

**City of Pasadena Human Relations Commission  
Work Plan: 07/25/2023 – 06/11/2024**

**Mission:**

The purpose of this Commission is to aid the City in achieving better human relations in City government, and to provide assistance to private persons and groups in promoting good will and better relations among all people.

**FY 2023-2024 Objectives:**

**Ad Hoc Committee re: Objective #1** – Advise and Engage City Council

**Ad Hoc Committee re: Objective #2** – Inform and Engage the Public

**Ad Hoc Committee re: Objective #3** – Collaborations

**Ad Hoc Committee re: Objective #4** – Improve the Effectiveness of the Human Relations Commission

## **Ad Hoc Committee re: Objective #1 – Advise and Engage City Council**

Objective Purpose: Advise and engage City Council on Human Relations issues of public, local, and national concern with regular updates to aid the City in achieving better human relations in City government and among the diverse Pasadena community.

Commissioners: Greenstein (lead), Robertson

### **Action Items:**

- Inform City Council on Human Relations issues of public, local, and national concern (both current and historic) in order to report discussion outcomes during Commission meetings.
- Request a proclamation from the City of Pasadena supporting United Against Hate Week scheduled for November 12 – 18, 2023.

### **Work Plan Updates:**

July 2023:

- The ad hoc committee recommended the following action item include the dates for United Against Hate Week:
  - Request proclamation from the City of Pasadena supporting United Against Hate Week.
- The ad hoc committee requested Staff (Osborne) request the proclamation supporting United Against Hate Week be presented at the City Council meeting scheduled for Monday, October 16. Commissioner Robertson agreed to create the draft proclamation for review by the Commission at the September meeting.
- The Commission received information on how to engage and improve communication with the City Council during the presentation from Robin Toma, Executive Director of the Los Angeles County Human Relations Commission.

**Status:**

## **Ad Hoc Committee re: Objective #2 – Inform and Engage the Public**

Objective Purpose: Provide public forums, panels, and programs to promote good will and better relations in our community.

Commissioners: Young (lead), Gonzalez, Greenstein

### **Action Items:**

- Partner with a local agency or organization that spotlights trailblazers in human relations within the City of Pasadena.
- Plan and host an event as part of United Against Hate Week to raise awareness about the dangers of hate and the need for civil discourse among City residents.
- Co-host an event to educate the public about the events at Mills Place to commemorate the installation of the updated plaques.
- Work to identify events in Pasadena's history that have shaped and impacted Human Relations today in order to:
  - Properly acknowledge their influence
  - Educate the public
  - Enrich future generations with our City's cultural and historic values

### **Work Plan Updates:**

July 2023:

- The ad hoc committee recommended a revision to the following action item:
  - Co-host a showcase that spotlights trailblazers in human relations within the City of Pasadena.
- The revised action item is as follows
  - Partner with a local agency or organization that spotlights trailblazers in human relations within the City of Pasadena.
- Commissioner Robertson agreed to contact Caltech and Pasadena City College to schedule presentations for the Commission regarding their programs to recognize individuals, staff and organizations supporting equity and diversity.
- The ad hoc committee recommended the Commission nominate a local human relations project or program for the John Anson Ford Human Relations Award presented by the Los Angeles County Human Relations Commission.
- Staff (Osborne) informed the Commission that the City is in the process of identifying a contractor that can create and install the Mills Place plaque and will inform the Commission once the process is completed.

### **Status:**

## **Ad Hoc Committee re: Objective #3 – Collaborations**

Objective Purpose: Identify and bring attention to collaborations in the City of Pasadena to provide assistance to community leaders and groups and/or promote goodwill and better relations.

