

**CIVIL + HUMAN RIGHTS
AND EQUITY DEPARTMENT**

250 1st St., Suite 1000
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 978-1845
www.civilandhumanrights.lacity.org

CAPRI MADDOX
Executive Director
General Manager

CLAUDIA LUNA
Assistant General Manager

**CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA**



KAREN BASS
MAYOR

**COMMISSION ON THE
STATUS OF WOMEN**

50th Anniversary
1975-2025

TRACY D. GRAY
President

SIMONA GRACE
Vice President

ERMA BERNARD-GIBSON
LUCIG H. DANIELIAN
ANA KAREN ESTRADA
CRISTINA ROSE
KATHERINE YEOM

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

Regular Meeting Minutes
John Lewis Conference Center
201 N. Los Angeles Street, Suite 3A
March 20, 2026
10:00 a.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Commission President Tracy Gray called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.
Commissioners Gray, Gibson, Grace, Yeom, Estrada were in attendance.
Commissioner Danielian arrived at 10:14 and Commissioners Rose arrived at 10:22

Also in attendance were Claudia Luna, Assistant General Manager, Civil and Human Rights + Equity Department (LACR); Christopher Cadena, City Attorney; Scott Lee, Director of Legislative and Community Affairs, LACR; Carla Ibarra, LGBTQIA+ Liaison, LACR; Liliana Villa, Human Relations Advocate, LACR; and Chloe Coventry, Management Assistant, LACR.

A quorum was established, and the meeting proceeded.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Commission reviewed the minutes of the January 16, 2026 Regular Meeting.
Commissioner Bernard-Gibson moved to approve the minutes, and Commissioner Danielian seconded. The vote proceeded as follows:

Moved: Rose

Seconded: Bernard-Gibson

Ayes: Danielian, Gray, Estrada, Rose, Bernard-Gibson

Nays:

Abstain: Grace, Yeom

Vote: 5-0

The minutes, with amendments, passed unanimously.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were five [5] members of the community who spoke on agenda items 2,3 and 4. All five commenters were from community groups who make up the Downtown Women's Coalition. They all spoke in opposition to the surveillance and criminalization of sex workers and the sweeps of unhoused people in downtown Los Angeles, both of which are exacerbated by the preparations for the 2028 Olympics (LA28). They expressed the need for input that comes directly from the impacted communities. President Gray responded that the CSW is still

gathering information in regards to human trafficking and requests further meetings. Shameka Foster of the Downtown Women's Center expressed that while they were not ready to hold the CSW's full regular meeting at their organization's campus, they did want to meet with Commissioners in the future regarding these topics.

The final public comment was a request to the Commission to support the name-change of Cesar Chavez Boulevard to Delores Huertas Avenue.

4. AD HOC UPDATES

- a. Vice President Simona Grace gave a debrief on the Women of Impact Awards (WIA). While the awards were tremendously successful due to the work of the Ad Hoc and LACR Staff member Liliana Villa, Commissioner Grace expressed some dismay about the difficulty in securing a WIA presentation on the City Council Meeting agenda. Commissioners discussed potentially amending the City's Women's History Month resolution to include a WIA mandate. Staff will follow up on this request.
- b. Commissioner Estrada gave a brief overview of the Public Safety Symposium, describing its panel and workshops. President Gray commended her on the work she did for the Symposium, particularly as it was Commissioner Estrada's first event with the CSW.
- c. Communications and Outreach
- d. Commissioner Lucig Danielian reported on the ongoing Menopause Workplace Experience Survey, which the Ad Hoc and Personnel department sent out to all Los Angeles City employees experiencing menopause. The survey was distributed via department General Managers and has received 762 responses to date.
- e. Commissioner Lucig Danielian recounted the background and context of the City's engagement with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). She noted that in the original legislation, the CSW is responsible for implementation of CEDAW. This implementation has stalled since 2020.
 - i. The meeting agenda was then amended so that Item 6, Vice President Grace's update from the 70th Meeting of the UN's Commission on the Status of Women, could take place earlier. VP Grace had CEDAW information to share from this event, mentioning how much traction it has on the national level. The Commissioner would also like to champion having more CSW members go to the UN's annual meeting. Commissioner Grace asked to join the CEDAW Ad Hoc, along with Commissioner Estrada.
- f. Commissioner Yeom reported no updates for the Human Trafficking Ad Hoc.

5. PRESENTATIONS

- a. Holly Milburn Smith presented on recent updates from City Hub and Network for Gender Equity (CHANGE). CHANGE is a network of eighteen cities founded in Los Angeles. Their organization interviewed caregivers after the LA fires and has released a report that emphasizes the importance of involving caregivers in disaster planning. CHANGE is also currently working on a Global Summit, which will be held in Melbourne next month. The summit themes involve strengthening care infrastructure.
- b. Stephanie Richard from Loyola Law School presented on the Sunita Jain Anti-Trafficking Initiative, specifically addressing the documented increase in labor trafficking that occurs around major sporting events. She noted that while the typical policy response involves a large, coordinated increase in law enforcement presence, this approach often yields unintended consequences. Research indicates that the majority of resulting arrests are adult women from vulnerable communities who are working voluntarily, rather than those being trafficked. To improve outcomes, Ms. Richard recommended the adoption of a public health approach implemented both before and during sporting events, coupled with

a comprehensive human rights plan to protect vulnerable populations.

6. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

- a. Vice President Simona Grace - Update from the 70th Meeting of the UN's Commission on the Status of Women - Item was moved to 4.e.i above

7. DEPARTMENT UPDATE

The department update was tabled due to lack of time.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Commissioner Bernard-Gibson announced that her church organization fed over two-hundred community members at the Downtown Women's Center (DWC) and that the Downtown Women's Center has invited the Commission to have their regular meeting there in the future. As DWC is not open to the public, however, it does not meet Brown Act requirements for a meeting space.
- b. President Gray requested that the CSW release a statement regarding Cesar Chavez. As that action was not on the Agenda, President Gray will release a statement herself.
- c. President Gray is also requesting that the Commission review and discuss the SAVE Act.

9. ADJOURNMENT

meeting is adjourned at 12:36pm

NOTICE TO PAID REPRESENTATIVES: If you are compensated to monitor, attend, or speak at this meeting, City law may require you to register as a lobbyist and report your activity. See Los Angeles Municipal Code 48.01 et seq. More information is available at ethics.lacity.org/lobbying. For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or ethics.commission@lacity.org.