

CITY OF POMONA
Community Life Commission
DRAFT



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
For MARCH 24, 2026

VISION STATEMENT

Pomona will be recognized as a vibrant, safe, beautiful community that is a fun and exciting destination and the home of arts and artists, students and scholars, business and industry.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Mendez called the Community Life Commission meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Acuna led the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Debra Mendez, District 4
Vice Chair Kimberly M. Umanzor, District 1
Commissioner Cesar Acuna, District 2
Commissioner Donald Martens, District 3
Commissioner Ava Phillips, District 5
Commissioner Ramon Carrizosa, District 6
Mayor Appointed, Donna Houston

STAFF PRESENT

Andrea Rico, Governmental & Community Affairs Manager
Maria Siacunco, Housing Services Manager
Jacqueline Contreras, Interim Commission Secretary
Tracy Byl, Management Analyst
Evanne Coleman, Housing Analyst
Joanna Gavilanes, Housing Analyst

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

PRESENTATION

1. CDBG Proposals

Presented by Evanne Coleman, Housing Analyst

Commissioners were provided with CDBG application proposals for FY 26-27 in a binder for their review and along with a PowerPoint presentation to further discuss the proposals and development of the FY 26-27 Annual Action Plan.

A. Assistance League of Pomona Valley - Operation School Bell

Motion: "To recommend the Assistance League of Pomona Valley to receive funding, this recommendation will go to City Council for further approval"

Proposed by: Commissioner Martens

Seconded By: Commissioner Phillips

Vote: Motion passed with 7 votes in favor

B. Casa Colina Hospital and Centers of Healthcare - Healthy STEPS

Motion: "To recommend Casa Colina Hospital and Centers of Healthcare - Healthy STEPS to receive funding, this recommendation will go to City Council for further approval"

Proposed by: Commissioner Umanzor

Seconded By: Commissioner Acuna

Vote: Motion passed with 7 votes in favor

C. Inland Fair Housing and Mediation Board (IFHMB) - Fair Housing Services

Motion: "To recommend Inland Fair Housing and Mediation Board (IFHMB) - Fair Housing Services to receive funding, this recommendation will go to City Council for further approval"

Proposed by: Commissioner Phillips

Seconded By: Commissioner Martens

Vote: Motion passed with 6 votes in favor with 1 against (Mendez)

D. COREWorks Development Studio

Motion: "To recommend COREWorks Development Studio to receive funding, this recommendation will go to City Council for further approval.

Proposed by: Commissioner Carrizoza

Seconded By: Mayor Appointed Houston

Vote: Motion passed with 7 votes in favor

CONSENT CALENDAR

2. Recommend the Community Life Commission approve the regular minutes for Tuesday, February 24, 2026, meeting.

Motion: Approve meeting minutes for CLC meeting on Tuesday, February 24, 2026.

Proposed By: Martens

Seconded By: Phillips

Vote: Motion passed with 6 votes in favor with 1 abstain (Houston)

3. City Manager's Report (3-12-26)

On a weekly basis, multiple departments submit reports on upcoming events, project updates and/or information pertinent to city government.

Vice Chair Umanzor

Q: Do Commissioners receive the City Managers' report via e-mail weekly?

A: The response from the Commissioners was no, not at this time.

DISCUSSION CALENDAR

Goal Settings ADHOC Update

As a follow-up to the Goal Setting Ad Hoc Committee, Staff Member Rico provided an update regarding the ad hoc goal-setting process. The initial meeting was held approximately six weeks ago, during which the group utilized a standardized goal-setting form. Rico subsequently emailed a timeline to the Commissioners, requesting that each submit their proposed goals.

This item is presented solely to receive and file. Each Commissioner will have the opportunity to present district-specific goals based on identified needs. The Community Life Commission is unique in its scope, and the goal-setting process is intended to ensure that each Commissioner's priorities are given equal consideration and recognition.

