's Self Governance Board (LANAIC SGB). The LANAIC SGB is an eight member body that advises and supports the Board of Supervisors administering the Community Services Block Grant Native American Set-aside (CSAIBG) program. CSAIBG funding is contracted to subrecipient agencies to provide critical poverty alleviating services to AIAN individuals and families living at or below 200% Federal Poverty Line. In 2021 the CSAIBG dollars were successfully leveraged to secure \$500,000 in annual FY 21-22, FY 22-23 and FY 23-24 County Care First Community Investment funding to address homelessness and housing insecurity experienced by the AIAN population. In addition to administering two programs that provide direct services to LAC residents, the work of the LANAIC has expanded to meet the evolving directives and priorities of the Board of Supervisors and City of LA's Mayor and City Council.

Since 1976 the LANAIC and the LANAIC SGB have worked on a variety of projects and achieved many accomplishments. Below are some of the significant past accomplishments of the two bodies in chronological order:

June 20, 1977 – The LANAIC supported the creation of the Indian Health Services Liaison Officer in the County Department of Health Services.

March 6, 1988 – Steven L. A. Stallings, Chairperson of the LANAIC was quoted in the Los Angeles Times' article, "Back to Their Roots for Retirement: Aging Indians Finding They Can Go Home Again".

1993 – The LANAIC SGB, in partnership with the County Board of Supervisors, became an eligible Community Action Agency (CAA) and began receiving and administering Community Service Block Grant Native American set aside funds (CSAIBG).

April 15, 2002 – The LANAIC supported AB-2115, a bill to ban all Native American mascots from public schools in California.

June 9, 2004 - The LANAIC supported AB-858 California Racial Mascots Act: athletic team names and mascots.

September 30, 2004 – The LANAIC supported SB-18 Traditional tribal cultural places.

2006 – The City of Los Angeles established November as American Indian Heritage Month and began partnering with the LANAIC to develop programming for the month.

2009 to 2021– The LANAIC partnered with San Manuel Band of Mission Indians to provide tickets for Native youth and their families to attend professional sports Native American Heritage Appreciation Nights.

March 2012 – The LANAIC discovered that Native youth were being administered psychotropic medication while in foster care without the knowledge of their tribe or relatives and successfully fought to stop the practice in Los Angeles County. The LANAIC then worked with national Native organizations to have the Psychotropic Medication to American Indian Youth amendment added to the Indian Child Welfare Act.

2012 – 2016 – The LANAIC in partnership with UCLA's American Indian Studies Center, the California Wellness Foundation, and the American Indian Community Council (AICC) developed a series of policy briefs that analyzed and reported on 2010 US Census data. These policy briefs built upon this past work and included a comparative study of Los Angeles AIAN population trends. All four of the policy briefs addressed the Status of AIAN in Los Angeles, analyzing (1) population changes; (2) economic indicators post-Great Recession; (3) health insurance coverage; and (4) labor. The LANAIC hosted the Urban Indian Roundtable to discuss the findings of the policy briefs.

November 2014 – The LANAIC was heavily involved in the White House Initiative on American Indian and Alaska Native Education (WHIAIANE) – the first-ever school environment listening tour.

2015 – The LANAIC advocated against the sainthood of Junipero Serra.

November 13, 2015 – The City of Los Angeles Arts, Parks, and River Committee passed Indigenous Peoples Day (Motion File No. 15-1343)

November 13, 2015 – The City of Los Angeles Arts, Parks, and River Committee passed the Native American Locations/Report on History and Cultural Impact (Motion File No. 15-1341)

September 2016 – The LANAIC helped organize the community in support of the Los Angeles City Council motion to stand with the Standing Rock Sioux Nation and against the Dakota Access Pipeline project. The LANAIC actively worked with and supported the Oglala and Sicangu Lakota, and other successful efforts to convince then President Obama of the Pipeline's dangers.

October 5, 2016 – With the strong urging and vocal support of the LANAIC, including testifying at several meetings, the County of Los Angeles Commission on Human Relations voted to replace Columbus Day with Indigenous Peoples Day.

November 2016 - The LANAIC hosted the First Annual LANAIC Pow Wow at Grand Park.

August 30, 2017– With the strong urging and vocal support of the LANAIC, including testifying at several hearings, the Los Angeles City Council passed a motion creating Indigenous Peoples Day as an official City holiday, to be observed on the second Monday of each October.

October 3, 2017 – With the strong urging and vocal support of the LANAIC, including testifying at several hearings, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors passed a motion removing Columbus Day as an official County holiday and replacing it with Indigenous Peoples Day.

November 2017 - The LANAIC hosted the 2nd Annual LANAIC Pow Wow at Grand Park.

September 25, 2018 - The LANAIC hosted the Community Forum on Native American Homelessness at the California Endowment.

October 8, 2018 - The City and County of Los Angeles celebrated the inaugural Indigenous Peoples Day (IPD) as a recognized City and County holiday in Los Angeles replacing Columbus Day. The LANAIC in partnership with Council Member Mitch O'Farrell planned, coordinated, and executed the inaugural celebration at Grand Park and City Hall.

November 10, 2018 – The Columbus statue located in Grand Park was removed. The removal of the statue was the result of sustained action by the Los Angeles City and County's Native American and Indigenous communities.

November 17, 2018 - The LANAIC hosted the 3rd Annual LANAIC Pow Wow at Grand Park.

December 2018 – The LANAIC conducted key informant interviews with community members with lived homeless experience.

Spring 2019 - The LANAIC SGB collaborated with the Urban Indian Health Institute (UIHI) to develop and administer two community needs assessment survey tools for Los Angeles County's AIAN community and service providers.

March 9, 2019 – The LANAIC co-sponsored the Center for Health Equity's American Indian and Alaska Native Community in Focus event on March 9, 2019 at the California State Long Beach University.

March 14, 2019 - In partnership with several community-based and local government organizations the LANAIC released a preliminary report entitled Understanding Native American Homelessness in Los Angeles.

March 2019 – The LANAIC launched the AIAN Homelessness Portal on the LANAIC website.

May 13, 2019 - The LANAIC co-sponsored LA County Chief Sustainability Office's Tribal & Indigenous Communities Feedback Session.

June 1, 2019 - The LANAIC co-sponsored the LA River Master Plan's Native American Community Discussion.

October 13, 2019 – The LANAIC, in partnership with Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell planned, coordinated, and executed the Second Annual Indigenous Peoples Day celebration at Grand Park and LA City Hall. The annual event was an opportunity to uplift the true history of the Los Angeles Basin and push back against the erasure of Indigenous Peoples, including AIAN peoples.

November 2019 – In partnership with the Office of Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell, the LANAIC produced the 3rd Annual Native American Heritage Month Bridge Gallery. The 2019 gallery featured eight professional LA based community artists from tribes including Kumeyaay, Apache, Ojibwe, Tejon and Chehallis. Commissioner and artist Dawn Jackson curated the event.

November 1, 2019 – The LANAIC and Councilmember O'Farrell jointly recognized the 2019 Native American Heritage Month honorees at Los Angeles City Hall:

- Spirit of Tradition Saginaw Grant (Sac and Fox Nation)
- Spirit of Creativity Randy Reinholz (Choctaw)
- Spirit of Community Omerlene Thompson (Gila River)

November 5, 2019 – The County Board of Supervisors honored the 2019 NAHM honorees in a presentation given by Supervisor Solis in the Board Room.

November 16, 2019 – The LANAIC hosted the 4th Annual LANAIC Pow Wow at Grand Park.

January 2020 – LANAIC Homelessness Ad hoc Committee Chair Commissioner Dr. Andrea Garcia presented on the LANAIC's homelessness work at a workshop at the National Alliance to End Homelessness (NAEH) conference.

March 23, 2020 – In partnership with several AIAN community-based organizations, the LANAIC hosted a community webinar on COVID-19 that was livestreamed to Facebook. As a result of this positive effort, participating organizations expressed an interest to continue to meet in order to work in coordination throughout the duration of the pandemic. As a result, the LANAIC created the ad hoc committee Natives in LA COVID Response Working Group.

March 23, 2020 – The Natives in LA COVID Response Working Group began meeting every other week throughout the pandemic and through a collective effort has supported LAC's AIAN community in many ways, including food and essential items distributions, a video PSA, culturally supportive educational resources, advocacy efforts, two pop vaccine events and numerous partnerships and linkages to resources.

