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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

July 07, 2026

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

13 July 7, 2026

EDWARD YEN
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear Supervisors:

**APPROVAL OF CHANGE TO THE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COUNCIL STRUCTURE
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

Request approval to change the structure of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Domestic Violence Council in response to Board Motion dated November 7, 2017.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

Introduce and place on the agenda request of approval to change the structure of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (Public Health) Domestic Violence Council (DVC) to no longer be recognized as a body by the Board of Supervisors (Board). Public Health is considering ways to develop a new model for domestic violence support with a focus on public engagement.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approval of the recommendation referenced above will allow the DVC to efficiently develop policy recommendations and community coordination by gathering expanded and diverse viewpoints and give further voice to survivors of domestic violence (DV) in Los Angeles County (LAC).

On December 5, 2025, Public Health held a community engagement session at the DVC General Membership Meeting, to discuss how to preserve and expand participation by DVC members and others in DV/Interpersonal Violence (IPV) system coordination and policy recommendations.

The meeting was attended by more than 50 individuals representing 34 agencies. Attendees unanimously recommended that the DVC transition to a framework that attempts to better engage with DVC members and new potential participants, and to empower the voice of survivors in the County's efforts to create system coordination, expansion of resources and services, and policy approaches that address DV/IPV in LAC.

The DVC members hope to work with Public Health to develop other frameworks for organizing:

1. Increasing membership. A new public health structure could better serve the DVC's intended mission, expand its scope and size, and reflect more of the diversity in LAC.
2. Increasing accessibility and flexibility for meeting participation. Transportation, physical disability, work schedules, commuting time, and limited travel reimbursement resources were cited as barriers for DVC members to actively participate in DVC committees and general membership meetings.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended actions support North Star 2, Foster vibrant and resilient communities, Area Goal A, Public Health, of the County's Strategic Plan.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There is no funding associated with this action.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The DVC was established as a permanent Council by order of the Board in 1979. The body is comprised of 70 member agencies including governmental and public agencies, representatives from City and County Departments community-based organizations that provide services to DV/IPV survivors, domestic violence service providers, shelter/housing programs, legal services, mental health and substance use disorder treatment providers, and culturally specific providers. Currently, DVC membership is limited to 70 organizations. However, many more individuals participate regularly in DVC meetings and events, and the DVC currently has an email listserv of more than 1,000 active attendees.

On November 7, 2017, the Board directed the Chief Executive Office to transfer the support and oversight of the DVC from the Board's Executive Office to Public Health with the vision that DV/IPV be addressed as a public health issue within a public health framework.

The Board further directed Public Health to conduct an assessment and make recommendations regarding the current DVC composition and structure and work with County Counsel to update and revise the current DVC by-laws to reflect any changes in structure, composition or where necessary to effectuate the Board's desire to view and address DV/IPV issues effectively within a public health framework.

Public Health's November 19, 2018, report to the Board emphasized recommendations to expand and lower barriers to membership.

Public Health has reported back to the Board on recommendations regarding the composition of the DVC to expand and lower barriers to participation and has provided annual progress reports, which have informed the proposed transition to a Public Health-led model to further advance these goals.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Approval of the recommended action will dissolve the DVC in its current form as a Board Commission. Public Health will work with the community to support domestic violence survivors with increased community engagement.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Barbara Ferrer".

Barbara Ferrer, PhD, MPH, MEd
Director

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Director

BF:sp
#08663

c: Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors