



Santa Cruz County Latino Affairs Commission

701 Ocean Street, Room 510, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

P: (831) 454-2772 F: (831) 454-2411 TTY/TDD 711

commissions@santacruzcounty.us

www.scclatinoaffairs.org

Notice of Public Meeting and Agenda

DATE Wednesday, December 1, 2021

TIME: 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM

IN RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY AND PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF AB 361 AND CAL. GOV. CODE 54953, **THIS WILL BE A REMOTE MEETING** WITH NO PHYSICAL LOCATION AVAILABLE, BUT ACCESS AND AN OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT WILL BE PROVIDED. **PLEASE DIAL-IN TO THE TELECONFERENCE WITHIN TEN MINUTES OF THE MEETING START TIME.**

TELECONFERENCE INFORMATION

Phone: **+1 (646) 749-3129**

Toll Free +1 (877) 309-2073

Access Code: **980-937-117**

1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Agenda Review

2. Approve *August 4, 2021 Minutes*

3. Public Comment

Any person may address the Commission for a period not to exceed three minutes on an issue within the jurisdiction of the Commission.

4. New Business/Action Items:

4.1. CARES Justice Advisory Group Update – Sven Stafford (*Principal Administrative Analyst*)

4.2. Consider Approving the 2020-2021 Biennial Report

4.3. Consider Adopting the AB-361 Statement of Findings Allowing Remote Meetings

4.4. Consider Advocating for Implementation of Grand Jury's Broadband Recommendations

5. Ongoing Business:

5.1. Affordable Housing Update

6. Commissioner District/City Reports

6.1. District 1

6.2. District 2

6.3. District 3

6.4. District 4

6.5. District 5

6.6. Santa Cruz City

6.7. Watsonville City

7. Staff Report

8. Adjournment

Next Meeting Scheduled for 6:00 PM on Wednesday, February 2, 2021

The County of Santa Cruz does not discriminate on the basis of disability, and no person shall, by reason of a disability, be denied the benefits of its services, programs or activities. If you require assistance to participate in the meeting, please contact (831) 454-2772 or TTY/TDD: 711 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting to make arrangements.



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Meeting Minutes

DATE: Wednesday, August 4, 2021

TIME: 6:00 PM

LOCATION: Meeting held remotely

PRESENT: Abbygale Gonzalez (2nd District), Christina Granados (4th District), Leo Gomez (5th District), Diana Alfaro (City of Santa Cruz), Rebecca Hernandez (City of Santa Cruz), Rebecca Garcia (City of Watsonville),

EXCUSED: Guadalupe Alvarez Garcia (1st District)

ABSENT: Sylvia Mendez (City of Watsonville)

STAFF: Kaite McGrew (Commissions Coordinator)

GUESTS: Guy Preston (RTC Executive Director) No members of the public were present

1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Agenda Review

Meeting convened at 6:04 PM.

2. Approve June 2, 2021 Minutes

Motion to approve minutes

Motion/Second: Garcia/Granados

Motion passed unanimously.

3. Public Comment

4. New Business/Action Items

4.1. Rail Transit Projects Update

Preston provided an overview of the rail line's history, and the status of Coastal Rail Trail projects under development. A 2019 study proposed a multi-modal (rail, bus, bicycle, etc.) infrastructure plan designed to promote a sustainable transportation system. A 25-year business plan to modernize the rail line was not approved by the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission. Measure D. will fund rail line preservation but not refurbishment and alternate funding has not been identified. A projected 3K community members would use the passenger rail. The Greenway Trail referendum will not impact existing RTC funding for railways.

4.2. 2021 Strategic Action Plan Ad Hoc Subcommittee Appointments

Motion to cancel the 2021 Community Art Wall Project

Motion/Second: Hernandez/Alfaro

Ayes: Granados, Gomez, Alfaro, Hernandez, Garcia

Abstain: Gonzalez

Motion passed.

Commission Chairs appointed the following Commissioners to the following Subcommittees:

Advocacy Subcommittee:

Alvarez Garcia, Mendez

Community Outreach Subcommittee:

Garcia, Alfaro, Granados

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Subcommittee:

Hernandez, Gomez, Gonzales, Alfaro

Affordable Housing Subcommittee:

Alfaro, Gonzalez

4.3. County Redistricting Efforts

Commission reviewed an overview of the County's redistricting efforts. Garcia expressed concerns that there does not appear to be Latino representation on the ARC 21 Commission. Commission will continue to monitor redistricting for Cabrillo College and the Santa Cruz County Office of Education in addition to County Supervisorial districts. Staff will share additional information as it becomes available.

5. Ongoing Business:

5.1. Pajaro Valley COVID-19 Outreach Task Force Representation

Report pended to next meeting, as Mendez was unavailable to report. Item will be removed from the agenda if Mendez has not attended these meetings.

6. Commissioner Reports

6.1. District 1 Report: No Report

6.2. District 2 Report: No Report

6.3. District 3 Report: Seat Vacant

6.4. District 4 Report (Granados):

Granados shared information about local events including a financial literacy workshop, a virtual forum on violence against women, a COVID-19 vaccine clinic and a local farmers market.

6.5. District 5 Report (Gomez):

Gomez reported that since the CZU wildfires, insurance companies are canceling policies despite the Insurance Commissioner's moratorium on cancellations. District 5 residents are encouraged to contact their congressional representatives.

6.6. Santa Cruz City Report (Hernandez):

Hernandez reported on a recent shooting of a young indigenous man. Hernandez is a member of the Rise Together group (leaders of color working with the Community Foundation to advance racial equity locally. Commissioners are encouraged to learn more about the group.

6.7. Santa Cruz City Report (Alfaro):

Alfaro reported that the City building's Black Lives Matter mural was vandalized. The last Santa Cruz County mission bell will be removed to acknowledge the systemic oppression of indigenous peoples. City of Santa Cruz redistricting meetings are ongoing. The housing element (analysis of community housing needs for all income levels) update will be released soon. Santa Cruz County is eligible for \$12M per year for the next ten years in disaster low-income housing tax credits (LIHTCs) to build affordable housing which could result in up to 5 new developments being approved. *Yes, In My Back Yard (YIMBY)* will host a "Missing Middle Affordable Housing Tour. Housing Santa Cruz County is recruiting for a new executive Director, and now has a full Board of Directors.

6.8. Watsonville City Report (Garcia):

Garcia attended a Watsonville Senior Center luncheon and presented Mardi Gras beads to seniors in attendance. Commissioners are encouraged to support senior activities. The Watsonville City Council Policing and Social Equity Ad Hoc Committee received findings on recent community meetings and will determine and present final recommendations to the City Council.

6.9. Watsonville City Report (Mendez): No Report

7. Staff Report:

Staff reported that the EEO/CC Plan and the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Survey remain under review. 2021 Commission meeting locations have yet to be determined, pending the outcome of legislation.

8. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:16 PM.

Submitted: Kaite McGrew, *Commissions Coordinator*



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Santa Cruz County Latino Affairs Commission 2020 - 2021 Biennial Report

1. THE ROLE OF THE COMMISSION

The Latino Affairs Commission is an advisory body to the Board of Supervisors on issues affecting the Latino community in Santa Cruz County. The Commission was established to:

- a. Advise the Board of Supervisors on any significant problems currently encountered by the County's Latino residents;
- b. Review the needs of Latino citizens in the County, and recommend comprehensive goals and objectives for effectively meeting those needs;
- c. Monitor the various services made available to Latino citizens by public and private agencies in the County and make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors on how County government can help ensure effective and efficient delivery of those services;
- d. Develop a procedure to identify and set priorities regarding the areas of greatest need for County support and/or attention, and prepare biennial recommendations to the Board of Supervisors regarding specific courses of action in response to identified needs and priorities;
- e. Advise the Board of Supervisors how best to cooperate with local, State, Federal and private agencies serving Latino citizens, and assist in the preparation, implementation, and review of any regional plan or program designed to serve Latino citizens;
- f. Advise the Board of Supervisors how best to cooperate with local, State, Federal and private agencies in order to maximize the availability of funds to meet the specific economic needs of the Latino population, with the objective of leveraging such funds to the greatest degree possible.

2. MEETINGS DATES, TIME, AND LOCATION

Latino Affairs Commission meetings are scheduled for the first Wednesday of every other month (February, April, June, August, October, and December), from 6:00 until 7:30 PM at the United Way of Santa Cruz County office (4450 Capitola Rd, Suite 106, Capitola, CA 95010). During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Commission met remotely instead.

- In 2020, one regularly scheduled meeting was canceled for health and safety reasons immediately following Governor Newsom's initial Stay-at-Home order.
- In 2021, one of the six regularly scheduled meetings was canceled for lack of quorum.

3. COMMISSION STRUCTURE

The Latino Affairs Commission is composed of seven voting members; one Commissioner appointed by each of the five District Supervisors to represent their districts, and two at-large Commissioners each, appointed by the cities of Santa Cruz and Watsonville to represent their

cities. Commission leadership (Chair and Vice Chair) elections are held each year during the April regular meeting.

On December 31, 2021, the Latino Affairs Commission membership was as follows:

District	Commissioners
1 st District	Seat Vacant
2 nd District	Abbygale Gonzalez
3 rd District	Fe Silva-Robles
4 th District	Christina Granados
5 th District	Leo Gomez (<i>Vice Chair</i>)
City of Santa Cruz	Diana Alfaro (<i>Chair</i>) Rebecca Hernandez
City of Watsonville	Rebecca Garcia Sylvia Mendez

During the reporting period, Commissioners Guadalupe Alvarez Garcia, Sylvia Mendez and Fe Silva-Robles were appointed, and Commissioners Abbygale Gonzalez, Leo Gomez, and Rebecca Hernandez were re-appointed. Commissioners who completed their terms, resigned, or were replaced during the reporting period were Gilberto Reyes, Ayde Guerrero Rosas, Guadalupe Alvarez Garcia and Patricia Guevara.

4. COMMISSION STAFF

Commissions Manager, Kaite McGrew staffed the Commission for the entirety of the reporting period.

Between Commissions meetings, County Staff was available by phone, email, or in person for information and referrals. The County EEO Commissions Office is located in the County Government Center (701 Ocean Street, Room 510, Santa Cruz, CA 95060).

5. ATTENDANCE

During the reporting period, the Commission continued to meet remotely for health and safety reasons during the COVID-19 pandemic. Please see attached *Latino Affairs Commission 2020-2021 Attendance Report* for specifics.

6. OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The Commission's objectives and subsequent activities are determined by the Commission's mandate and emerging needs as expressed by the community and identified by the Commissioners.

Objective 1:

Monitor and assess issues impacting the Santa Cruz County Latino community and advocate for the eradication of barriers and inequities

During the reporting period, the Commission monitored the following matters:

- COVID-19 pandemic impact on the Latinx community and recovery relief and resources
- State and County Health Department pandemic-response orders
- Local vaccine availability and distribution, particularly to the Latinx and ag worker communities

- Pajaro Valley COVID-19 Outreach Task Force activities
- Community Action Board (CAB) Disaster Relief Assistance for Immigrants (DRAI) Program
- State and local government eviction moratoriums
- Impact of the CZU Lightning Complex wildfires on the Latinx community
- 2020 elections and the Latinx community
- FY 2021-2023 Operational Plan Development
- California Strawberry Commission Scholarship
- Second Harvest and Family Farmworker Center Partnership
- 2020 Census outreach efforts to the Latinx Community
- County voter registration activities and voter Spanish-language accessibility efforts
- County redistricting efforts
- Measure R (funding repairs at Cabrillo College)
- Measure Y (Watsonville City sales tax)
- Housing Santa Cruz activities
- Regional Transportation Commission public rail transit plans and potential rail corridor encroachments
- Watsonville City's proposed moratorium on drive-thru businesses
- Watsonville City's utility rate adjustments
- Watsonville City's approved amendments to the City's cannabis ordinance
- Watsonville City's Ad Hoc Committee on Policing and Social Equity activities
- Cradle to Career Program efforts to support families during distance learning
- White Hawk/Ixtatutli Indian Council for Children activities
- Cabrillo College Board of Trustees elections
- School system responses to distance learning and reopening
- Watsonville City's State of the City event

