

# Social Services Commission Meeting Agenda Announcement

On March 12, 2020, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order No. N-25-20, which allows Brown Act Body members to attend meetings telephonically. Please be advised that some, or all, Whittier Social Services Commissioners may attend this meeting telephonically.

Consistent with mandates of Executive Order No. N-29-20, a physical location from which members of the public may observe the meeting or offer public comment will not be made available. City Hall will not be open to the public for this meeting; however public comments can be submitted below as instructed.

To submit Public Comments/Questions:

- Email: [ltrin@cityofwhittier.org](mailto:ltrin@cityofwhittier.org)
- Voicemail: (562) 567-9400

To view live meetings remotely:

- Video and audio: <https://zoom.us/j/96391049442>
- Audio only: Dial (669) 900-9128 (Meeting ID: 963 9104 9442)

Please submit email comments by 5:30 p.m. on the date of the meeting to ensure Social Service Commissioners receive and have time to review them. All emails received by 5:30 p.m. are forwarded to the Commission. Emails received after 5:30 p.m. but before the conclusion of public comments will be entered into the record.

## **Americans with Disabilities Act**

Disability-related services are available to enable persons with a disability to participate in this meeting, consistent with the Federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Spanish interpreters are also available. For information or to request services, please contact the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting at (562) 567-9400.

**AGENDA  
CITY OF WHITTIER  
SOCIAL SERVICES COMMISSION  
COUNCIL CHAMBER, 13230 PENN STREET  
SEPTEMBER 1, 2020, 6:30 PM**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**2. ROLL CALL**

Loletta Barrett, Commissioner  
Marisol Enriquez-Santos, Commissioner  
Kathleen McDonnell, Commissioner  
Carlos Illingworth, Vice Chair  
Jose Luevano, Chair

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**4. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

The public is invited to address the Social Services Commission regarding any item of business, or any matter within the body's subject matter jurisdiction. Consistent with Executive Order No. N-29-20 public comments can be made via:

- Email: [ltrinh@cityofwhittier.org](mailto:ltrinh@cityofwhittier.org)
- Voicemail: (562) 567-9400

Please submit email and voicemail public comments by 5:30 p.m. on the date of the meeting to ensure Commissioners receive and have time to review them. All emails and voicemails received by 5:30 p.m. are forwarded to the Commission. Emails and voicemails received after 5:30 p.m. but before the conclusion of public comments will be entered into the record.

Pursuant to State law, the Commission cannot take action or express a consensus of approval or disapproval on any communications which do not appear on the printed agenda.

**5. STAFF REPORTS**

**5.A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Recommendation: Approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 7, 2020.

**5.B. ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Recommendation: At the beginning of each new fiscal year Commission elects a new Chair and Vice Chair.

**5.C. 2020 VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION PROGRAM**

Recommendation: Commission will discuss the direction of the 2020 Volunteer Recognition Program.

**5.D. UPDATE ON CITY OF WHITTIER HOMELESS PLAN IMPLEMENTATION**

Recommendation: Receive and file update on City of Whittier Homeless Plan implementation.

**6. SECRETARY COMMENTS**

**7. COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS/CONFERENCE REPORTS**

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

Disability-related services are available to enable persons with a disability to participate in this meeting, consistent with the Federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Spanish interpreters are also available. For information or to request services, please contact the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting at (562) 567-9400.

The agenda packet is available three days before the meeting in the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department at City Hall (13230 Penn Street), Whittier Central Library (7344 Washington Avenue) and the East Whittier Branch Library (10537 Santa Gertrudes Avenue). Additionally, the agenda packet can be viewed on the City's website. Materials distributed to the Commission within 72 hours of the Social Services Commission meeting are available for public inspection in the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department Office.

Los servicios relacionados con la discapacidad están disponibles para permitir que las personas con discapacidad participen en esta reunión, de conformidad con la Ley Federal de Estadounidenses con Discapacidades de 1990. También hay intérpretes en español disponibles. Para obtener información o para solicitar servicios, comuníquese con el Departamento de recreación y Parques al Servicio a la Comunidad de la reunión al (562) 567-9400.

El paquete de la agenda está disponible tres días antes de la reunión el Departamento Parques Recreación y Servicio a la Comunidad en el Ayuntamiento (13230 Penn Street), Whittier Central Library (7344 Washington Avenue) y Biblioteca sucursal del este de Whittier (10537 Santa Gertrudes Avenue). Además, el paquete de la agenda se puede ver en el sitio web de la Ciudad. Los materiales distribuidos al Concejo Municipal dentro de las 72 horas de la reunión del Comisión de Servicios Sociales están disponibles para inspección pública en el Departamento de Recreación y Parques al Servicio a la Comunidad.