April 2020 – The LANAIC created and launched a COVID Resources page on the LANAIC website (<https://lanaic.lacounty.gov/covid-19-resources/>). The page shares resources broken down by offerings at AIAN Community Based Organizations (CBOs), Housing & Utilities, Education & Childcare, Health & Mental Health, Employees & Employers, and Food.

April 13, 2020 - The LANAIC submitted a letter of support to the Board of Supervisors for the Ensuring Collection of Full Racial and Ethnic Data of COVID-19 Patients throughout Los Angeles County Board Motion. Included in the letter was a set of recommendations advocating for proper data collection for the AIAN community to ensure the disparate effects that COVID-19 was having on the AIAN community were accurately captured. The LANAIC's letter of support and set of recommendations were referenced and included in the Department of Public Health's report back to the Board entitled Report on LA County COVID-19 Data Disaggregated by Race and Ethnicity.

June 2020 – LANAIC Homelessness Ad hoc Committee Chair Commissioner Dr. Andrea Garcia presented on the LANAIC's homelessness work at a webinar presentation in conjunction with the National Alliance to End Homelessness (NAEH) and the National Coalition to End Urban Indigenous Homelessness.

July 2020 – FNX, First Nations Experience, aired the AIAN COVID PSA that the LANAIC and Natives in LA COVID Response Working Group produced.

August 2020 – KABC7 aired the AIAN COVID PSA that the LANAIC and Natives in LA COVID Response Working Group produced.

August 18, 2020 - In partnership with the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health, LA City Mayor's Office and Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell the LANAIC hosted the Native American Connections Webinar. The webinar was an opportunity for community members and City and County officials to learn from Native American Connections (NAC) and the ways in which they work with their local Continuum of Care.

September 25, 2020 - In partnership with Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health, LA City Mayor's Office and Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell, the LANAIC hosted the second Native American housing webinar. This webinar served as an opportunity for community members and City and County officials to learn from Chief Seattle Club and the ways in which they have developed culturally supportive housing in Seattle, WA.

October 10, 2020 - In observance of Indigenous Peoples Day 2020 the LANAIC partnered with the LA County Library and the LA County Department of Arts & Culture to host a virtual reading and discussion of Waa'aka': The Bird Who Fell in Love with the Sun with author Cindi Alvitre (Tongva) and illustrator Carly Lake.

October 12, 2020 - The LANAIC hosted a virtual Indigenous Peoples Day Celebration. The virtual event featured remarks from Chairwoman Chrissie Castro (Navajo) and LA City Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell (Wyandotte), a land acknowledgement from Julia Bogany (Tongva), a Tataviam welcome song from Vice Chairperson Rudy Ortega Jr.

and his son Noe, presentations from Marcos Aguilar (Masewalli Mexicano), Commissioner Dr. Andrea Garcia (Mandan, Hidatsa, Arikara) and Asena Filihia (Tongan) and a musical performance by singer Kelly Caballero (Tongva).

November 2020 – The LANAIC, the Board of Supervisors and LA City Councilmember O’Farrell jointly recognized the 2020 Native American Heritage Month honorees during a virtual ceremony streamed to Facebook on November 7, 2020. The ceremony was part of a larger NAHM 2-part virtual program. The second virtual was streamed live to Facebook on November 21, 2020.

- Julia Bogany (Tongva) - Spirit of Tradition
- Bird Runningwater (Cheyenne and Mescalero Apache) - Spirit of Creativity
- Keith Vielle (Blackfeet) - Spirit of Community

November 21, 2020 – January 4, 2021 - Tongva artist Mercedes Dorame created a temporary art installation in Grand Park, to coincide with the programming of Memory is in the Present, a program supported by the LANAIC and Department of Arts & Culture partnership. The artwork was available for viewing from November 21, 2020 – January 4, 2021 and was located in the second block of the park between Grand Ave and Hill Street.

Spring 2021 - The Executive Director of the LANAIC and the LANAIC SGB submitted a proposal for Measure J funding to enhance and expand housing insecurity and homelessness services provided through the Community Services Block Grant Native American Set-Aside (CSAIBG) funds program. As a result of strong community advocacy, the proposal for \$500,000 was included in the Measure J Re-Imagine LA Advisory Committee: Spending Plan Recommendations for Year One (Fiscal Year 2021-2022).

May 1, 2021 – The LANAIC and Natives in LA COVID Response Working Group partnered with Kedren Health Centers and Supervisor Solis to host the first of two pop-up vaccine events at LA State Historic Park. The events were targeted at LAC’s AIAN and Indigenous communities and provided a safe and supportive environment to receive a COVID vaccination. Food boxes, diapers, wipes and other items were distributed at the event as well. Two local Native artists performed during the event.

May 29, 2021 – The LANAIC and Natives in LA COVID Response Working Group partnered with Kedren Health Centers and Supervisor Solis to host the second of two pop-up vaccine events at LA State Historic Park. The events were targeted at LAC’s AIAN and Indigenous communities and provided a safe and supportive environment to receive a COVID vaccination. Food boxes, diapers, wipes and other items were distributed at the event as well.

October 5, 2021 – The Board of Supervisors adopted the Indigenous Peoples Day 2021 - Development of Land Acknowledgement and Land Access Policies motion. The motion secured funding to support the participation, knowledge, and emotional and mental labor of tribal participants throughout a process to develop a Countywide land acknowledgment policy, protocol and toolkit and document harms inflicted by the County on local tribes and people. The funding also supported the hiring of a facilitator and project management team. The LANAIC in partnership with the Department of Arts & Culture ran a competitive RFP process to procure a consultant team. The County entered into an agreement with a consultant on February 3, 2022, to facilitate engagement with tribal leaders and members of the AIAN community to complete this work.

October 2021 – The LANAIC collaborated with LA County Library's Cultural Resources Centers (American Indian, Asian Pacific, Black, and Chicano) and Pride Committee to develop Indigenous Peoples' Day booklists for the education and enjoyment of LAC residents. The intent of the 4 booklists (Kids, Teens, Adults & Adults with a focus on California Native Peoples) was to encourage people to consider and rethink their assumptions about Indigenous history and literature and remind them about the power of story to create social and personal change (Celebrate Indigenous Peoples Day – LA County Library).

October 14, 2021 & January 26, 2022 - In June 2021 the Board of Supervisors unanimously adopted the Proclaim June 25, 2021, As the 45th Anniversary of the Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission and Envision the Commission's Future motion. The motion directed the LANAIC to work with DHR to develop a multi-part DIALOGUE series to increase awareness and understanding of County employees of the LAC AIAN population.

The LANAIC Executive Director produced the following two events that were video recorded and are available to all County staff via LearningNet: Combating Erasure: A Conversation with Native American Leaders (October 14, 2021) and Understanding the Indian Child Welfare Act (January 26, 2022).

November 2021 - In 2021 the LANAIC selected three NAHM honorees on behalf of the City and County:

- Angie Behrens (Gabrieleno Tongva) - Spirit of Tradition
- Tazbah Rose Chavez (Nüümü, Diné and San Carlos Apache) - Spirit of Creativity
- Tracy M. Ball (Diné) - Spirit of Community

The LANAIC, the Board of Supervisors, and LA City Councilmember O'Farrell jointly recognized the 2021 NAHM honorees during a virtual ceremony streamed to Facebook on November 13, 2021. The virtual program included host Krista Hazelwood

(Seminole), a welcome song and land welcoming given by Rudy Ortega Jr. (Fernandeno Tataviam) and Mark Villasenor (Fernandeno Tataviam), remarks on the impact of the COVID pandemic on LA's AIAN community delivered by Commissioner Dr. Andrea Garcia (Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara), an acknowledgement of the sacrifices made by Native Veterans provided by Keith Vielle (Blackfeet), the 2021 NAHM honoree program presented by Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell (Wyandotte) which included NAHM Honoree acceptance videos, and videos from numerous elected officials including Board Supervisors Hilda Solis, Holly Mitchell, Sheila Kuehl, Janice Hahn and Kathryn Barger.

January 2022 – The LANAIC and LANAIC SGB transferred from the former Department of Workforce Development, Aging & Community Services to the Executive Office of the Board of Supervisors.

February 2022 – April 2023 - The LANAIC was selected by the Department of Arts & Culture as the 2022 host department for the 2022 Creative Strategist-Artist in Residence (Creative Strategist). Jacob Pratt (Dakota) was selected through a competitive solicitation process and began his residency with the LANAIC in February 2022. His residency concluded in April 2023.