Objective #2:

Promote the interests of the Santa Cruz County Latino community through outreach and the provision of resources

During the reporting period, members of the Commission participated in the following activities:

- Provided representation on the Pajaro Valley COVID-19 Outreach Task Force
- Co-Sponsored the Cesar Chavez Community Awards although the event was ultimately canceled because of the pandemic
- Spoke at and attended the *2020 Latino Role Model Conference*
- Participated in the 2020 Civics Summit
- Promoted the Pajaro Art's Council's "Your Vote is Your Voice" exhibit in the County Building on Ocean Street.
- Promoted and attended the Pajaro Valley Art Gallery's exhibit "*Campesinos: Workers of the Land*"
- Promoted PPE4CC's arts campaign launch via social media
- Promoted the Pajaro Valley Arts Council's call for local photographers and muralists to participate in their Movable Mural exhibit.
- Participated in the Watsonville Film Festival

- Participated in District Supervisors' community meetings

Objective #3:

Monitor and promote diversity, equity and inclusion in Santa Cruz County organizations and agencies

During the reporting period, the Commission:

- Monitored development of the County's *Equal Employment Opportunity and Cultural Competence Plan* and reviewed and offered detailed feedback on the draft plan when it became available.
- Heard County Clerk's office report on County efforts to promote voter registration, voter education and voter participation in the Latinx community
- Reviewed County position descriptions to provide feedback on any elements that could present barriers to employment for members of the Latinx community.

Objective #4:

Promote affordable housing for the Santa Cruz County Latinx community

During the reporting period, the Commission heard reports on:

- California Senate Bill 50 (planning and zoning: housing development)
- Santa Cruz City Council Housing Forum
- Multi-unit affordable housing developments as information became available
- State and local affordable housing legislation and subsequent related community events, meetings and activities
- Changes to local legislation regarding Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) permitting procedures
- Santa Cruz City's *Affordable Housing Week* activities
- Cedar/Cathcart library and affordable housing development
- Watsonville City accessory dwelling unit (ADU) ordinance
- Housing discussions at the Monterey Economic Partnership's 6th Annual State of the Region Conference

Commissioners also:

- Monitored Board of Supervisors agendas for items related to affordable housing
- Monitored Watsonville City Council agendas for items related to affordable housing
- Served on the Santa Cruz County Housing Authority
- Participated on panels in a two-day affordable housing conference, Re-Imagine Santa Cruz

7. COMMISSION MEMBERSHIPS & AFFILIATIONS

During the reporting period, Commissioners served as members of or were affiliated with the following commissions or organizations:

- Affordable Housing Now
- American Association of Museums
- American Studies Association
- American College Personnel Association
- Associations of Tribal Archives, Libraries and Museums
- California Council of Cultural Centers
- Center for Public Leadership – Harvard Kennedy School of Government

- Criminal Justice Council
- Democratic Women's Club of Santa Cruz County
- Education Pioneers Network
- Housing Santa Cruz County
- MidPen Housing Corporation
- NASPA Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education
- Native American Advisory Council, Western Michigan
- Pajaro Valley Arts
- Puente Program
- Repair for Justice
- Santa Cruz Community TV
- Santa Cruz County Democratic Central Committee
- Santa Cruz Museum of Natural History Board
- Santa Cruz YIMBY (Yes, In My Back Yard)
- Second Harvest Food Bank Advisory Board
- Senderos
- UCLA Law Fellows Alumni Network
- UCLA University Women's Leadership Academy
- UCSC American Indian Resource Center
- UCSC Chancellor's Diversity Advisory Council
- Warriors Welcome Home Forever Committee
- Watsonville City Council
- Watsonville Film Festival
- Zuckerman Fellows, Harvard Center for Public Leadership

8. COMMISSION SUBCOMMITTEES

During the reporting period, the Commission authorized the following standing subcommittees to conduct business within their subject matter jurisdiction as needed:

Advocacy Subcommittee:

The Advocacy Subcommittee is a publicly-noticed, standing subcommittee, convened as needed and authorized to monitor and assess issues impacting the Santa Cruz County Latinx community and advocate for the eradication of barriers and inequities. The subcommittee may hear reports from community partners and is empowered to make reports and propose recommendations to the Commission within their subject matter jurisdiction as needed. As of December 31, 2021, Commissioner Mendez was the only subcommittee member.

