

**AGENDA  
SOCIAL JUSTICE TASK FORCE  
MEETING  
&  
COMMUNITY LISTENING  
SESSION  
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD**

**TUESDAY, JUNE 28, 2022  
6:00PM**

**TELECONFERENCE MEETING\***

**LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:**

The West Hollywood Social Justice Task Force acknowledges that the land on which we gather and that is currently known as the City of West Hollywood is the occupied, unceded, seized territory of the Gabrieleño Tongva and Gabrieleño Kizh peoples.

**\*IN AN EFFORT TO PROTECT PUBLIC HEALTH AND PREVENT THE SPREAD OF COVID- 19 (CORONAVIRUS), AB 361 HAS AUTHORIZED PUBLIC MEETINGS TO TAKE PLACE VIA TELECONFERENCE BECAUSE STATE AND LOCAL OFFICIALS ARE RECOMMENDING MEASURES TO PROMOTE SOCIAL DISTANCING.**

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**TO PARTICIPATE BY PROVIDING PUBLIC COMMENT BY TELEPHONE  
VIA THE ZOOM PLATFORM:**

You are strongly encouraged to email Jasmine Duckworth at [jduckworth@weho.org](mailto:jduckworth@weho.org) no later than Tuesday, June 28<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. to be added to the Public Speaker List for the meeting. Please include your name, the phone number from which you will be calling if applicable, and which item you would like to speak on.

Your comments and information will become part of the official public record. If you do not want your personal information included in the official record, please do not include your address and/or phone number.

If special assistance to participate in this meeting is required, (e.g., an American Sign Language interpreter for people who are Deaf or hard of hearing), you must call or submit your request in writing to the Office of the City Clerk at (323) 848- 6800 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. The City TTY line is (323) 848-6496.

To provide public comment via the Zoom Platform – When you enter the meeting, please make sure to turn off your video and mute your audio.

- **If you wish to make a public comment, please use the ‘raised hand’ feature in the Zoom application. You will be called at the appropriate time. Please turn on your video and audio to make your public comment.**
- **Meeting ID:** 859 4164 1823  
**Passcode:** 436827
- **Join Zoom Meeting**  
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85941641823?pwd=Tld5RjRWY3lXUjFKdklvSTNiNzE4Zz09>

To provide public comment via telephone, please call in and remember to place your phone on mute:

- **Dial-in phone number: 1 (669) 900-6833**
- **Meeting ID:** 859 4164 1823 and enter the passcode.
- **Passcode:** 436827 and then press #
- **Dial-in 10 minutes before the meeting starts.**

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **ROLL CALL**
4. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

*RECOMMENDATION: The Social Justice Task Force will approve the minutes of the May 24, 2022, regular meeting.*

5. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

The public is given the opportunity to address the Social Justice Task Force on any item within its responsibility. At the discretion of the Social Justice Task Force, speakers may be limited to two minutes each.

6. **COMMUNITY LISTENING SESSION (THE ASPIRE GROUP)**

This time is set aside for the public to provide input and feedback on the Social Justice Task Force’s recommendations before they are finalized and presented to the City Council. The format of the listening session will begin with a brief recap of the Social Justice Task Force’s recommendations, led by The Aspire Group, and will be followed by the community feedback period. Speakers will be limited to three minutes each.

Attachments:

1. Staff Report
2. Attachment A (Social Justice Task Force Recommendations)

*RECOMMENDATION: Receive input and feedback.*

**7. ITEMS FROM TASK FORCE MEMBERS/SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

**8. ITEMS FROM STAFF**

This time is set aside for City staff to provide information to the Social Justice Task Force on items of interest to the Task Force.

**9. PUBLIC COMMENT ON MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

This time is set aside for the public to address the Task Force on any item of interest within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Task Force that could not be heard under the Public Comment Item at the beginning of the meeting.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

The Social Justice Task Force will adjourn to a special meeting on Tuesday, July 19, 2022, at 6:00 p.m., which will be held in-person at Plummer Park–Fiesta Hall located at 1166 N. Vista Street, West Hollywood, CA 90046.

Notice: Written materials distributed to the Social Justice Task Force within 72 hours of this meeting are available online at [www.weho.org](http://www.weho.org)

**ITEM 4  
ATTACHMENT**

**MINUTES  
SOCIAL JUSTICE TASK FORCE  
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD  
MEETING  
TUESDAY, MAY 24, 2022  
6:00 PM  
TELECONFERENCE MEETING**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER** – Task Force Chair, Jonathan Wilson called the meeting to order at 6:02pm.