During the first phase of his residency, embarked on a listening tour, meeting with some of the LANAIC's 15 commissioners and others in the AIAN community. Through these conversations, an idea began to take shape: to use film as a medium to raise awareness and celebrate the diversity of the Native American community in LA County.

On April 22, 2023 Jacob debuted his film, Erasure, on the Los Angeles City College campus.

June 21, 2022 - On June 21, 2022 the LANAIC Executive Director submitted and distributed the Report Back on Proclaim June 25, 2021, As The 45th Anniversary Of The Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission And Envision The Commission's Future And Acknowledge And Apologize For The Historic Mistreatment Of California Native Americans By Los Angeles County (Item No. 61-A, Agenda Of June 22, 2021, And Item No. 16, Agenda Of July 13, 2021).

August 31, 2022 - The California Legislature approved passage of ACR 177 (Bloom/Ramos) removing the "Christopher Columbus" designation on the California segment of the I-10, reversing a previous legislative resolution adopted in 1976. The resolution reflects another significant state and local effort to promote cultural sensitivity.

The resolution requires that if there are any efforts to replace the removed signage, these efforts should involve public input and feedback, including input and participation from the City of Los Angeles, the County of Los Angeles, and the LANAIC.

On October 13, 2020 the County Board of Supervisors unanimously adopted a motion directing the Chief Executive Office, in partnership with the Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission and the Department of Public Works to collaborate

with County partners in the state legislature and the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA) for the removal of the Christopher Columbus Transcontinental Highway designation of the Interstate-10 (I-10) freeway and any signage.

October 2022 – The LANAIC and LANAIC SGB transferred from the Executive Office of the Board of Supervisors to the Department of Arts and Culture.

October 10, 2022 - The LANAIC in partnership with Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell hosted the 2022 Indigenous Peoples Day celebration at Grand Park. The 4-hour celebration featured performances by the Asosal Ballet Folklorico de El Salvador, Manitoba Metis Federation Red River Metis Jiggers & Fiddlers, Intertribal Dancers and OneDrumm, screenings of Saging the World, the trailer of Spirit Rangers and One World (We Are One), a vendor marketplace and food trucks.

October 18, 2022 - The LANAIC acted to recommend to the Board of Supervisors that they adopt the draft land acknowledgment statement developed by the Tribal Planning Group. The Board of Supervisors adopted the land acknowledgment on November 1, 2023.

November 2022 - The LANAIC selected two 2022 Native American Heritage Month (NAHM) honorees. LA City Council and the LA County Board of Supervisors also honored the NAHM honorees.

- The Phoenix Family (Tohono O'odham) - Spirit of Tradition
- Dr. Carrie Johnson (Wahpeton Dakota) - Spirit of Community

The LA County Board of Supervisors proclaimed November NAHM via Board Motion at their November 1, 2022 meeting.

The LANAIC partnered with Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell and the LA City Department of Cultural Affairs (LA DCA) to host a celebration of the 2022 NAHM honorees. The celebration took place at Clockshop on November 17, 2022, and included performances from Raye Zaragoza, LA Pow Wow dancers and a community reception. The LANAIC also collaborated with LA DCA to develop a 2022 Native American Heritage Month e-book.

December 6 & 7, 2022 - Every 4 years the LANAIC holds County-wide elections for the 5 community-elected seats on the Commission. Elections were held on December 6 and 7, 2022 at three polling sites, the Department of Mental Health American Indian Counseling Center, Pukuu Cultural Community Services and United American Indian Involvement, Inc. The LANAIC partnered with the Registrar & Recorder/County Clerk to utilize secure ballot boxes.

8 candidates ran for the 5 community-elected seats. John Only a Chief, Denise Escoto, Shawn Imitates-Dog, Mona Morales Recalde and Dawn Jackson were elected to serve four-year terms beginning January 17, 2023.

February 2023 - The LANAIC SGB in partnership with its home department Arts and Culture executed a contract with Center for Non-Profit Management (CNM) to develop a strategic plan. This strategic planning document reflects the work of LANAIC SGB in charting the board's direction for the next 3-4 years by developing its 2023-2026 Strategic Plan. The priorities align with its vision, values, and purpose to address reduction of poverty, revitalization of low-income communities, and/or empowerment of people low incomes to become self-sufficient. The strategic plan also fulfills compliance requirements of CSBG/CSAIBG Organizational Standards Category 6, Strategic Planning.

The 5-month strategic planning process included organizational review and planning, strategic planning interviews and strategic planning sessions with LANAIC SGB members and the developed of strategic plan documents. CNM presented the draft strategic plan to the LANAIC SGB at their June 21, 2023 meeting. The LANAIC SGB took action to adopt the strategic plan at their August 15, 2023 meeting.

March 11, 2023 - The County of Los Angeles issued a pursuit of support for AB1703: California Indian Education Act. In 2022 the LANAIC recommended to the Board of Supervisors, by ways of the State Legislative Agenda process, that they adopt a number of policy positions including "support proposals that promote communication and collaboration between local education agencies and American Indian and Alaska Native tribes." As a result of the adoption of this policy position, the County was able to issue a pursuit of support for AB 1703 and advocate for the bill. AB 1703 was signed into law by Governor Newsom on September 23, 2023.

March 21, 2023 - The LANAIC adopted 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 requested that Board Chair Janice Hahn transmit a letter to OMB supporting these adopted responses. The Board of Supervisors acted at their April 18, 2023 to send a four-signature letter to OMB expressing Los Angeles County's support of American Indian and Alaska Native data best-practices in OMB's Statistical Policy Directive No. 15. The 4-signature letter was transmitted to OMB on April 24, 2023.

March 21, 2023 - The LANAIC acted to recommend that the Board of Supervisors take a supportive position on AB 776 - 210 Interstate Highway Renaming. On April 18, 2023 the Board of Supervisors directed the Chief Executive Office, through the Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations Branch, to advocate in support of Assembly Bill 776, including sending a five-signature letter in support of the bill to Assemblymember Chris Holden. AB 776 was signed into law by Governor Newsom on October 8, 2023.

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

As an advisory Commission to the Board of Supervisors, the LANAIC understands that it is charged to ensure equity, diversity and inclusion among the constituents it serves. As such in the Summer of 2019 the LANAIC amended its bylaws to contain more inclusive language, specifically in the Purpose section where it states:

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.

Currently, the bylaws do not include explicit language that promotes zero tolerance in relation to racial and ethnic discrimination and/or gender-based differences.

The LANAIC strives to create an environment at all meetings that allows members, public and stakeholders, to share and express openly their ideas, opinions and beliefs. This is done so by the LANAIC opening meetings with an invocation, personal introductions by the Commissioners and with the Chair inviting the public and guests to introduce themselves. This approach creates a welcoming, respectful, and inviting environment.

Annual Work Plan

Provide goals or objectives for the upcoming year; and indicate how goals and objectives support the County's mission, vision, and strategic priorities

- Prepare and Submit Budget Needs to LA City and LA County
- Complete Review and Updating of LANAIC and LANAIC SGB Bylaws

Include a work plan to accomplish the goals

Include a timeline for completion of each goal

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FY23-24 Accomplishments

Meetings with LA City Mayor Karen Bass

On September 19, 2023 LA City Mayor Karen Bass attended the monthly LANAIC meeting. This marked the first time a sitting Mayor of LA City attended an LANAIC meeting. During this historic meeting the LANAIC was able to share about the historical background of the LANAIC, issues that the American Indian/Alaska Native community is facing and the current funding, programs, and partnerships.

December mayoral appointee meeting

Feather Alert Town Hall

On September 26, 2023 the LANAIC, in partnership with the California Legislative Native American Caucus and the California Native Vote Project, held a town hall to raise awareness of AB 1314 Feather Alert at the Los Angeles County Office of Education.

A Feather Alert is a resource available to law enforcement agencies investigating the suspicious or unexplainable disappearance of an indigenous woman or indigenous person. The Feather Alert will provide immediate information to the public to aid in the swift recovery of missing Indigenous Persons.

2023 Indigenous Peoples' Day

For 2023 Indigenous Peoples' Day (IPD) the LANAIC collaborated with the LA County Library's Cultural Resource Centers (American Indian, Asian Pacific, Black, and Chicano) and Pride Committee to develop IPD booklists for the education and enjoyment of LA County residents.

