

**AGENDA
SOCIAL JUSTICE TASK FORCE
MEETING
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD**

**TUESDAY, JULY 26, 2022
6:00PM**

**PLUMMER PARK – ROOMS 5 & 6
7377 SANTA MONICA BLVD
WEST HOLLYWOOD, CA 90046**

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.

If special assistance is required to participate in this meeting, (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.

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 July 19, 2022, special meeting and community listening session.

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. DEBRIEF OF JUNE AND JULY COMMUNITY LISTENING SESSIONS

This time is set aside for the Social Justice Task Force to debrief about the feedback received during the June 28, 2022, and July 19, 2022, community listening sessions. Each subcommittee will have the opportunity to go through their set of recommendations and discuss the input received at the virtual and in-

person listening sessions.

RECOMMENDATION: Debrief, review, and revise recommendations.

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 its next regular meeting on Tuesday, August 23, 2022, at 6:00 p.m., which will be held in-person at Plummer Park in Rooms 5 and 6, 7377 Santa Monica Blvd, 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

**ITEM 4
ATTACHMENT**

**MINUTES
SOCIAL JUSTICE TASK FORCE SPECIAL MEETING
&
COMMUNITY LISTENING SESSION
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
MEETING
TUESDAY, JULY 19, 2022
6:00 PM**

**Plummer Park – Fiesta Hall
1166 N. Vista Street
West Hollywood, CA 90046**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Task Force Chair Wilson called the meeting to order at 6:05pm.
2. **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT** read by Vice-Chair Zamilpa.
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Task Force Member Seperak led the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. **ROLL CALL**

PRESENT: Chair Wilson, Vice-Chair Zamilpa, Task Force Member Aviles, Task Force Member Smith, Task Force Member Washington, Task Force Member Seperak, Task Force Member Morton, and Task Force Member Desai

ABSENT: Task Force Member Demuir

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

5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Approval of the June 28, 2022 Meeting Minutes

ACTION: Approved the Minutes of June 28, 2022, motion by Vice-Chair Zamilpa, seconded by Task Force Member Aviles, and approved 8 to 0.

6. 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.

Mr. Mud spoke to the Social Justice Task Force about an experience at a previous City Council meeting.

7. COMMUNITY LISTENING SESSION (*The Aspire Group*)

The Social Justice Task Force received input and feedback on the Task Force's recommendations. The listening session began with the Task Force facilitator, Diane Burbie providing a brief overview of the Task Force's recommendations, followed by a series of polls and a community feedback period.

8. ITEMS FROM TASK FORCE MEMBERS/SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

The Task Force subcommittees will begin to schedule meetings between now and the July 26th meeting to debrief about the June and July community listening sessions. Each subcommittee will begin revising their set of recommendations between the July 26, 2022 meeting and August 23, 2022 meeting, so the Task Force can approve the final list of recommendations during the August meeting.

Task Force members asked staff to look into exploring hybrid capabilities for future Task Force meetings to allow for more engagement with community members and residents.

9. 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 July 26, 2022, Social Justice Task Force Meeting will be held at Plummer Park – Rooms 5 and 6, located at 7377 Santa Monica Blvd, West Hollywood, CA 90046.

The Task Force was also informed that October is Disabilities Awareness Month, and the Disabilities Service Awards nomination period is open now until August 5th. The press release, additional information and nomination forms are available on the City website at www.weho.org/services/social-services/disability-services/disability-service-awards.

10. 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.

Mayor Pro Tempore, Sepi Shyne thanked the Task Force for their work, engagement and accomplishments.

Michael Wojtkielewicz (Mr. Mud) encouraged the Task Force to utilize Plummer

Park's Fiesta Hall and Long Hall for future meetings.

Zekiah Wright suggested the Task Force have microphones at their next meeting to improve audio/sound quality, thanked the Task Force members for their work on their recommendations, and encouraged the Task Force to include in their final report a recommendation to approve the Task Force as a permanent body.

Jackie Steele encouraged the Task Force to collaborate with the City's Commissions and Advisory Boards and invite them to participate in future listening sessions/meetings.

- 11.** The Social Justice Task Force adjourned at 7:39 PM to its regular meeting on Tuesday, August 23, 2022, at 6:00 PM, which will be held in-person at Plummer Park, Rooms 5 and 6, located at 7377 Santa Monica Blvd, West Hollywood, CA 90046.

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.