I hereby certify under penalty of perjury, under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing agenda was posted in accordance with the applicable legal requirements. Regular and Adjourned Regular meeting agendas may be amended up to 72 hours in advance of the meeting. Dated this 28<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2020.

/s/ Lanie Trinh

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Lanie Trinh, Administrative Secretary



# Agenda Report

Social Services Commission

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**Date:** September 1, 2020

**To:** Social Services Commission

**From:** Virginia Santana, Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services

**Subject:** Approval of Minutes

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 7, 2020.

## **BACKGROUND**

None.

## **DISCUSSION**

Staff prepared draft minutes and hereby submits the minutes for the Committee's approval.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no fiscal impact associated with this report.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 7, 2020

**MINUTES  
CITY OF WHITTIER  
SOCIAL SERVICES COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 13230 PENN STREET  
JULY 7, 2020 – 6:30 P.M.**

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

Chair Jose Luevano, consistent with Executive Order No. N-25-20, called the regular meeting of the Social Services Commission to order at 6:46 p.m via telephone conference on July 7, 2020.

**2. ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** Jose Luevano, Chair  
Carlos Illingworth, Vice Chair  
Loletta Barrett, Commissioner  
Kathleen McDonnell, Commissioner

**ABSENT:** Marisol Enriquez-Santos, Commissioner

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Virginia Santana, Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services  
Martin Browne, Community Services Manager  
Jeff Lopez, Management Assistant  
Lanie Trinh, Administrative Secretary

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Chair Luevano led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Chair Luevano stated that consistent with Governor Newsom’s Executive Order N-29-20, public comment options were made available to the public for participation by email and voicemail. Administrative Secretary Lanie Trinh was to forward correspondence to Commission for review.

Administrative Secretary Trinh reported no public comments were received.

**5. STAFF REPORTS:**

**5.A. Approval of Minutes**

Commissioner Barrett proposed to change the wording found in the second paragraph under Item 5B from “voted” to “recommended.”

It was moved by Commissioner Barrett, seconded by Commissioner McDonnell, and carried 4 – 0 (absent: Commissioner Enriquez-Santos) to approve the Minutes of the May 5, 2020 Regular Meeting as amended.

## **6. SECRETARY COMMENTS:**

Secretary Santana provided an update on the approval of the FY 20-21 city budget, with no significant additions or changes except for two capital improvement projects at the Whittier Community Center and Parnell Park.

City Council discussed the FY 20-21 social services grants and how to proceed with the allocation of these funds and noted Mayor Pro Tem Henry Bouchot would like these grant funds to be used for mental health and drug rehabilitation at the new Navigation Center.

Commissioner McDonnell stated she was encouraged that this funding is still being considered.

Funds from Athens Services along with a letter and signed certificate from the Mayor have been distributed to the five student winners of the Whittier Scholarship Program and the funds from Republic Services will be mailed within two weeks and informed Commissioners the Parking Lot Movie Series begin July 18, 2020 at the Temporary Uptown lot, where guests can watch a film in their vehicles to maintain social distancing.

Management Assistant Jeff Lopez introduced himself and a summary of the features of the City's Whittier 24/7 app, which allows residents to report issues and concerns ranging from trash to city trees; stated report an average of 75 homeless requests are received each month and many requests related to loitering, trespassing and break-ins are forwarded to the Whittier Police Department; highlighted the Greenway Trail area between Hadley and Broadway and the area near Lambert and Gunn are local homeless "hotspots" and explained that green space at Central Park and City Hall have seen an increase in tents due to the recent protests.

Following a question from Chair Luevano concerning follow up for residents who file a report on the 24/7 app. And the County's web portal, [www.la-hop.org](http://www.la-hop.org), Management Assistant Lopez stated city staff promptly responds, via email, to each 24/7 app request but Los Angeles County staff only provide a confirmation email stating an outreach team would be dispatched.

Community Services Manager Martin Browne provided an update on Los Angeles County's "Project Roomkey", a collaborative project that helps secure hotel and motel rooms for the homeless, with over 3,500 rooms in use across the county; reported according to recent 2020 County data, the homeless population in our region has reduced by 10% from 2019 figures; and provided a brief update for the City Council

approved Navigation Center, located on Pickering near the Five-Points intersection, operated by the Salvation Army with 150 beds.

