

Christina Fonseca, Chair  
Elizabeth Gutierrez, Vice Chair  
Evelyn Briones, Commissioner  
Sara Gaeta-Anguiano, Commissioner  
Alice Strong, Commissioner



Ariana De La Cruz,  
Executive Director

**CITY OF SOUTH EL MONTE  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN AND GIRLS COMMISSION**

**AGENDA**

April 16, 2025, 6:00 PM  
1415 Santa Anita Avenue, South El Monte, CA 91733

**AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT**

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, if you require a disability-related modification or accommodation to attend or participate in this meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please call the City Clerk's office at (626) 652-3180 or (626) 652-3121 at least 72 hours prior to the meeting.

**GENERAL COMMENT**

Members of the public wishing to submit a general comment or a comment on an agenda item, can email [adelacruz@soelmonte.org](mailto:adelacruz@soelmonte.org) or call (626) 652-3109 to leave a voicemail message. All comments received an hour before the scheduled meeting will be read during public comment and made part of the record.

**MEETINGS**

The Advancement of Women and Girls Commission holds regular meeting quarterly. Regular meetings start at 6 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 1415 Santa Anita Avenue, South El Monte, California.

**POSTING LOCATIONS OF AGENDA AND/OR CANCELLATION NOTICES**

Regular meeting agendas will be posted at least 72 hours before the meeting (GC 54954(a)(1)).

Agenda and Cancellation Notices can be viewed online and are also posted at the following three (3) locations: City Hall located at 1415 Santa Anita Avenue, Senior Center located at 1556 Central Avenue and the Community Center located at 1530 Central Avenue, South El Monte, California.

**VIEWING OF AGENDA PACKETS**

Full agenda packet can be viewed either at <https://www.cityofsouthelmonte.org/373/Agendas-Minutes> or in the Community Center during normal business hours Monday through Thursday 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Closed on Fridays and major holidays.

**ISSUES RELATED TO AGENDA**

For issues related to the agenda, including a disability-related accommodation necessary to participate in this meeting, please contact:

Ariana De La Cruz, Executive Director  
Ph (626) 652-3109

**AGENDA BEGINS ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE**

**1. ROLL CALL**

Commissioners: Briones, Gaeta-Anguiano, Strong, Vice Chair Gutierrez, and Chair Fonseca

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Commissioner Gaeta-Anguiano

**3. PRESENTATIONS – None.**

**4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

By motion of the Advancement of Women and Girls Commission, this is the time to notify the public of any changes to the agenda, remove items from consent calendar for individual consideration and/or rearrange the order of the agenda.

**5. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Speakers may provide public comments on any matter within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Advancement of Women and Girls Commission, including items on the agenda. Each speaker may speak up to five minutes. Unless a majority of the Commission objects, the Chair may provide speakers more or less time to speak. All comments or queries shall be addressed to the Commission as a body and not to any specific member thereof. Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2(a)(2), the Ralph M. Brown Act, no action or discussion by the Commission shall be undertaken on any item not appearing on the posted agenda, except to briefly provide information, ask for clarification, provide direction to staff, or schedule a matter for a future meeting.

**6. CONSENT CALENDAR**

Items on the consent calendar are considered to be routine and customary and are enacted by a single motion with the exception of items previously removed by a member of the Advancement of Women and Girls Commission during "Approval of the Agenda" for individual consideration. Any items removed shall be individually considered immediately after taking action on the Consent Calendar.

**6a. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF THE SPECIAL ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN AND GIRLS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 27, 2025**

Staff is requesting approval of Minutes for the March 27, 2025, Special Advancement of Women and Girls Commission meeting.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Staff is requesting approval of Minutes for the March 27, 2025, Special Advancement of Women and Girls Commission meeting.

**7. GENERAL BUSINESS**

**7a. CONTINUED FROM THE MARCH 27, 2025, SPECIAL ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN AND GIRLS COMMISSION MEETING - WOMEN AND GIRLS EMPOWERMENT EVENT**

The Advancement of Women and Girls Commission will discuss a proposed event in efforts of the advancement of women and girls.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Staff recommends the Commission discuss and provide feedback on a proposed event for the advancement of women and girls.

**7b. WOMEN EMPOWERMENT CONFERENCE OPPORTUNITIES**

Commissioners can attend any conference/meetings related to the Advancement of Women and Girls. The proposed conferences will be held on August 18<sup>th</sup> in the Anaheim, CA and November 13<sup>th</sup> in Los Angeles, CA.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Discussion and/or action.

**8. COMMISSIONERS REPORTS, INCLUDING AB 1234 REPORTS**

AB 1234, section 53232.3(d) requires Members of a legislative body to provide brief reports on meetings attended at the expense of the local agency (i.e conferences, etc.) at the next regular meeting of the legislative body.

**9. CORRESPONDENCE – None.**

**10. COMMISSIONERS' AGENDA**

**10a. COMMISSIONER GAETA-ANGUIANO**

**1. CONTINUED FROM THE MARCH 27, 2025, SPECIAL ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN AND GIRLS COMMISSION MEETING**

Discuss and consideration to start women and girls empowerment workshops.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Discussion and/or Action.