Commissioners are requested to submit their final goals to Rico within the next two weeks so they may be scheduled for review at the next meeting. No action or funding is associated with this item; it is being received and filed to maintain the public record.

Comm. Marten

Q: We are going from Commission goals to individual Commissioner goals?

Staff Member – A, Rico

A: Yes, the collective goals from each Commissioner will go into a collective bundle of goals representing the Commission. Inclusive way to carry out the goals of the Commission.

Comm. Phillips

Comment: Prefers to have Commission to focus on specific goals rather than provide her own since she has various interests.

Staff Member – A, Rico

A: Plans to prepare a collective outline of the draft of Commission goals to present to the Commission, as a Receive and File.

Comm. Marten

Q: When you receive the goals from the Commissioners, will you be sharing them at the meeting so that we all know what each other's goals are?

Staff Member – A, Rico

A: Yes, it will be shared publicly, in a final format. The discussion will continue from thereafter regarding goals. Also, as a reminder providing a goal is not mandatory, Commissioners are welcome to support the Commission goals without providing their own goals. The goals setting purpose is to define the goals of the Commission.

Comm. Marten

Q: What are the guidelines as a commissioner as far as being able to participate?

Staff Member – A, Rico

A: Clarification on the guidelines will be provided by City Clerk staff.

Comm. Houston

Q: What is the status of formal training for the Commission?

Staff Member – A, Rico

A: A request for formal training will be submitted to City Clerk staff, and a status update will be provided.

COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATIONS

Vice Chair Umanzor

- Plans to attend the scheduled Budget meeting on Wednesday, April 1, 2026.

Comm. Acuna

- Attended the Harriet Tutman walk on Saturday, March 7, 2026, enjoyed the event and the history shared.

Comm. Marten

- Attended the Pomona Active Transportation Plan at Palomares Park and learned about methods to improve bicycle and pedestrian safety.
- Attended the Winter Concert at Palomares Park, always a great event.
- Compassionate Pomona met at Project Sister office; a tour was provided to the group of the Project Sister office.
- Attended the Contortion on Housing at Citrus College and received training about affordable housing and how it is coming along in the area.
- CalPoly Pomona Professor Kyle Brown held a workshop at this home on the possibilities at Palm Lake.
- Participated as a docent at the Palomares Adobe on Tuesday, March 17, 2026
- Share with the Commission the Spring Egg Hunt taking place Saturday, March 28, 2026. It takes place at various parks in the city.

Commissioner Houston

- Spring Recreation Guide, page 10 highlights one Commission, would like to see all the various City Commissions advertised.
- March is Women's History Month
- Saturday March 28, 11a-2p, Women of Distinction honoring Extortionary Women, Mayor Appointed Housing has been invited as an honoree.

Comm. Phillips

- Attended the Mayor's Task Force meeting and enjoyed the meeting but was overwhelmed with the amount of information. Request for a representative from the School District to provide a presentation to talk about how the district is doing.

Comm. Carrizosa

- Attended Neighborhood Watch meeting Monday, March 23, 2026, impressed to see 50-60 people attended. Invited the group to attend the CLC meeting. Public safety was the main topic of discussion.
- No King March scheduled for Saturday March 28, 2026.
- Shared his disappointment regarding the recent news about Cesar E. Chavez.

Chair Mendez

- Attended Community Pull Up, participation has decreased.
- Shared her disappointment regarding the recent news about Cesar E. Chavez.

STAFF COMMUNICATION

Staff Member, Andrea Rico:

1. Decrease in attendance and engagement in various areas in the Pomona community, primarily due to immigration enforcement activities. Create ways to gain trust from the community to engage in community events
2. Reminder to Commissioners to provide their goals
3. Plans to follow up with City Clerk staff on future Ethics Training
4. Plans to follow up with Community Services Department regarding sharing the Commission meetings in the Parks & Recreation guide
5. Assemble a calendar of standing engagement Community Meetings that occur on a regular basis

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Mendez adjourned the meeting at 7:41 p.m. The next CLC meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 28, 2026.