

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
EDUCATION AND PREVENTION COMMITTEE**

**Meeting Minute Summary  
July 9, 2025**

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Commissioners Christina Gonzalez Rebecca Birotte, Tony Bell, Deena Duncan, Juan Navarro

**COMMISSIONERS REQUESTING EXCUSED ABSENCES:** Alicia Garoupa  
**UNEXCUSED ABSENCES:** Jerry G. Velasco

**GUEST REGISTER:** Mercedes Santoro, Darrell Santos, Kim Richard, Christina Carbone, John Bardigo

**MATERIALS DISTRIBUTED:** Education and Planning July 9, 2025 Agenda

Topic	Discussion/Finding
1. Call to Order & Introduction of Commissioners and Guests	<p>Chair Rebecca Birotte, County of Los Angeles, the Policy and Planning Committee convened the meeting at 12:31 P.M.</p> <p>Chair Rebecca Birotte asked for self-introductions from all Commissioners and guests.</p> <p>Quorum present.</p>
2. Public Comments	No Public Comment
3. Action on AB2449 and Excuse Absence	<p>Commissioner Alicia Garoupa asked to be excused from today's meeting.</p> <p>Chair Rebecca Birotte entertained a motion which was moved to approve by Commissioner Jack Hadjinian and seconded by Commissioner Tony Bell.</p> <p>Motion was unanimously carried.</p>
4. Presentation	<p>Mercedes Santoro - Los Angeles County Parks &amp; Recreation</p> <p>Our SPOT Teen Center - Social Places &amp; Opportunities for Teens (SPOT)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Overview <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Program Outcomes</li> <li>○ Program Located at 16 LA County Parks</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Program Pillars <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Our SPOT is built on a foundation of Positive Youth Development (PYD) and Trauma-Informed Care</li> <li>○ Professional Development Investment</li> <li>○ SAPC Work Plan Interventions Include</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ 14 different Programmatic Pillars</li> <li>○ What SAPC funds <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ SAPC currently supports Our SPOT programming at 9 parks</li> <li>○ FY 2024-25 SAPC Budget Allocation supports: Staffing support for</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Topic	Discussion/Finding
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>teen center operations and supplies and materials for prevention education and enrichment activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Events and workshops</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Impact of SAPC Leadership</li> <li>○ Our SPOT was recognized as a Top Prevention Program in 2024 by LA County Department of Public Health</li> <li>○ Today's Our SPOT Teen Centers Partners/Funders <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Department of Probation, Department of Public Health, SAPC, Department of Mental Health, Department of Youth Development</li> <li>○ 14 Our SPOT sites have been selected to receive Youth Well-Being Lounges</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Our SPOT Teen Center 2023-24 Evaluation Highlights <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Quantitative Evaluation – Positive Youth Development and Engagement Constructs</li> <li>○ Core constructs: Safety &amp; belonging, Skill-building opportunities, Youth voice &amp; leadership, Community Connection &amp; Contribution</li> <li>○ Qualitative Evaluation – Centering Youth and Community Voices</li> <li>○ Focused on youth participants, parents and caregivers, and site staff and program leads.</li> <li>○ Insights provided deeper understanding of youth needs, program strengths, and areas of growth.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Outcomes</li> <li>○ Quotes from youth participants</li> <li>○ 2024-25 Program Highlights</li> <li>○ How can the commission assist <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Promote the Our SPOT Teen Centers Widely</li> <li>○ Engage Youth Directly</li> <li>○ Volunteer with Us</li> <li>○ Facilitate New Partnerships</li> <li>○ Identify Funders to Expand Reach</li> <li>○ Continue to be a voice for Youth</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
5. Comments from Commissioners on Items of Interest	None.
6. Adjournment	Meeting was adjourned at 1:05 P.M.

**Next meeting date:**  
 October 8, 2025, at 12:30 P.M.  
 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
 500 W. Temple Avenue, Sybil Brand Commission Room, Suite 372  
 Los Angeles, California 90012