**2. CONTINUED FROM THE MARCH 27, 2025, SPECIAL ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN AND GIRLS COMMISSION MEETING**

Discuss and consideration to solicit feedback from South El Monte residents via public survey.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Discussion and/or Action.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

Wednesday, July 16, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

I Ariana De La Cruz, hereby certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing agenda was posted not less than 72 hours at the following locations: City of South El Monte City Hall, Senior Center and Community Center and made available at [www.cityofsouthelmonte.org](http://www.cityofsouthelmonte.org) on this 10<sup>th</sup> day of April 2025.



---

Executive Director



# Commission Agenda Report

Agenda Item No. 6.a.

**DATE:** April 16, 2025

**TO:** Honorable Chair and Members of the Advancement of Women and Girls Commission

**SUBMITTED BY:** Ariana De La Cruz, Executive Director

**SUBJECT:** CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF THE SPECIAL ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN AND GIRLS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 27, 2025.

---

**SUMMARY:** Staff is requesting approval of Minutes for the March 27, 2025, Special Advancement of Women and Girls Commission meeting.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Staff is requesting approval of Minutes for the March 27, 2025, Special Advancement of Women and Girls Commission meeting.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** .

**DISCUSSION:**

**ATTACHMENT(S):**

A. DRAFT March 27, 2025 Minutes

**CITY OF SOUTH EL MONTE**  
**SPECIAL ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN AND GIRLS COMMISSION MEETING - MINUTES**  
Thursday, March 27, 2025  
1415 Santa Anita Avenue, South El Monte, California 91733

Director of Community Services Ariana De La Cruz called the meeting to order at 6:01p.m.

**1. ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** Commissioner(s): Briones, Fonseca, Gaeta-Anguiano, Gutierrez, Strong

**STAFF PRESENT:** Ariana De La Cruz, Director of Community Services, Nancy Rodriguez, Community Services Analyst, and Noelia Saucedo, Senior Recreation Leader

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Commissioner Briones led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. PRESENTATIONS**

Mrs. De La Cruz took this moment and had everyone in attendance introduce themselves.

**4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

A motion was made by Commissioner Gutierrez, seconded by Commissioner Gaeta-Anguiano to approve the agenda. Motion passed 5-0, by the following vote:

**AYES:** Commissioner(s): Briones, Fonseca, Gaeta-Anguiano, Gutierrez, and Strong

**NAYS:** Commissioner(s): None

**5. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mrs. De La Cruz opened public comment; there being none, Mrs. De La Cruz closed public comment.

**6. CONSENT CALENDAR**

A motion was made by Commissioner Fonseca, second by Commissioner Briones to approve the Consent Calendar. Motion passed 5-0, by the following vote:

**AYES:** Commissioner(s): Briones, Fonseca, Gaeta-Anguiano, Gutierrez, and Strong

**NAYS:** Commissioner(s): None

**7. GENERAL BUSINESS**

**7a. SELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR**

A motion was made by Commissioner Gaeta-Anguiano, seconded Commissioner Strong to nominate Commissioner Fonseca for Chair. Motion passed 5-0, by the following vote:

**AYES:** Commissioner(s): Briones, Fonseca, Gaeta-Anguiano, Gutierrez, and Strong

**NAYS:** Commissioner(s): None

A motion was made by Commissioner Gaeta-Anguiano, seconded by Commissioner Fonseca to nominate Commissioner Gutierrez for Vice Chair. Motion passed 5-0, by the following vote:

**AYES:** Commissioner(s): Briones, Fonseca, Gaeta-Anguiano, Gutierrez, and Strong  
**NAYS:** Commissioner(s): None

Mrs. De La Cruz turned over the meeting to Chair Fonseca.

#### **7b. WOMEN AND GIRLS EMPOWERMENT EVENT**

Mrs. De La Cruz stated that the city established the Advancement of Women and Girls Commission to assist women and girls in areas where support is not easily accessible. She mentioned that the city has hosted a Women and Girls Empowerment Event, which typically takes place in March. However, since the commission's first meeting was held in March instead of January, the event was postponed. She proposed rescheduling it to Saturday, May 17th, allowing ample time for preparation.

The commission proposed this year's theme to focus on mental health, aligning with May as Mental Health Awareness Month. Commissioner Briones suggested designating a separate room for workshops tailored to younger participants on the event day. It was agreed to revisit this discussion at the next meeting on Wednesday, April 9th, with agenda items due by Monday, April 7th, at 8:00 a.m.

Additionally, Mrs. De La Cruz informed the commission that the city has allocated funds for conferences and encouraged commissioners interested in attending to reach out to her or Miss Saucedo with their selections.

#### **8. COMMISSIONER REPORTS, INCLUDING AB 1234 REPORTS**

Commissioner Briones nothing to report.

Chair Fonseca reported her attendance to the Women Empowerment conference back in August.

Commissioner Gaeta-Anguiano nothing to report.