Commissioners: Horton (lead), Gonzalez, Greenstein

### **Action Items:**

- Invite speakers to populate the Presentation Calendar for FY 2023-2024.
- Continue and expand the Commission's collaboration with Western Justice Center.
- Collaborate with local organizations in addressing mis- and disinformation in order to advise the City on best practices. Collaborations will focus on issues such as, but not limited to:
  - LGBTQIA+ rights
  - Local, state, and national elections.
- Collaborate with local leaders and organizations to identify and bring attention to human relations issues and initiatives affecting youth including but not limited to:
  - The safety and wellbeing of LGBTQIA+ youth.

### **Work Plan Updates:**

July 2023:

- The Commission received a presentation from Robin Toma (Executive Director, Los Angeles County Human Relations Commission) regarding the LA vs Hate program and the Los Angeles County Human Relations Commission Strategic Priorities for 2023-2024.
- Commissioner Robertson agreed to contact Caltech and Pasadena City College to schedule a presentation for the Commission regarding their programs to recognize individuals, staff and organizations supporting equity and diversity.
- Commissioner Young agreed to contact the Human Services Commission to discuss collaboration regarding their work addressing issues affecting LGBTQIA+ youth. Staff (Osborne) will provide the contact information for the lead Commissioner of the ad hoc committee for the Commission objective.

**Status:**

## **Ad Hoc Committee re: Objective #4 – Improve the Effectiveness of the Human Relations Commission**

Objective Purpose: To build the impact of Commission activities and our impact in our community through effective communication, follow-through, and accountability.

Commissioners: Robertson (lead), Greenstein

### **Action Items:**

- Conduct regular follow up of ongoing Commission activities, such as, but not limited to: Mills Place plaque installation, removal of portraits and plaques identified as commemorating racist persons and policies from City buildings, and the City's adoption of the 211 LA hate incident reporting system.
- Keep informed of the activities of Human Relations Commissions in other government entities as well as other City of Pasadena commissions.

### **Work Plan Updates:**

July 2023:

- The Commission received a presentation from Robin Toma (Executive Director) regarding the Strategic Priorities for FY 2023-2024 of the Los Angeles County Human Relations Commission.
- Commissioner Keushkerian reported he will attend the 74<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference for the International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies (IAOHRA) being held August 13 – 17, 2023, in Bethesda, Maryland and will provide a report on the conference to the Commission at the September meeting.
- Staff (Osborne) reported she confirmed the Commission recommendation regarding the removal of portraits and plaques from City facilities if they recognize or honor historical organizers involved in campaigns for racial segregation and/or injustice against individuals or groups based on race, religion, national origin, sex or cultural background will be discussed at a future City Council meeting. She will notify the Commission of the meeting date once she receives confirmation that the item is on the meeting agenda.

**Status:**

## Human Relations Commission Presentation Calendar FY 2023-2024

To be scheduled:

- Presentation from LA Crime Stoppers regarding the services provided for Pasadena residents
- Presentation regarding misinformation that affects transgender youth and promoting good will towards the transgender community – Joshua Gershick, transgender advocate (Young).

July 2023

- Presentation from Robin Toma, Executive Director of the Los Angeles County Human Relations Commission regarding the LA vs Hate program and the LA County Commission Strategic Priorities for 2023-2024.

August 2023

- None

September 2023

- (tentative) Presentation from the Pasadena Library regarding Early Equity Kits for Children – Presenter TBD

October 2023

- (tentative) Presentation from 211 LA regarding hate incident reporting systems - Presenter TBD (Young)

November 2023

- (tentative) Presentation from Caltech or Pasadena City College regarding their programs to recognize individuals, staff and organizations supporting equity and diversity (Robertson)

December 2023

- (tentative) Presentation from the City of Pasadena Public Information Officer regarding an update on City Councilmembers' social media presence and engagement - Presenter TBD

January 2024

- (tentative) Presentation from the Los Angeles County Registrar regarding the new voting laws - Presenter TBD (Horton)

February 2024

- (tentative) Presentation from Pasadena Police Department regarding State Hate Crime Report – Lieutenant Carlo Montiglio

March 2024

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April 2024

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May 2024

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June 2024: Annual Meeting

(updated July 25, 2023)