FY24-25 Budget Request Letters

At the October 17, 2023 meeting, the LANAIC adopted FY24-25 budget request letters to the Board of Supervisors and Mayor Bass. The request to the Board included funding for a dedicated position in CEO Homelessness Initiative to address AIAN homelessness and funding for County Counsel to retain tribal Indian law expertise. The request to Mayor Bass included funding support for the CEO HI position as well as ongoing funding to for Indigenous Peoples' Day programming.

2023 Native American Heritage Month

LA City Council and the LA County Board of Supervisors honored the three 2023 NAHM honorees selected by the LANAIC:

- Jimi Castillo (Tongva/Acjachemen) - Spirit of Tradition Posthumous
- Robert Javier (Cherokee/Sac & Fox) - Spirit of Community
- Chris "Spanto" Printup (Cherokee/Sac & Fox) - Spirit of Creativity Posthumous

LA City Council proclaimed NAHM on November 1, 2023 and honored the NAHM honorees. The in Chambers presentation was followed by a community reception at the forecourt coordinated by the LANAIC. LANAIC also collaborated with LA City Department DCA to develop a 2022 Native American Heritage Month e-book.

The LA County Board of Supervisors proclaimed November NAHM via Board Motion at their November 7, 2023 meeting.

2024 Native American Heritage Month

At the April 16, 2024 meeting the LANAIC selected *Weaving Together a Community of Traditions, Cultures & Respect* as the 2024 Native American Heritage Month theme to recommend to LA City and LA County.

Addressing AIAN Homelessness

Throughout FY23-24 the LANAIC continued to advocate to City and County elected officials to dedicate resources and funding to adequately address the growing homelessness crisis impacting the AIAN community.

At the September 19, 2023 meeting the LANAIC adopted a letter to the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors, requesting a sustainability plan following the end of Watson Consulting Group's contract with CEO Homelessness Initiative focused on addressing American Indian and Alaska Native homelessness. Additionally, the LANAIC adopted an AIAN Homelessness Infographic. The infographic was released on February 5, 2024.

At the October 17, 2023 meeting the LANAIC adopted the content of the "Advancing Indigenous Housing Rights in Los Angeles: International Best Practice and a Legal Framework" report. The designed report was released in August 5, 2024.

At the November 21, 2023 meeting the LANAIC adopted a letter to the LA County Homelessness Initiative making recommendations on how to optimize the continued work to address AIAN Homelessness.

At the May 21, 2024 meeting the LANAIC approved Commissioner Dr. Andrea Garcia to present at the June 13, 2024 County of LA Homelessness Policy Board Deputies Meeting. On June 13, 2024 Commissioner Dr. Garcia provided presented at the meeting. Her presentation included information on achievements to date and ongoing requests.

100 Years After The Indian Citizenship Act: The Continuing Struggle To Guarantee Voting Rights To Native Americans Exhibit

The LANAIC partnered with Supervisor Hilda L Solis to bring the *100 Years After the Indian Citizenship Act: The Continuing Struggle to Guarantee Voting Rights to Native Americans* exhibit to Los Angeles County. The traveling exhibit curated by the American Bar Association Standing Committee on the Law Library of Congress was on display at

the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration for two weeks in June 2024. The exhibited helped raise awareness and understanding about this critical part of American history

HR 6859: Gabrielino/Tongva Nation Recognition Act of 2023 Discussion

At the May 21, 2024 meeting the LANAIC took action requesting that County of Los Angeles Chief Executive Office Legislative Affairs Intergovernmental Affairs (CEO-LAIR) review the proposed recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to oppose HR6859: Gabrielino/Tongva Nation Recognition Act of 2023. At the June 18, 2024 meeting the LANAIC reviewed and discussed the CEO-LAIR memo on a possible opposition position to HR6859: Gabrielino/Tongva Nation Recognition Act of 2023.

Framework to Establish a Land Acknowledgment for the Los Angeles City Council

Per LA City Council Resolution, the LA City Civil + Human Rights and Equity Department engaged sought the LANAIC's support of a draft land acknowledgment for LA City. At the May 21, 2024 meeting the LANAIC took action to oppose the land acknowledgment and recommended that the City request that the State of California Native American Heritage Commission complete proper vetting of documents to identify ancestral tribes within the Los Angeles City geographical area.

Support for LA City Council Designating Areas of West Los Angeles Sawtelle as Indigenous Cultural Districts

At the June 18, 2024 meeting the LANAIC adopted a letter requesting that LA City Council designate areas of West Los Angeles Sawtelle as Indigenous Cultural Districts.

Improving the LANAIC Website

At the May 21, 2024 meeting the LANAIC adopted a draft letter requesting that the Department of Arts and Culture allocate funding and qualified resources to support the development of a new website for the Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission.

LANAIC Self Governance Board

Public Law 105-285 (the CSBG Act) and the California Government Code require that State of California Department of Community Services & Development (CSD) secure a Community Action Plan (CAP), including a Community Needs Assistance (CAN) from each agency that receives CSBG funding.

Section 676(b)(11) of the CSBG Act directs that receipt of a CAP is a condition to receive funding. Section 12747(a) of the California Government Code requires the CAP to assess poverty-related needs, available resources, feasible goals, and strategies that yield program priorities consistent with standards of effectiveness established for the program.

To inform the 2026-2027 Community Action Plan, due to CSD by April 30, 2024, the SGB developed an updated Community Needs Assessment survey tool in the Spring of 2024 and began disseminating the survey in late FY23-24. The web-based survey will remain open through January 2025.

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Ongoing-Long Term Projects

Provide any ongoing or long-term projects that the Commission is continuing to work on.

- Advocating for the County to establish an Office of Tribal Affairs.
- Advocating for resources to address American Indian and Alaska Native homelessness.

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Strategic Plan

Los Angeles County

CHOOSE LA COUNTY: To Live! To Invest! To Work!

2024 - 2030





County Strategic Plan

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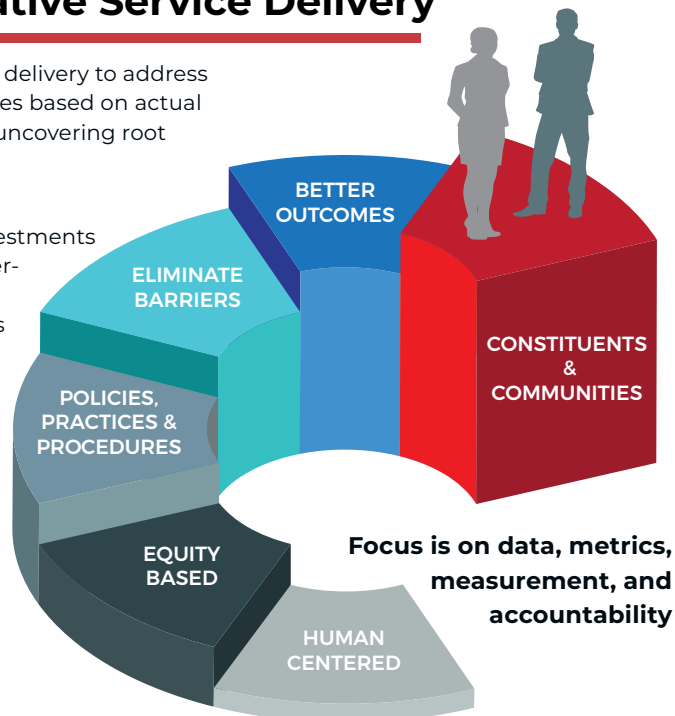
CEO MESSAGE

The health and economic crisis brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent calls to end racial injustice, social inequality, and economic inequity has foreclosed a return to “business as usual”. Moving towards a new paradigm with lessons learned during these past two years, LA County embarked on developing its 2024-2030 County Strategic Plan (CSP) using a generative model, which is a human-centered and equity-based approach to eliminating barriers from policies, processes, and practices that drive racial, social, and economic inequity. A generative model recognizes that, for some, uncovering root causes, establishing no wrong door policies, and providing services alone is insufficient; and that better outcomes can be obtained through economic investment in under-resourced communities. Ultimately, the aim is better outcomes for our constituents and communities.