Community Outreach Subcommittee

The Community Outreach Subcommittee is a publicly-noticed, standing subcommittee, convened as needed and authorized to promote the interests of the Santa Cruz County Latinx Community through outreach and provision of resources by hosting, supporting or attending events, providing resources and referrals, and hearing reports from community partners as needed. The subcommittee is empowered to make reports and propose recommendations to the Commission within their subject matter jurisdiction as needed. As of December 31, 2021, subcommittee members included Commissioners Alfaro, Garcia and Granados.

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Subcommittee

The Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Subcommittee is a publicly-noticed, standing subcommittee, convened as needed and authorized to monitor and promote diversity, equity and inclusion in Santa Cruz County by reviewing the County's Equal Employment Opportunity and Cultural Competence Plan and policies, and hearing reports from local services, programs and agencies regarding their diversity, equity and inclusion efforts. The subcommittee is empowered to make reports and propose recommendations to the Commission within their subject matter jurisdiction as needed. As of December 31, 2021, subcommittee members included Commissioners Alfaro, Hernandez, Gomez and Gonzales.

Affordable Housing Subcommittee

The Affordable Housing Subcommittee is a publicly-noticed, standing subcommittee, convened as needed and authorized to monitor housing issues, advocate for legislation that creates or maintains affordable housing stock and promote affordable housing for the Santa Cruz County Latinx community. The subcommittee is empowered to make reports and propose recommendations to the Commission within their subject matter jurisdiction as needed. As of December 31, 2021, subcommittee members included Commissioners Alfaro and Gonzalez.

9. COMMISSION ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND SPECIAL PROJECTS

During the reporting period, the Commission addressed the following issues:

- Advocacy letter to the Board of Supervisors expressing concern about the disproportionate impact the Coronavirus pandemic is having on the Latinx community in Santa Cruz County
- Advocacy letter to the Board of Supervisors in support of the efforts of local collaborative, PPE for Central Coast (PPE4CC) to address the disproportionate impact the pandemic was having on the Latinx community in Santa Cruz County.
- Advocacy letter to the Board of Supervisors requesting representation on the ad hoc CARES Justice advisory body and the subsequent Commission on Anti-Racism, Economic and Social Justice
- Memo providing detailed feedback on the County's Equal Employment Opportunity and Cultural Competence Plan
- Advocacy letter to Governor Newsom expressing appreciation to for the appointment of Senator Alex Padilla to the United States Senate, filling the seat vacated by Vice President Kamala Harris and encouraging continued prioritization of the ongoing dialogue with communities of color.

During the reporting period, the Commission participated in the following special projects:

- Participated in planning and presenting in the Community Action Board's 2021 Immigrant Forum

During the reporting period, the Commission accomplished the following goals:

- Promoted Latinx participation in the 2020 Census, particularly with difficult-to-count members of the Latinx community
- Promoted Latinx civic engagement and voter participation in the 2020 elections
- Participated in activities that promote affordable housing for the Latinx community
- Promote awareness of the Commission by attending and supporting local events aligned with the Commission's scope and purpose

- Monitored development of the County's *Equal Employment Opportunity and Cultural Competence Plan* and provided detailed feedback.