Secretary Santana stated further City Council discussion concerning the Navigation Center will take place at the July 28, 2020 City Council meeting.

**7. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS:**

Commissioner McDonnell praised Secretary Santana and her team for their creativity and efforts to contact community activities, especially for children who have been quarantined during the pandemic.

Vice Chair Illingworth commended staff for the Summer Programming; praised staff for their interactions with the children and their parents; asked for flexibility for the use of the social services funding grants, due to COVID-19; and requested the results from the non-profit survey be shared with City Council to provide insight into their operation during this pandemic.

Director Santana stated she is assisting the non-profit agencies with the use of these grant funds.

Chair Luevano asked whether the FY 20-21 social service grant funds would be more or less restricted.

Vice Chair Illingworth requested staff provide flexibility to each agency's programming to allow for the changing needs of their clients, during the pandemic.

Director Santana stated she is assisting the non-profit agencies with the use of these grant funds.

Chair Luevano asked whether the FY 20-21 social service grant funds would be more or less restricted.

Vice Chair Illingworth requested staff to provide flexibility to each agency's programming to allow for the changing needs of their clients during the pandemic.

Director Santana stated the updates from the non-profit agencies will be provided to City Council.

Chair Luevano requested the election of officers for FY 20-21 be added to the next meeting.

**8. ADJOURNMENT:**

Chair Luevano adjourned the meeting at 7:11 p.m.

Approved and adopted by the Social Services Commission on \_\_\_\_\_.

Virginia Santana, Secretary





# Agenda Report

Social Services Commission

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**Date:** September 1, 2020

**To:** Social Services Commission

**From:** Virginia Santana, Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services

**Subject:** Election of Officers

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Commission will elect officers for FY 2020-21.

## **BACKGROUND**

At the beginning of each new fiscal year Commission elects a new Chair and Vice Chair.

## **DISCUSSION**

None.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

None.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

None.



# Agenda Report

Social Services Commission

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**Date:** September 1, 2020

**To:** Social Services Commission

**From:** Virginia Santana, Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services

**Subject:** 2020 Volunteer Recognition Program

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Commission will discuss the direction of the 2020 Volunteer Recognition Program.

## **DISCUSSION**

Due to the COVID – 19 Pandemic restrictions on gathering and closure of City facilities and cancelation of programming, the commission will discuss potential changes to the format of this year's Volunteer recognition program.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

No fiscal impact associated with this report.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