Generative Service Delivery

Drive service delivery to address multiple issues based on actual needs, after uncovering root causes

Stronger investments serving under-resourced communities



The new strategic plan reflects lessons learned during this era of disruption and drives a generative service delivery approach where possible. The plan's goal is to drive service delivery so that services are easy to access, address multiple needs, and are based on actual needs after uncovering root causes (to support long-term success). It further strives to drive the programming of resources to support stronger investments in under-resourced communities, with the goal for communities to self-generate the capacity for greater opportunities for its residents to realize their fullest potential. In 2020, our Board of Supervisors declared that racism is a matter of public health. LA County made a choice to end structural racism in the County and infuse racial equity principles into every aspect of life. That monumental decision is the driving force behind this plan.

***LA County
made a
choice to end
structural
racism in Los
Angeles County.***

We embarked on strategic planning as an opportunity for collaboration among all County Departments to make a collective impact. The County went through a process of thoughtful and thought-provoking activities, sharing thoughts, ideas, and aspirations to move LA County forward. The 2024 – 2030 County Strategic Plan is the culmination of these efforts, and it builds upon the community voices incorporated into the strategic plans for the Anti-Racism, Diversity, and Inclusion Initiative; Poverty Alleviation Initiative; Chief Sustainability Office; Office of Child Protection; Homeless Initiative; Office of Immigrant Affairs; and Care First, Jails Last Initiative. Like any long journey, we have planned it well, but we also expect turns along the way to keep us responsive. We invite you to join us and watch our progress.

Fesia A. Davenport
Chief Executive Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2024 - 2030 COUNTY STRATEGIC PLAN

Over the course of several months, department representatives, Board-Directed Priority leads, and the CEO team met frequently to strategize, analyze, and draft a strategic plan that would inform the LA County's planning, programming, service delivery, and budgeting over the next six years.



STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS

PROCESS OVERVIEW

The strategic planning process presented an opportunity for collaboration among County departments to make a collective impact. The County departments and development team went through several months of thoughtful and thought-provoking activities, sharing their thoughts, ideas, and aspirations to move LA County forward. The CEO's team fine-tuned the input received and performed further analysis and review to ensure that the Board's priorities are clearly reflected and incorporated into the PLAN. Significant stakeholder and community input including listening sessions, workshops, community meetings, targeted outreach, the use of advisory boards, and 30-day comment periods was gathered by our various initiatives and department leads as they sought community engagement to produce their own plans. The input and feedback gained during the stakeholder engagement opportunities were considered and incorporated into the 2024 - 2030 County Strategic Plan.

PERFORMANCE METRICS

The CEO, in collaboration with the Chief Information Office (CIO), will work with departments to develop, enhance, or refine their specific implementation initiatives and performance metrics that address the strategies outlined in the County Strategic Plan. An annual report of progress that is representative of the strategic plan, as well as the Board-Directed Priorities will be developed. The CEO will collect data on measures to track the PLAN's progress at the County service/client level. In collaboration with Departments and ARDI, data submission and reporting will be analyzed using an equity lens, as applicable. The CEO will collect and report metrics per each strategic plan focus area and strategy with the goal of showing how the County programs and/or services are impacting the clients we serve. The metrics chosen will be aligned with the racial equity framework and will be used to inform the County's budgeting process.

RACIAL EQUITY

The PLAN incorporates the County's Racial Equity Principles, enabling environment goals, and provides alignment across the County's multiple strategic initiatives which seek to effectuate change by increasing access, economic opportunity, equity, and overall healthy communities.

BOARD-DIRECTED PRIORITIES

In addition to the development of the new plan being driven by equity and data driven decision making, the Board-Directed Priorities continue to be reflected in the County's strategic plan north stars, focus area goals, and strategies. These priorities address child protection, health integration, justice reform, the homeless crisis, environmental issues, assisting immigrants, ensuring the County's future sustainability, eliminating racism and bias, and alleviating poverty.

COUNTY STRATEGIC PLAN INTRODUCTION

With more than 9,700,000 residents, Los Angeles County (County) is the largest County in California and the United States. The County's workforce is over 100,000 strong and comprised of a dedicated public service workforce that has proven time and time again that they are ready to meet the moment and provide caring and effective service to the residents and community at large in their times of need, on a day-to-day basis and during emergencies.

The County's 2024 - 2030 County Strategic Plan (PLAN) reflects the most important work for the County in the years to come. Aligned with the Board of Supervisors' Board-Directed Priorities, it seeks to drive the creation of ecosystems that enable families and communities to thrive. The PLAN will inform the County's planning, programming, and budgeting over the next six years. As the County moves towards a generative model, the PLAN seeks to develop a policy agenda that is equitable and tailored to meet the needs of our residents. Ultimately, the aim is better outcomes for our constituents and communities.



RACIAL EQUITY PRINCIPLES

Anchoring the CSP are Racial Equity Principles. [ARDI's Racial Equity Strategic Plan](#) provides a vivid and detailed account of the history of racism in Los Angeles County impacting all aspects of life, and how it has been perpetuated by policy decisions that disadvantaged Blacks and other minority groups. It is supported by a wealth of data and examples that clearly illustrate the need to reverse the generational damage caused. ARDI's vision inspires a feeling of hope for millions of County residents impacted by policies of the past. Its strategies are securely woven into the County Strategic plan to ensure that a new course is set for lasting change; and its equity principles below are embedded in each of the CSP steps.



REDUCE DISPARITIES

Reduce racial disparities in life outcomes, as well as disparities in public investment to shape those outcomes.

EFFECTIVELY SUPPORT

Develop and implement strategies that identify, prioritize, and effectively support the most disadvantaged geographies and populations.

ENGAGE RESIDENTS

Authentically engage community residents, organizations, and other community stakeholders to inform and determine interventions (e.g., policy and program) and investments.

IMPROVE OUTCOMES

Seek to improve long-term outcomes both intergenerationally and multi-generationally.

EFFECTIVELY ASSESS

Use data to effectively assess and communicate equity needs and support timely assessment of progress.

DISAGGREGATE DATA

Disaggregate data and analysis within racial/ethnic and other demographic subgroup categories.

COLLABORATE

Work collaboratively and intentionally across departments as well as across leadership levels and decision-makers.

ACT BOLDLY

Act urgently and boldly to achieve tangible results.

ALIGN POLICIES

Align policies, processes, and practices to effectively address equity challenges throughout the County's workforce (personnel, contractors, and vendors).

INTERVENE & PREVENT

Intervene early and emphasize long-term prevention

EXECUTIVE **SUMMARY** continued

BOARD-DIRECTED PRIORITIES

Child Protection



Health Integration



Care First, Jails Last



Homelessness



Environmental Justice & Climate Health



Immigration



Sustainability



Anti-Racism



Poverty Alleviation





BOARD-DIRECTED PRIORITIES AND THEIR RELATION TO THE COUNTY STRATEGIC PLAN (CSP)

The CSP is driven by the nine Board-Directed Priorities. Each of these Priorities represent the Board's responsive action to a complex issue that can negatively impact the health, safety, and well-being of individuals who reside in LA County. The Board's intention with these Board-Directed Priorities is to bring hope and lasting change, to end structural racism in Los Angeles County, and to effectuate the redirection of the financial, human, and other resources it will take to succeed.

Elevating each of these Priorities and using this innovative approach to the County's governance of its most pressing challenges has given the County the ability to pull together high-level teams to work together and find lasting solutions.

PRIORITY 1 CHILD PROTECTION

The Office of Child Protection (OCP) was created by the LA County Board of Supervisors and Chief Executive Office in 2015 to improve communication, coordination, and accountability across agencies involved in the child protection network so that vulnerable children have a better chance of growing up safer and healthier. The OCP's mission is to lead broad partnerships that implement meaningful solutions to improve the lives of our children and families. The OCP continues implementation of its Strategic Plan across five key focus areas of prevention, safety, permanency, well-being, and cross-cutting approaches.

PRIORITY 2 ALLIANCE FOR HEALTH INTEGRATION

In November 2019, the Board adopted a new structure to form the Los Angeles County Alliance for Health Integration (AHI) to lead integration projects involving the three Health Departments (Health Services, Mental Health, and Public Health.) The Alliance for Health Integration (AHI) seeks to streamline and integrate access to high-quality services across the departments of Health Services, Mental Health, and Public Health. AHI's priorities fall into three categories: Integrate and develop prevention, treatment, and healing services; reduce health inequities; and improve organizational effectiveness.