10. FUTURE GOALS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In 2022-2023, the Latino Affairs Commission will endeavor to:

- Promote diversity, equity and inclusion for the Latinx community in Santa Cruz County
- Provide representation on the County's CARES Justice Advisory body and subsequent CARES Justice Commission and monitor CARES Justice activities
- Monitor ongoing efforts to support economic recovery from the pandemic in the Latinx community
- Monitor ongoing efforts to promote COVID-19 vaccine distribution in the Latinx community
- Monitor and participate in activities that promote affordable housing opportunities for the Latinx community
- Promote awareness of the Commission by attending and supporting local events aligned with the Commission's scope and purpose

In 2022-2023, the Latino Affairs Commission recommends that the Board of Supervisors take the following actions:

- Continue to provide policy leadership and funding support to County efforts designed to ensure diversity, equity and inclusion in County programs and services
- Include an at-large seat on the CARES Justice Advisory body and subsequent CARES Justice Commission for representation from the Latino Affairs Commission
- Provide policy leadership and funding support to programs tasked with supporting economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic in the Latinx community
- Provide policy leadership and funding support to programs promoting COVID-19 vaccine distribution in the Latinx community
- Continue to monitor local affordable housing efforts and provide policy leadership and funding support to agencies and programs implementing solutions to the housing crisis
- Provide policy leadership and funding support to programs tasked with expanding broadband access to underserved areas of the County, particularly those where a technology gap may be disproportionately impacting the Latinx community

Approved by the Latino Affairs Commission at the December 1, 2021 regular meeting.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Santa Cruz County Latino Affairs Commission,

Diana Alfaro
Commission Chair, Latino Affairs Commission

December 31, 2021

Date

Leo Gomez
Commission Vice Chair, Latino Affairs Commission

December 31, 2021

Date

LATINO AFFAIRS COMMISSION 2020 ATTENDANCE REPORT							
District/ Supervisor	Commissioner	Feb 2020	April 2020	May 2020	Aug 2020	Oct 2020	Dec 2020
1 st District Supervisor John Leopold	Gilberto Reyes Vice Chair	P	MEETING CANCELED FOR COVID-19 PANDEMIC	P	P	P	P
2 nd District Supervisor Zach Friend	Abbygale Gonzalez	P		E	E	P	E
3 rd District Supervisor Ryan Coonerty	Ayde Guerrero Rosas	P		E	-	-	-
4 th District Supervisor Greg Caput	Christina Granados	P		P	P	P	E
5 th District Supervisor Bruce McPherson	Leo Gomez	P		P	P	E	P
City of Santa Cruz	Rebecca Hernandez	E		P	P	P	P
	Diana Alfaro Chair	P		P	P	P	P
City of Watsonville	Rebecca Garcia	P		P	P	P	P
	Patricia Guevara	P		P	P	P	E
LATINO AFFAIRS COMMISSION 2021 ATTENDANCE REPORT							
District/ Supervisor	Commissioner	Feb 2021	April 2021	June 2021	Aug 2021	Oct 2021	Dec 2021
1 st District Supervisor John Leopold	Gilberto Reyes Vice Chair	P	-	-	-	MEETING CANCELED FOR LACK OF QUORUM	-
1 st District Supervisor Manu Koenig	Guadalupe Alvarez Garcia	-	-	P	E		-
2 nd District Supervisor Zach Friend	Abbygale Gonzalez	P	P	E	P		
3 rd District Supervisor Ryan Coonerty	Fe Silva-Robles	-	-	-	-		
4 th District Supervisor Greg Caput	Christina Granados	P	P	P	P		
5 th District Supervisor Bruce McPherson	Leo Gomez Vice Chair	P	P	P	P		
City of Santa Cruz	Diana Alfaro Chair	P	P	P	P		
	Rebecca Hernandez	P	E	P	P		
City of Watsonville	Rebecca Garcia	P	P	P	P		
	Patricia Guevara	P	-	-	-		-
	Sylvia Mendez	-	-	P	A		
Attendance: P=Present A=Absent E=Excused (-) = Not Seated							

Submitted:



Kaite McGrew
Commissions Manager

December 1, 2021

Date



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SANTA CRUZ COUNTY LATINO AFFAIRS COMMISSION'S FINDINGS PURSUANT TO ASSEMBLY BILL 361 AUTHORIZING TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS AS A RESULT OF THE CONTINUING COVID-19 PANDEMIC STATE OF EMERGENCY AND HEALTH OFFICER RECOMMENDATION FOR SOCIAL DISTANCING