\*Vice-Chair Zamilpa led the Task Force and meeting attendees in a moment of silence to honor the lives lost in Uvalde, Texas.

\*Task Force Member Demuir recited the Land Acknowledgement

- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Task Force Member Seperak led the Pledge of Allegiance.

- 3. ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** Mito Aviles, Chela Demuir, Krupa Desai, Shannon Morton, Jorge Seperak, Giselle Washington, Jonathan Wilson, and Daniel Zamilpa

**ABSENT:** Marcus Smith

**ALSO PRESENT:** Community Services Director, Yvonne Quarker  
Community and Legislative Affairs Supervisor, Andi Lovano

- 4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Approval of the April 26, 2022, Meeting Minutes

**ACTION: Approved the Minutes of April 26, 2022, motion by Vice-Chair Zamilpa, seconded by Task Force Member Morton, and approved 8 to 0.**

- 5. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

The public is given the opportunity to address the Social Justice Task Force on any item within its responsibility. At the discretion of the Social Justice Task Force, speakers may be limited to two minutes each.

Michael Wojkielewicz provided public comment on a previous statement made

during the October 26, 2021, Social Justice Task Force meeting.

## **6. FINALIZING ACTIONABLE RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE SOCIAL JUSTICE TASK FORCE SUBCOMMITTEES (*The Aspire Group*)**

Social Justice Task Force Facilitator, Diane Burbie of The Aspire Group, led the Task Force subcommittees through an exercise and series of prompts to assist the members in strengthening and finalizing their recommendations.

Prompts:

1. How does this recommendation uplift and advance social justice?
2. If this recommendation is realized or implemented, what are the most tangible changes that would occur?

The Task Force members engaged in a lengthy discussion about each subcommittees proposed recommendations and provided feedback on ways to strengthen the recommendations.

**ACTION: Finalize, review, and discuss draft recommendations from the Social Justice Task Force subcommittees.**

*\*Task Force Member Demuir left the meeting at 7:01pm*

## **7. SELECT DATE FOR COMMUNITY LISTENING SESSION**

The community listening session will allow residents and community members the opportunity to provide feedback and input to the Social Justice Task Force on their draft recommendations before the final report is presented to the City Council. Staff recommends the Task Force schedule the listening session on Tuesday, July 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. to coincide with the regularly scheduled Task Force meeting.

**ACTION: Select the dates of Tuesday, June 28, 2022, to host a virtual community listening session and Tuesday, July 19, 2022, to host an in-person community listening session at a location to be determined. Wednesday, July 20, 2022, will be reserved as an alternate date for an in-person community listening session in case there are conflicts on the City Calendar.**

**Motion by Chair Wilson, seconded by Task Force Member Aviles, and approved 7 to 0.**

## **8. ITEMS FROM STAFF**

**This time is set aside for City staff to provide information to the Social Justice Task Force on items of interest to the Task Force.**

Social Justice Task Force liaison, Jasmine Duckworth, reminded the Task Force that the June 28, 2022, Social Justice Task Force Meeting and Community Listening Session will be held virtually and via teleconference due to the increase in COVID cases.

**9. PUBLIC COMMENT ON MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

This time is set aside for City staff to provide information to the Social Justice Task Force on items of interest to the Task Force.

None.

**10. TASK FORCE LIAISON REPORTS**

None.

**11. ITEMS FROM TASK FORCE MEMBERS/SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

None.

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

The Social Justice Task Force adjourned at 7:52 PM to its regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, June 28, 2022, at 6:00 PM, which will be held via teleconference.

**ITEM 6**  
**ATTACHMENTS**



**SUBJECT: COMMUNITY LISTENING SESSION**  
**PREPARED BY: COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT**  
Yvonne Quarker, Community Services Director  
Andi Lovano, Community & Legislative Affairs Supervisor  
Jasmine Duckworth, Community Programs Coordinator

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**STATEMENT ON THE SUBJECT:**

The Social Justice Task Force will host two community listening sessions to solicit feedback on their policy recommendations before they are finalized and presented to the City Council for review.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Receive and file.