PRIORITY 3 CARE FIRST, JAILS LAST

In June 2015, the Board began to work on Justice Reform and renamed it in 2020 to "Care First, Jails Last" to clearly reflect the County's commitment to finding alternatives to incarceration. This Priority aims to reduce the use of jails to address social and mental health issues that can be treated through medical interventions. A major part of this initiative is their work to transform its youth justice system through community engagement, increasing public trust, being more transparent, and creating reform policies that help prevent community violence and prevent youth from entering the justice system.

PRIORITY 4 HOMELESS INITIATIVE

In August 2015, the Board established the Homeless Initiative as a fourth Priority to address the growing number of homeless individuals and families impacted by poverty. The Homeless Initiative is the central coordinating body for Los Angeles County's ongoing effort-unprecedented in scale – to expand and enhance services for people experiencing homelessness or at risk of losing their homes. The focus will be on prevention, subsidized housing, increasing income, providing affordable housing, and case management services.

BOARD-DIRECTED PRIORITIES AND THEIR RELATION TO THE **COUNTY STRATEGIC PLAN** continued

PRIORITY 5 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE & CLIMATE HEALTH

In June 2016, the Board directed the County Public Health Department to oversee environmental health and monitor communities to prevent any health issues that could impact individuals living near industrial sites. This Priority seeks to increase community awareness of how environmental hazards can affect a person's health and address recent and future environmental health threats impacting County residents. A board motion was passed on April 5, 2022, to rename the Board-Directed Priority "Environmental Health Monitoring and Oversight" to "Environmental Justice and Climate Health."

PRIORITY 6 IMMIGRATION

In September 2017, the Board established Immigration as the 6th Board-Directed Priority. The Priority aims to create a culture within the County of Los Angeles that embodies the County's commitment to advance the well-being of the 3.5 million immigrants who live in the County and are deeply integrated into all aspects of County life. The Office of Immigration ensures a focus on policy, legislation, litigation, resources, and services to protect its immigrants.

PRIORITY 7 SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainability was approved as a Board-Directed Priority in August 2019. Housed in the Chief Sustainability Office, this Priority upholds a comprehensive and coordinated approach to sustainability issues in the County. With the "OurCounty Sustainability Plan" as the foundation, this Priority advances a vision of a healthier, more livable, economically stronger, more equitable, and more resilient County. The Sustainability Plan not only covers traditional environmental issues, but also workforce and economic development, transportation, housing, and issues of possible displacement.

PRIORITY 8 ANTI-RACISM, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION

In July 2020, after recognizing, affirming, and declaring that racism was a matter of public health in Los Angeles County (County) and that racism against Black people had reached crisis proportions that resulted in large disparities in family stability, health and mental wellness, education, employment, economic development, public safety, criminal justice, and housing; the Board established the Anti-Racism, Diversity, and Inclusion Initiative (ARDI). This Priority supports the Board's sweeping intention of creating an anti-racist agenda and fighting racism in all its dimensions. ARDI is aimed at addressing equity, diversity, and inclusion in all aspects of County culture and services, with the intention of rooting out institutional racism, eliminating disparities, and increasing access to opportunities.

PRIORITY 9 POVERTY ALLEVIATION INITIATIVE

In May 2021, the Board of Supervisors adopted a motion that declared poverty and economic opportunity to be matters of public health and took a proactive step toward disrupting poverty. The motion further created a ninth Board-Directed Priority, the Countywide Poverty Alleviation Initiative (PAI), directing that entity to develop a strategic plan for alleviating poverty across the County and for implementing actions to accomplish that. The PAI became fully operational in August 2021. The PAI's strategic framework was adopted by the Board on July 12, 2022. Implementation began in September 2022 and continues to work with our residents, communities, stakeholders, County departments, jurisdictions, and other partners to achieve its vision.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY MISSION, VISION & VALUES

MISSION

Establish superior services through inter-Departmental and cross-sector collaboration that measurably improves the quality of life for the people and communities of Los Angeles County.

VISION

A value driven culture, characterized by extraordinary employee commitment to enrich lives through effective and caring service and empower people through knowledge and information.

VALUES

Integrity

Inclusivity

Compassion

Customer Orientation

Equity



2024-2030 COUNTY STRATEGIC PLAN

AT-A-GLANCE

NORTH STARS

The three North Stars provide the guiding principles upon which the Strategic Plan is developed. They emphasize the importance of our constituents, communities, and County government.



FOCUS AREA GOALS



These are broad overarching goals that identify the focus areas for the County. The goals align with the North Stars.

COUNTYWIDE STRATEGIES

High level Countywide strategies that the County is adopting for each focus area goal. The Countywide strategies are broad, and comprehensive.



PERFORMANCE METRICS

Performance metrics will be used to measure if our constituents, community, and clients are being impacted, and how well our strategies are being achieved.



NORTH STARS

The PLAN's North Stars are carried forward from the 2016 - 2021 strategic plan. They continue to be aspirational, relevant, and provide us with continuity of our strategic direction. The North Stars represent the County's commitment to its constituents, the community, and County government.



NORTH STAR 1

Make investments that transform lives.



NORTH STAR 2

Foster vibrant and resilient communities.



NORTH STAR 3

Realize tomorrow's government today.

FOCUS AREA GOALS



The PLAN's seventeen focus area goals intend to drive service delivery where services are easy to access and address multiple needs and root causes. The goals have been designed to meet individuals wherever they are in their circumstances, and provide resources, and create opportunities that will lead to stable housing, the knowledge and skills required to secure a living wage job, preventive health services, and access to play and entertainment, all of which are components of what most consider a good life.

In addition, the PLAN will help drive programming, resources, and greater investments in under-resourced communities to build their capacity to self-generate resources and opportunities and realize their fullest potential.



NORTH STAR 1

FOCUS AREA GOALS

LA County is a highly responsive organization investing in solutions that address our most complex societal challenges (health, jobs, housing, food insecurity, and recidivism) affecting our most vulnerable communities – one person at a time.

NORTH STAR 1

Make investments that transform lives.

FOCUS AREA GOAL

A. Healthy Individuals and Families:

Invest in County health systems and expand care capacity that supports the physical health, mental health, and well-being of individuals across the life course continuum. This includes addressing the social determinants of health that impact resident's well-being.

FOCUS AREA GOAL

B. Employment and Sustainable Wages:

Support social mobility, economic and workforce development, job training, meaningful connections, and access to employment opportunities with sustainable wages for County residents, with emphasis on those who are experiencing barriers to employment or the ability to earn a sustainable wage. Support small and large business growth to maintain job supply.

FOCUS AREA GOAL

C. Housing and Homelessness:

Support efforts that prevent displacement, increase access to housing stability, develop more affordable housing, sustain homeownership opportunities, and enhance the effectiveness of the County's homeless rehousing system.

FOCUS AREA GOAL

D. Support Vulnerable Populations:

Address conditions which drive interactions with the County's child welfare, homeless rehousing, carceral, law enforcement and justice systems.





NORTH STAR 2

FOCUS AREA GOALS

Investments in the lives of County residents are sustainable only when grounded in strong communities. LA County, with the support of a network of public/private partnering, faith-based organizations, community-based organizations, philanthropic organizations, and local governments will foster vibrant and resilient communities.

NORTH STAR 2

Foster vibrant
and resilient
communities.

FOCUS AREA GOAL

A. Public Health:

Address community-wide issues, social determinants of health, risks and conditions that contribute to health disparities and threaten healthy lifestyles, and environmental and community health.

FOCUS AREA GOAL

B. Care First, Jails Last:

Implement a new vision of community safety in Los Angeles County, one centered on health solutions and services provided in the community so that jail is the last option rather than the first and only response.

FOCUS AREA GOAL

C. Public Safety:

Enhance the safety of the public and our communities by addressing the risks, danger, harm, and conditions that cause, drive, or can help mitigate unlawful activity and crime, and supports law enforcement accountability and transparency.

FOCUS AREA GOAL

D. Sustainability:

Focus on environmental justice, particularly in communities that have long endured industrial contamination, and “Our County” Sustainability Plan’s 12 broad, aspirational, and cross-cutting goals, that embrace positive change and address sustainability issues regionally. ([Our County: The Los Angeles County Sustainability Plan](#).)

FOCUS AREA GOAL

E. Economic Health:

Deploy and diffuse community resources and investments through partnership with community-based institutions, organizations, corporations, and small businesses to enhance the economic health of all communities.