Vice Chair Gutierrez nothing to report.

Commissioner Strong nothing to report.

#### **9. CORRESPONDENCE – None.**

#### **10. COMMISSIONERS' AGENDA**

##### **10a. COMMISSIONER GAETA-ANGUIANO**

##### **1. Discussion and consideration to start women and girls empowerment workshops.**

Commissioner Gaeta-Anguiano would like to have workshops that are age appropriate for all women and girls with different topics. This item will be continued at the next meeting in April where Commissioners will provide potential workshop topics for discussion.

A motion was made Commissioner Gaeta-Anguiano, seconded by Vice Chair Gutierrez to continue this item. Motion passed 5-0, by the following vote:

**AYES:** Commissioner(s): Briones, Gaeta-Anguiano, Strong, Vice Chair Gutierrez, and Chair Fonseca

**NAYS:** Commissioner(s): None

**2. Discussion and consideration to solicit feedback from South El Monte residents via public survey.**

Mrs. De La Cruz stated that she would task staff to create a short survey to include in the event tentatively scheduled in May, providing an incentive for participants that complete the survey. This item will be continued at the April 9th meeting.

A motion was made Commissioner Gaeta-Anguiano, seconded by Vice Chair Gutierrez to have a survey at the May 17th event. Motion passed 5-0, by the following vote:

**AYES:** Commissioner(s): Briones, Gaeta-Anguiano, Strong, Vice Chair Gutierrez, and Chair Fonseca

**NAYS:** Commissioner(s): None

**3. Discussion and consideration to organizing focus groups for senior female residents and local female students to help identify the needs and/or interests of the community.**

This agenda item will be continued to a future meeting pending the results of the survey.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

At 7:15 p.m. Chair Fonseca adjourned the meeting to a regular Advancement of Women and Girls Commission meeting on Wednesday, April 16, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ariana De La Cruz, Director of Community Services

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair, Christina Fonseca



# Commission Agenda Report

Agenda Item No. 7.a.

**DATE:** April 16, 2025

**TO:** Honorable Chair and Members of the Advancement of Women and Girls Commission

**FROM:** Ariana De La Cruz, Community Services Director

**SUBJECT:** CONTINUED FROM THE MARCH 27, 2025, SPECIAL ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN AND GIRLS COMMISSION MEETING- WOMEN AND GIRLS EMPOWERMENT EVENT

---

**SUMMARY:** The Advancement of Women and Girls Commission will discuss a proposed event in efforts of the advancement of women and girls.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Staff recommends the Commission discuss and provide feedback on a proposed event for the advancement of women and girls.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** None.

**DISCUSSION:** The City of South El Monte has celebrated women and girls with an Empowerment Brunch for the last two years. The brunch features a diverse lineup of speakers who took the stage to share their personal journeys and insights on topics ranging from entrepreneurship and leadership to intersectionality and allyship.

In addition to thought-provoking discussions, the event featured resource booths and networking opportunities designed to foster connections and empower women to pursue their passions and ambitions with confidence.

**ATTACHMENT(S):** None.



# Commission Agenda Report

Agenda Item No. 7.b.

**DATE:** April 16, 2025  
**TO:** Honorable Chair and Members of the Advancement of Women and Girls Commission  
**FROM:** Ariana De La Cruz, Community Services Director  
**SUBJECT:** WOMEN EMPOWERMENT CONFERENCE OPPORTUNITIES

---

**SUMMARY:** Commissioners can attend any conference/meetings related to the Advancement of Women and Girls. The proposed conferences will be held on August 18th in the Anaheim, CA and November 13th in Los Angeles, CA.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Staff recommends the Commission discuss and/or take action.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** None.

**DISCUSSION:** The proposed conferences will be held on August 18th in the Anaheim, CA and November 13th in Los Angeles, CA.

## **1. Woman to Woman Conference – Women's Leadership Network**

November 13, 2025 – Los Angeles, CA

Fees not available.

The JVS SoCal Women's Leadership Network sponsors the Annual Woman to Woman Conference each fall. This exciting event features accomplished speakers and offers women of diverse backgrounds networking opportunities and inspiration to tear down barriers to success while raising awareness and critical funding to sustain JVS SoCal programs serving women.

<https://jvs-socal.org/womens-leadership-network/>

## **2. Pathways for Women Conference – CalPERS**

August 18th – August 19th, 2025 – Anaheim, CA

Fees not available.

Join us in celebrating and uplifting women of all backgrounds and professions during the anniversary of the 19th Amendment's ratification. Engage with today's top industry leaders and learn how they're blazing new trails. Expand networking opportunities for meaningful connections. Get actionable insights to help encourage growth and empowerment for your own professional journey.

With expanded programming over two days, attend insightful discussions and network with extraordinary leaders in business, health care, and government. This event is open to

everyone! Whether you're looking to grow in your career or support women's advancement in leadership, we invite you to be part of this inspiring gathering.

<https://www.calpers.ca.gov/about/organization/diversity-equity-inclusion/pathways-for-women-conference>

**ATTACHMENT(S):** None.