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# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES SMALL BUSINESS COMMISSION

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Hilda L. Solis  
Holly Mitchell  
Sheila Kuehl  
Janice Hahn  
Kathryn Barger

*"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"*

## **Commission Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, July 14, 2021

10:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

## **Meeting Held Via Teleconference**

### **Item 1: Call to Order**

Chair Robertson called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

### **Item 2: Roll Call and Confirmation of Quorum**

Roll call was taken, and the quorum requirement was met.

#### **Present**

**1<sup>st</sup> District:** Kerry Doi

**2<sup>nd</sup> District:** Will Campbell, Angela Gibson, Mark Robertson, Steven Temple

**3<sup>rd</sup> District:** James Conlon, Todd Flora, R. Christine Hershey

**4<sup>th</sup> District:** Ann Carpenter, Anna Wu

**5<sup>th</sup> District:** Anthony Williams, Josef Essavi, Tyrone Hampton

#### **Absent**

**1<sup>st</sup> District:** Diane Araujo, Andrew Rodriguez, Rose Acosta-Yonai

**2<sup>nd</sup> District:** Ky Chueon Kim

**3<sup>rd</sup> District:** Amy Ablakat, Lisa Miller

**4<sup>th</sup> District:** Cindy Allen, Lucia Moreno-Linares, Patrick Wilson

**5<sup>th</sup> District:** Frieda Hovsepian, Onnik Mehrabian

#### **Staff**

Rafael Carbajal, Joel Ayala, Azusena Favela, Fernando Nieto, Ernesto Bobadilla, Marissa Lao, Analu Fernandini, Jessica Mireles, Sayuj Panicker (County Counsel), Francisco Mendez

#### **Public**

None

### **Item 3: Approval of Small Business Commission (SBC) Minutes**

Commissioner Hershey moved to approve the minutes of the SBC meeting for April 21, 2021. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Carpenter. The motion was passed unanimously via voice vote.

### **Item 4: Introduction of Ernesto Bobadilla and Marissa Lao, Commission Services Liaisons**

Francisco Mendez, Department of Consumer and Business Affairs (DCBA) Commission Services Liaison, introduced Ernesto Bobadilla and Marissa Lao as the new Commission Services Liaisons for the SBC. After brief introductions by Mr. Bobadilla and Ms. Lao, and a farewell message by Mr. Mendez, the Chair of the SBC welcomed the new liaisons to the role.

### **Item 5: Repeal of Executive Order N-29-20**

Francisco Mendez, DCBA Commission Services Liaison, shared information on the eventual repeal of Executive Order N-29-20, which suspended certain Ralph M. Brown Act provisions. Future updates on the status of the repeal will be shared at a future meeting.



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### **Item 6: Chief Executive Office (CEO) – Economic and Work Development Department (EWDD) Update**

Epifanio "Epi" Peinado, Supervising Administrator for EWDD, Allison Clark, and Daniel Kelleher, representatives from the Chief Executive Office, are leading the efforts in creating the new County EWDD. Epi has been brought onboard to assist the County in formalizing the EWDD. Epi and his team provided a self-introduction, shared the role that they play in the implementation plan, and provided an overview of the phased implementation plan, a high-level roadmap. The plan starts with phase one on October 2021 and will create the precursor branches being aging and community services on one side, economic development and workforce on the other, with a shared administrative structure. The full establishment of the two new departments will begin in phase two.

### **Item 7: SBC Procurement and Reciprocity and Economic Development & Outreach Committee Updates**

Commissioner Miller, who recently been elevated to a position on the court and is no longer serving as a Commissioner, was unavailable to provide the Procurement and Reciprocity Committee Update.

Commissioner Williams, then Chair of the SBC Economic Development and Outreach Committee, stated the SBC can have such an impact with access to the type of research and reporting that is needed to help formulate the kind of policy advocacy for small businesses.

### **Item 8: DCBA- American Rescue Plan (ARP) Proposals and Los Angeles Regional Covid-19 Recovery Fund Update**

Azusena Favela, Deputy Director of Economic Development for DCBA, provided updates on the ARP and stressed that they are currently only proposals and may change depending on authorizations. Information on the Los Angeles Regional COVID-19 Relief Loan Fund and the criteria needed for Los Angeles County small businesses to receive grants was also shared.

### **Item 9: DCBA Office of Small Business (OSB) Update**

Fernando Nieto, Consumer and Business Affairs Supervisor, shared updates on the Small Business Utilization (SBU) goals. Among the information shared, statistics on small business outreach was also shared.

### **Item 10: Department Update**

Department update was covered in earlier agenda items.

### **Item 11: Future Agenda Items**

None.

### **Item 12: Public Comment**

None.

### **Item 13: Adjournment**

Commissioner Hampton moved to adjourn the Small Business Commission meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Essavi. Meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.