WHEREAS, The Santa Cruz County Latino Affairs Commission is a legislative body under the Brown Act as defined under Cal. Gov. Code section 54952(b) and Santa Cruz County Code Section 2.38.110; and

WHEREAS, on September 16, 2021, Governor Newsom signed Assembly Bill 361 ("AB 361"), urgency legislation effective immediately, that amended Government Code section 54953 to permit legislative bodies subject to the Brown Act to continue to meet under modified teleconferencing rules provided that they comply with specific requirements set forth in the statute; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to AB 361 and Cal. Gov. Code section 54953(e)(1)(A), a legislative body may meet under the modified teleconferencing rules during a proclaimed state of emergency, and where local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing; and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, Governor Newsom issued a Proclamation of State of Emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and which remains in effect; and

WHEREAS, on September 30, 2021, Santa Cruz County Public Health Officer Dr. Gail Newel strongly recommended that legislative bodies in Santa Cruz County continue to engage in physical/social distancing by meeting via teleconference as allowed by AB 361 and confirmed that she will regularly review and reconsider this recommendation and notify the public when it is no longer recommended; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to AB 361 and Cal. Gov. Code section 54953(e)(3), within 30 days of the date the legislative body first holding a teleconferenced meeting under the modified rules, and every 30 days thereafter, a legislative body can continue to hold such teleconference meetings provided it has reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency and determined either that the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person or that local officials continue to recommend measures to promote social distancing; and

WHEREAS, on December 1, 2021, The Santa Cruz County Latino Affairs Commission held its initial teleconference meeting under AB 361; and

WHEREAS, this Santa Cruz County Latino Affairs Commission has reconsidered the circumstances of the current state of emergency and finds that the COVID-19 pandemic continues to directly impact the ability of members of the public to participate safely in person

and further finds that the Santa Cruz County Public Health Officer continues to recommend measures to promote social distancing; and

WHEREAS, in the interest of public health and safety, and due to the emergency caused by the spread of COVID-19, the Santa Cruz County Latino Affairs Commission deems it necessary to utilize the modified teleconferencing rules set forth in AB 361;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Santa Cruz County Latino Affairs Commission makes the following findings by a majority vote:

Section 1. The foregoing recitals are true and correct, and adopted as findings of the Santa Cruz County Latino Affairs Commission.

Section 2. Effective immediately, and for the next 30 days, the Santa Cruz County Latino Affairs Commission will meet via teleconference as authorized under AB 361 and Government Code section 54953(e)(3).

Section 3. No later than thirty (30) days from making today's findings, or at the next scheduled meeting, the Commission will reconsider the circumstances of the COVID-19 state of emergency and, if necessary, adopt subsequent findings to continue holding teleconference meetings in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e)(3).

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Santa Cruz County Latino Affairs Commission in Santa Cruz, State of California, this 1st day of December, 2021, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Diana Alfaro
Chair, Santa Cruz County Latino Affairs Commission

Leo Gomez
Vice-Chair, Santa Cruz County Latino Affairs Commission

ATTEST: _____
Department Staff

Approved as to Form:

Office of the County Counsel



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Scheduled Meetings

Unless otherwise specified, regularly scheduled Latino Affairs Commission meetings are generally held as follows:

DAY: First (1st) Wednesday
MONTH: Every other month (February, April, June, August, October and December)
TIME: 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM
LOCATION: **United Way of Santa Cruz County (unless held remotely)****
4450 Capitola Road, Ste 106, Capitola, CA 95010

Changes to the schedule, including special meetings, changes of location, or meeting cancellations, will be listed on the website at www.scclatinoaffairs.org as soon as information becomes available.

2022 Meeting Dates		
DATE	TIME	LOCATION
February 2, 2022	6:00 – 7:30 PM	To Be Determined
April 6, 2022	6:00 – 7:30 PM	To Be Determined
June 1, 2022	6:00 – 7:30 PM	To Be Determined
August 3, 2022	6:00 – 7:30 PM	To Be Determined
October 5, 2022	6:00 – 7:30 PM	To Be Determined
December 7, 2022	6:00 – 7:30 PM	To Be Determined