FOCUS AREA GOAL

F. Community Connections:

Invest in our communities and create public spaces and programs that are welcoming, accessible, where all residents can easily build relationships, create social networks, feel connected and can access opportunities.



NORTH STAR 3

FOCUS AREA GOALS

NORTH STAR 3

Realize tomorrow's
government today.

The increasingly dynamic and complex environment, challenges collective abilities to respond to public needs and expectations. LA County is an innovative, flexible, effective, and transparent partner focused on advancing the common good & being fiscally responsible.

FOCUS AREA GOAL

A. Communication and Public Access:

Provide increased transparency and accessibility to government services and communication, including information that is easy to understand and available in multiple languages and formats.

FOCUS AREA GOAL

B. Diverse and Inclusive Workforce:

Strive to meet the highest standards and promote a more diverse and inclusive County workforce that seeks to be representative of County residents.

FOCUS AREA GOAL

C. Equity-Centered Policies and Practices:

Institutionalize the use of an equity lens in County policies and practices.

FOCUS AREA GOAL

D. Streamlined and Equitable Contracting and Procurement:

Implement streamlined and more equitable contracting and procurement systems and opportunities.

FOCUS AREA GOAL

E. Data-Driven Decision Making:

Use equity and data as a tool to continually assess and strengthen our efficiency and effectiveness, maximize and leverage resources, ensure fiscal responsibility, and hold ourselves accountable.

FOCUS AREA GOAL

F. Flexible and Efficient Infrastructure:

Use lessons learned from the recent pandemic to implement flexible and efficient administrative, technological, and physical infrastructures to meet the needs of our constituents.

FOCUS AREA GOAL

G. Internal Controls and Processes:

Strengthen our internal controls and processes while being cognizant of efficiency to continue good stewardship of the public trust and fiscal responsibility.

STRATEGIES

The strategic plan is composed of high-level countywide strategies that the County is adopting for each Focus Area Goal. The strategies represent a collaborative effort by all County departments. Developed to engage the work of more than one County department, all strategies are intentionally broad, overarching and encompassing.



NORTH STAR 1: Make investments that transform lives.

FOCUS AREA GOAL

- A. Healthy Individuals and Families:** Invest in County health systems and expand care capacity that supports the physical health, mental health, and overall well-being of individuals across the life course continuum. This includes addressing the social determinants of health that impact residents' well-being.

STRATEGIES

- i. **Pregnancy and Birth:** Support pre-natal care, pregnancy, healthy births, postpartum services and prevent adverse birth outcomes.
- ii. **Improve Health Outcomes:** Promote comprehensive, inclusive, culturally-responsive competent care, healthy lifestyles, and the improvement of physical health outcomes.
- iii. **Behavioral, Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder:** Streamline and support crisis response and continuum of care to address the behavioral health, mental health needs, substance use disorders and the well-being of individuals and families, with emphasis on our most vulnerable populations.

FOCUS AREA GOAL

- B. Employment and Sustainable Wages:** Support social mobility, economic and workforce development, job training, meaningful connections, and access to employment opportunities with sustainable wages for County residents, with emphasis on those who are experiencing barriers to employment or the ability to earn a sustainable wage. Support small and large business growth to maintain job supply.

STRATEGIES

- i. **Remove Barriers:** Remove unnecessary barriers to employment, particularly for our most vulnerable residents circling through our County systems.
- ii. **Job Preparation:** Invest in job training/education and preparation opportunities.
- iii. **Job Creation:** Support initiatives, projects, and partnerships that generate employment opportunities.
- iv. **Sustainable Wages:** Support efforts to earn and provide sustainable wages.



STRATEGIES continued

FOCUS AREA GOAL

- C. Housing and Homelessness:** Support efforts that prevent displacement, increase access to housing stability, develop more affordable housing, sustain homeownership opportunities, and enhance the effectiveness of the County's homeless rehousing system.

STRATEGIES

- i. **Affordable Housing:** Preserve and develop more quality affordable housing for those who reside in LA County.
- ii. **Homeownership:** Provide access to financial resources and programs that support & sustain homeownership.
- iii. **Homelessness (HI Framework):** Implement the new framework that focuses on three key partners –
 - (1) Rehousing System,
 - (2) Mainstream County Government Systems, and
 - (3) Partnerships with Cities, using five categories of action: Coordinate, Prevent, Connect, House, and Stabilize; and strengthen County leadership.
 - a. Rehousing System: Leverage the critical infrastructure and capacity of the homeless rehousing system.
 - b. County Government Systems: Delineate the activities that must permeate all our mainstream systems in order to “catch” County residents before they fall into homelessness, or just after.
 - c. Partnerships with Cities: Identify the most impactful ways for the County to collaborate with cities to meet local needs, increase housing, provide solutions for the unsheltered, and address encampment resolution.
 - d. County Entity and Leader: Create a County entity with responsible charge, accountability, and authority over homelessness, and identify a County leader.

FOCUS AREA GOAL

- D. Support Vulnerable Populations:** Address conditions which drive interactions with the County's child welfare, homeless rehousing, carceral, law enforcement, and justice systems.

STRATEGIES

- i. **Prevention:** Provide child welfare prevention supports (a continuum of primary, secondary, and tertiary) and youth development related programming and services, for at-risk, justice-involved, and transitional aged children, youth, families, and communities at all stages of the sequential intercept model and child welfare continuum of care model.
- ii. **Child Safety and Family Well-Being:** Invest in efforts and supports that promote child safety, protection, and family well-being using the child welfare continuum of care model, while building out the County's Systems of Care.
- iii. **Support the Long-Term Success of Transitional Aged Youth:** Implement a comprehensive integrated service delivery plan that ensures self-sufficiency for all transitional age foster youth once they leave care.
- iv. **Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC):** Support programs and services to prevent, protect, and serve CSEC youth and their families.
- v. **Diversion:** Provide misdemeanor and felony diversion programs and opportunities for justice-involved youth and adults in alignment with the sequential intercept model, and the child welfare continuum of care.
- vi. **Re-entry:** Invest in re-entry, release, and community supports for justice-involved and transitional aged youth and adults.
- vii. **Older Adults & People with Disabilities:** Support purposeful aging, enhance service delivery and care, promote accessibility, and champion an environment where the needs, health, well-being, and rights of older adults, people with disabilities, and those who are dependent are prioritized.
- viii. **Interpersonal Violence:** Invest in programs and efforts that prevent all types of interpersonal violence and provide support to those who have experienced any form of violence from others.
- ix. **Faith-Based Community Partnership:** Implement programs to partner with the faith-based community to support their efforts in serving the needs of vulnerable County populations.



STRATEGIES continued

NORTH STAR 2: Foster vibrant and resilient communities.

FOCUS AREA GOAL

- A. Public Health:** Address community-wide issues, social determinants of health, risks and conditions that contribute to health disparities and threaten healthy lifestyles, and environmental and community health.

STRATEGIES

- i. **Population Based Health:** Focus on our County health systems to improve health outcomes of individuals and communities with an emphasis on providing quality, accessible, and culturally-responsive services.
- ii. **Reduce Self-Harm:** Invest in programs and services to reduce the occurrence of overdose and suicide, and expand options to provide outreach, education, harm reduction programming, and treatment to individuals about the risk factors, warning signs, prevention, and alternatives to self-harm.

FOCUS AREA GOAL

- B. Care First, Jails Last:** Implement a new vision of community safety in LA County, one centered on health solutions and services provided in the community so that jail is the last option rather than the first and only response.

STRATEGIES

- i. **Community Engagement & Trust:** Support programs, services and operations that strengthen community relations and trust through law enforcement transparency and accountability.
- ii. **Systems of Care and Support:** Reduce the incarcerated population, depopulate and close Men's Central Jail, and expand the system of care and support in LA County to provide improved resources to and better meet the needs of justice-involved individuals.
- iii. **Integrated, Equitable, and Culturally-Responsive Services:** Implement the Board's care first vision to deliver integrated, equitable, and culturally-responsive pretrial and diversion services across the County.
 - a. Build Capacity: Continue to expand the system of care and support in LA County to provide improved resources to better meet the needs of justice involved individuals.
 - b. Independent Pretrial Services: Implement the Board's care first vision to deliver integrated, equitable, and culturally-responsive pretrial and diversion services across the County.
 - c. Jail Depopulation: Divert justice-involved individuals away from jails, in an effort to lessen the LA County jail footprint.
 - d. Create Connections: Increase opportunities, linkages, and connections to needed services and supports.
- iv. **Reduce Violence in Communities:** Develop comprehensive, place-based plans to reduce violence in high-need communities experiencing high levels of violence.