**BACKGROUND / ANALYSIS:**

In an effort to amplify the voices of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) in the West Hollywood community, the City Council of the City of West Hollywood approved the creation of a Social Justice Task Force on December 7, 2020. The Task Force was established to advise the City Council on social and racial equity issues in the City of West Hollywood and provide policy recommendations to the Council to address systemic racism in West Hollywood. The Social Justice Task Force convened its first meeting on May 25, 2021, and has held thirteen meetings to date.

On October 18, 2021, the City Council received an update on the activities and progress of the Social Justice Task Force and their draft action plan. The action plan detailed a proposed process to guide the Social Justice Task Force in identifying key priority areas and included staff's recommendation to establish three Task Force subcommittees based on the priority areas. The approved subcommittees and purpose of each subcommittee is detailed below.

**Economic/Community Development & City Contracting/RFP Process Subcommittee**

This subcommittee was approved to focus on ways to enhance economic/community development opportunities and provide recommendations that incorporate social and racial equity into the City's contracting/RFP process to increase access to opportunities for BIPOC members in West Hollywood.

### Public Safety Subcommittee

This subcommittee was approved to explore ways to increase outreach and strengthen relationships between law enforcement agencies and BIPOC community members in West Hollywood.

### Housing & Homelessness and Social Services Subcommittee

This subcommittee was approved with the purpose of researching opportunities and mechanisms to increase access to housing and social services for BIPOC residents, community members, and members experiencing homelessness in West Hollywood.

### **Update on Activities and Progress:**

At the September 28, 2021, Social Justice Task Force meeting, the Social Justice Task Force members received a presentation from the City's Business Development Division regarding the economic incentives for BIPOC, Women-Owned, LGBTQ-Owned, and City resident small businesses in West Hollywood. The Task Force provided recommendations to staff on programs and resources that should be included in the City's effort to support members of these different business communities. The Task Force also updated the action plan for the months of October, November, and December, and approved the designation of Task Force liaisons to the City's Advisory Boards and Commissions.

During the October 26, 2021, meeting, the Social Justice Task Force received a presentation from the City's Strategic Initiatives Division on their annual report on the LA County Lesbian, Bisexual and Queer Women's Health Collaborative, four-year evaluation report for the City's Aging in Place/Aging in Community Strategic Plan, and development of a city-wide behavioral health crisis response unit. The Task Force also received a presentation from the Aspire Group on how to successfully define the scope of an issue and develop solutions and recommendations that address the issue.

At the November 30, 2021, Social Justice Task Force meeting, the Task Force received an update from the City's Social Services Division on social service utilization and needs assessment focusing on community members of color in West Hollywood. The Task Force also participated in a public safety discussion with West Hollywood Sheriff's Station Captain Ed Ramirez and Lieutenant Bill Moulder, as well as Shea Gibson, Operations Manager of Block-by-Block Security Ambassadors. The Task Force members emphasized the need to create more transparency and access to public safety data in West Hollywood, and the use of more creative and innovative approaches to engagement with residents and community members.

The Task Force meeting scheduled for December 21, 2021, was rescheduled to January 11, 2022. At this meeting, the Task Force received a presentation from the Community and Legislative Affairs Division on the draft request for proposals to complete a historical

context study of the City of West Hollywood and provided feedback to staff.

As part of the discussion, the Task Force recommended including the examination of 21<sup>st</sup> century policies and practices that may be culturally or racially discriminatory. Staff informed the Task Force that this information would be shared with the selected Consultant and added to the scope of work.

The Task Force and each of the subcommittees have continued to regularly meet and work towards the goal of finalizing policy recommendations that address systemic racism in West Hollywood. The Aspire Group continues to work with the subcommittees and Task Force members in identifying their respective objectives, deconstructing ideas, and proposing recommendations that seek to address gaps in services and programming, as well as needs and resources not provided by the City.

On March 21, 2022, the City Council received an update on the progress and activities of the Social Justice Task Force and their draft policy recommendations. The update included information on the priority areas and ideas explored in subcommittee meetings and overview of the facilitator-led discussions to encourage subcommittee members in developing actionable recommendations. The Task Force assigned each subcommittee with the responsibility of drafting recommendations based on each subcommittee's purview and purpose. During the months of February, March, April, and May, the Task Force subcommittees continued to meet, discuss, and formulate their recommendations, and presented these recommendations to the Task Force at-large for modifications and improvements. Over the last couple of months, the Task Force has engaged in a series of discussions to strengthen and improve their recommendations.