FOCUS AREA GOAL

- C. Public Safety:** Enhance the safety of the public and our communities by addressing the risks, danger, harm, and conditions that cause, drive, or can help mitigate unlawful activity and crime and supports law enforcement accountability and transparency.

STRATEGIES

- i. **Prevention, Protection & Security:** Support and invest in innovative practices, crime prevention resources and infrastructure to provide protection and security.
- ii. **Operational Enhancement:** Enhance organizational and administrative operations, and training of our public safety entities, to better serve the community.
- iii. **Law Enforcement Accountability and Transparency:** Support communication with the public on sensitive matters like staff conduct, use of force, and custody conditions, and enhance compliance through robust civilian oversight and compliance review processes.

STRATEGIES continued

FOCUS AREA GOAL

- D. Sustainability:** Focus on environmental justice, particularly in communities that have long endured industrial contamination, and “Our County” Sustainability Plan’s 12 broad, aspirational, and cross-cutting goals, that embrace positive change and address sustainability issues regionally. ([Our County: The Los Angeles County Sustainability Plan](#)).

STRATEGIES

- i. **Climate Health:** Mitigate climate change and build climate resilient communities.
- ii. **Green Economy:** Make an equitable transition to, and invest in the growth of, a carbon-free green economy.
- iii. **Natural Resources:** Support thriving ecosystems, habitats, and biodiversity.
- iv. **Environmental Justice:** Facilitate healthy communities and access to clean air, soil, and water, particularly in communities that have long endured industrial contamination.

FOCUS AREA GOAL

- E. Economic Health:** Deploy and diffuse community resources and investments through partnership with community-based institutions, organizations, corporations, and small businesses to enhance the economic health of all communities.

STRATEGIES

- i. **Community-Based Institutions & Organizations:** Strengthen the capacity, role, and partnerships with community-based institutions and organizations to help serve our communities and strengthen the social fabric within them.
- ii. **Small Businesses:** Invest in and sustain our small businesses to support them as they serve as the economic engines of our communities.
- iii. **Job Growth:** Identify opportunities to support job growth within small and large businesses.
- iv. **Disadvantaged Communities:** Invest in and strengthen the



economic capacity and infrastructure in historically disadvantaged and under-resourced communities.

FOCUS AREA GOAL

- F. Community Connections:** Invest in our communities and create public spaces and programs that are welcoming, accessible, where all residents can easily build relationships, create social networks, feel connected, and can access opportunities.

STRATEGIES

- i. **Engagement:** Engage businesses, community-based institutions, and community members to facilitate positive social connections and relationships.
- ii. **Community Participation:** Encourage community participation in government efforts and initiatives.
- iii. **School and Early Education Support:** Increase support for student and family school engagement and well-being through expansion of integrated student supports.
- iv. **Support Efforts to Engage Children and Families:** Identify philanthropic and other funding opportunities to extend programs and services for underserved youth and families, including early learning programs and mobile literacy services.

STRATEGIES continued

NORTH STAR 3: Realize tomorrow's government today.



FOCUS AREA GOAL

- A. Communication & Public Access:** Provide increased transparency and accessibility to government services and communication, including information that is easy to understand and available in multiple languages and formats.

STRATEGIES

- i. **Customer Service:** Support departmental efforts to improve customer service and to enhance efficiency and responsiveness to meet the needs of all residents.
- ii. **Stakeholder Engagement:** Ensure stakeholder engagement in policy development.
- iii. **Participatory Budgeting:** Enhance participatory budgeting efforts that provides opportunities for public engagement and community recommendations.

FOCUS AREA GOAL

- B. Diverse and Inclusive Workforce:** Strive to meet the highest standards and promote a more diverse and inclusive County workforce that seeks to be representative of County residents.

STRATEGIES

- i. **Outreach and Recruitment:** Conduct outreach, recruitment and hiring to increase diversity and inclusivity using best practices.
- ii. **Fairness and Equity:** Promote a fair and equitable workplace.
- iii. **Top-Rated Workforce:** Develop and retain a top-rate workforce committed to serving the people of Los Angeles County.

FOCUS AREA GOAL

- C. Equity-Centered Policies and Practices:** Institutionalize the use of an equity lens in County policies and practices.

STRATEGIES

- i. **Policies and Practices:** Ensure policies and practices that are equity-based, seek to eliminate barriers, and drive racial, social, and economic equity.
- ii. **Remediate Biased Policies and Practices:** Identify and remediate racist, gendered, ageist, and other biased policies that perpetuate inequity (<https://ceo.lacounty.gov/racial-equity-strategic-plan/>).
- iii. **No Wrong Door Approach:** Establish a true no wrong-door approach for people experiencing homelessness that interact with County systems, advance equity, and prioritize at-risk households.

STRATEGIES continued

FOCUS AREA GOAL

- D. Streamlined and Equitable Contracting and Procurement:** Implement streamlined and more equitable contracting and procurement systems and opportunities.

STRATEGIES

- i. **Accountability and Equity:** Strengthen the County's capacity to detect and avoid conflicts of interest in contracting and procurement processes, and create more equitable access.
- ii. **Modernize Contracting and Procurement:** Modernize the contract and procurement process to decrease timelines and increase the efficiency of awarding contracts and procurements.

FOCUS AREA GOAL

- E. Data-Driven Decision Making:** Use equity and data to continually assess and strengthen our efficiency and effectiveness, maximize and leverage resources, ensure fiscal responsibility, and hold ourselves accountable.

STRATEGIES

- i. **Facilitate Data Sharing:** Facilitate data sharing within and across departments to ensure policy and operational recommendations are well informed.
- ii. **Budgeting:** Revamp longstanding budgeting conventions so that they are equity-focused and data-driven.

FOCUS AREA GOAL

- F. Flexible and Efficient Infrastructure:** Use lessons learned from the recent pandemic to implement flexible and efficient administrative, technological, and physical infrastructures to meet the needs of our constituents.

STRATEGIES

- i. **Eliminate Time Tax:** Eliminate the time tax or administrative burdens experienced by our constituents by reducing or eliminating unnecessary processes that delay providing services. Eliminate financial burdens placed by delays in permitting and inspections, and expedite the time to provide refunds to property taxpayers.
- ii. **Modernize Infrastructure:** Evaluate our current IT infrastructure and capital projects, and address identified needs to replace or modernize legacy/obsolete infrastructure and to leverage technological advancements that increase visibility, accessibility, and ease of use for residents.
- iii. **Technological Advancement/Digital Divide:** Invest in equitable access to the internet, technology, and digital resources.



FOCUS AREA GOAL

- G. Internal Controls and Processes:** Strengthen our internal controls and processes, while being cognizant of efficiency, to continue good stewardship of the public trust and fiscal responsibility.

STRATEGIES

- i. **Maximize Revenue:** Implement processes to systematically leverage resources to help fund County initiatives.
- ii. **Manage and Maximize County Assets:** Maximize use of County assets, guide strategic investments (including real estate and space management) in ways that are fiscally responsible and align with the County's highest priority needs.
- iii. **Measure Impact and Effectiveness of our Collective Efforts:** Develop and operationalize a range of metrics and measures to track implementation and outcomes of the PLAN and other County initiatives.
- iv. **Enhance County's Fiscal Strength Through Long-Term Planning:** Develop and implement a plan to address the County's long-term unfunded liabilities and consider future financial implications of ongoing legal settlements and consent decrees.

CONCLUSION

CONCLUSION

This Strategic Plan is more than an ambitious declaration of what LA County aspires to accomplish in the next six years. It is our goal and commitment to the 9.7 million individuals who built their lives and futures here. For our constituents, we want it to be positive, lasting, and tangible in their everyday life. We want to work together with all partners to make this the best life we can from the time we hear a baby's first cry to the time we see an older adult's tears of joy at a life lived well.

While we have asked our constituents to Choose LA County, we are also choosing it ourselves. The County's future depends on our commitment to and achievement of the strategies in this PLAN. Our work begins today to serve our constituents better, increase our engagement, make good decisions, be accountable, and provide our residents with every chance at a good life.