### Community Listening Session

In the months of June and July 2022, the Social Justice Task Force will host community listening sessions to solicit feedback from the community on their draft recommendations. The purpose of the listening sessions is to give residents and community members the opportunity to provide input on the recommendations before they are presented to the City Council for review. The first listening session will be held virtually on Tuesday, June 28, 2022, at 6:00 p.m., and the second session will be held in-person on Tuesday, July 19, 2022, at 6:00 p.m., at Plummer Park's Fiesta Hall, located at 7377 Santa Monica Boulevard.

### **CONFORMANCE WITH VISION 2020 AND THE GOALS OF THE WEST HOLLYWOOD GENERAL PLAN:**

This item is consistent with the Primary Strategic Goal(s) (PSG) and/or Ongoing

Strategic Program(s) (OSP) of:

- OSP-5: Support People through Social Services.

- OSP-6: Value and Encourage our Broad Diversity of Cultures.

In addition, this item is compliant with the following goal(s) of the West Hollywood General Plan:

- HS-1: Maintain and pursue humane social policies and social services that address the needs of the community.
- HS-3: Promote a community with strong social networks and cross-cultural interaction.

**EVALUATION PROCESSES:**

N/A

**ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND HEALTH:**

N/A

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:**

The Social Justice Task Force meets every fourth Tuesday of the month, at 6:00pm. All meetings are open to the public. In an effort to protect public health and prevent the spread of COVID-19, AB 361 has authorized public meetings to take place via teleconference. Staff will continue to monitor the COVID-19 case rate to determine ways to encourage feedback from residents and community members on the Task Force's proposed recommendations.

**OFFICE OF PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY:**

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT / COMMUNITY & LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS  
DIVISION

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

N/A

**ATTACHMENT:**

Social Justice Task Force Policy Recommendations (Draft)

SOCIAL JUSTICE TASK FORCE  
POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

***Economic/Community Development and Contracting and RFP***

Recommendation 1:

Amend the annual business registration form to include five optional fields:

- 1). BIPOC Ownership (>50%): Yes or No
- 2). Affiliated Race/Ethnicity: Standard Dropdown
- 3). Total # of Employees:
- 4). # of BIPOC Employees:
- 5). # of BIPOC Managers & Above

Recommendation 2:

Dedicated City webpage that provides step by step business guide for opening a business in West Hollywood. (This would include all forms that must be submitted as well as tutorials and/or links to people who can help steward the potential entrepreneur through the process. Ideally, there is a small playbook that accompanies the site along with a progress marker.)

Recommendation 3:

Develop and coordinate a business incubator program marketed primarily to BIPOC entrepreneurs. Through a potential public-private sponsorship and with the support of the Business License commission, there would be a series of workshops dedicated to enhancing a variety of organizational capabilities.

Recommendation 4:

Implement a business minority certification that highlights businesses that have received official minority certifications at the state/federal level as well as those who have received certifications from the City of Los Angeles and any other approved programs.

Recommendation 5:

Require all RFPs distributed by the City of West Hollywood to have a minimum of 20% responses in the pool of applicants from businesses with a majority BIPOC-ownership stake.

***Public Safety Subcommittee***

Recommendation 1:

Expand legal services and resources to provide expungement or reduced offenses for non-violent cannabis related crimes.

Recommendation 1a:

Implement reparations tax from all cannabis related sales to offset the racial disparity in cannabis related arrests due to the impacts inflicted on communities of color caused by racist policies and practices.

Recommendation 2:

Decriminalize sex work and expand legal services and resources to provide expungement or reduced offenses for non-violent sex-work related crimes.

SOCIAL JUSTICE TASK FORCE  
POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation 3:

Examine and investigate the City of West Hollywood's contract with the LA County Sheriff's Department.

**Housing & Homelessness and Social Services Subcommittee**

Recommendation 1:

Allocate funds to provide interim/temporary shelter for members experiencing homelessness in West Hollywood. (Although the City is currently exploring the possibility of securing Project Homekey Funding to purchase the Holloway Hotel which will serve as interim housing for members experiencing homelessness in West Hollywood, there is an immediate need to provide housing and services. Funds should be earmarked in the event the City is not able to secure state funding resources.)

Recommendation 2:

Designate a safe place in the West Hollywood where people can receive wrap-around services such as lockers/storage space, showers, and bus passes. Wrap-around services will include essential resources on diversion strategies to connect people to housing and services.

Recommendation 3:

Allocate funds to prioritize hiring of diverse staff to support the West Hollywood Five-Year Plan to Address Homelessness in Our Community.