A. Previous year's nomination form



## WHITTIER CITY COUNCIL

Joe Vinatieri, Mayor

Fernando Dutra, Mayor Pro Tem

Henry Bouchot, Council Member

Cathy Warner, Council Member

Josué Alvarado, Council Member

## SOCIAL SERVICES COMMISSION

Marisol Enriquez-Santos, Chair

Jose Luevano, Vice Chair

Loletta Barrett

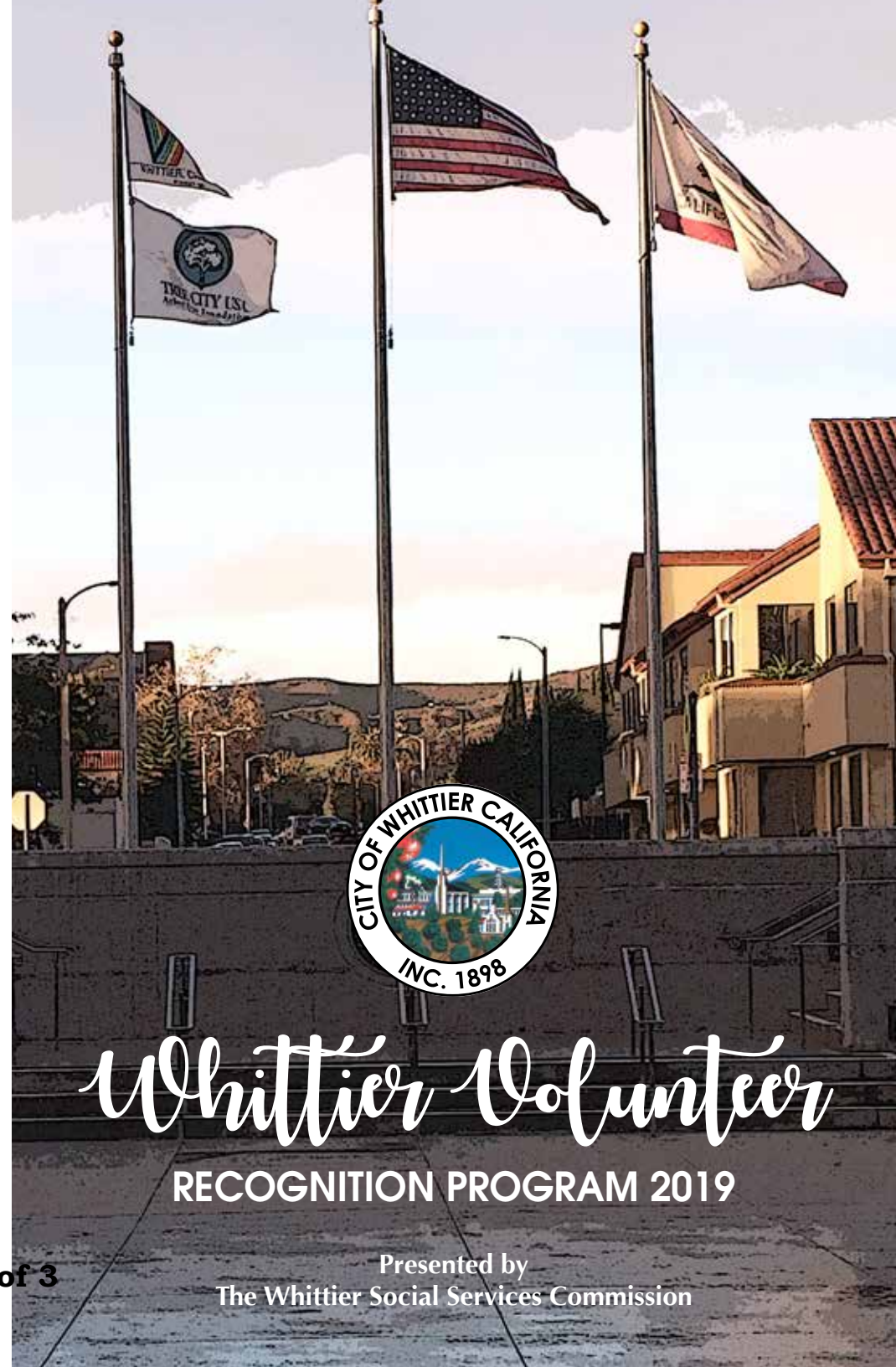
Carlos Illingworth

Kathleen McDonnell

Jeffrey W. Collier, City Manager

Shannon DeLong, Assistant City Manager

Greg Alaniz, Director of Parks, Recreation & Community Services



*Whittier Volunteer*

**RECOGNITION PROGRAM 2019**



# VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

The Volunteer Recognition awards are presented annually to outstanding individuals who have gone above and beyond in giving to the Whittier community. Nominees devote their time, talent, and expertise on a volunteer (non-paid) basis to local nonprofit groups.

Whittier is known for its strong volunteer ethic, and to date, more than 200 volunteers have been honored. They include representatives from nonprofit social service agencies, youth groups, schools, service clubs and business volunteer groups.

Volunteer service hours must have been performed in the City of Whittier; volunteers do not need to be City residents. Organizations must serve the community at large. Religious, fraternal, or professional groups providing services only to their members are not eligible. Employees of agencies, City employees and Commissioners are also not eligible for nomination.

- \* One nomination per agency/organization.
- \* Past recipients are not eligible.

## HOW TO NOMINATE

In two pages or less, please explain why you believe this volunteer deserves to be recognized. Please include a description of the volunteer's service and its impact on the organization and the community. **You must also complete and attach the Nomination form with your submission.**

If you wish to include a program brochure, please send 10 copies. Please do not send photos, videos, scrapbooks, binders or other attachments.



# AWARD NOMINATIONS

**Nominations are due by:**  
**Friday, September 20, 2019**

**Award Reception:**  
**November 12, 2019 at City Hall at 5:30 pm.**

## Submitting Agency:

Name of Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

## Nominee Information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of hours served this year: \_\_\_\_\_

Length of Time Volunteered for Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Overall Hours and/or Frequency served: \_\_\_\_\_

## Send Nomination Form and Additional Materials to:

Greg Alaniz, Director of Parks, Recreation & Community Services  
 13230 Penn St., Whittier, CA 90602  
 Or email galaniz@cityofwhittier.org

For more information, please call the  
 Parks, Recreation & Community Services Department at (562) 567-9400.



# Agenda Report

Social Services Commission

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**Date:** September 1, 2020

**To:** Social Services Commission

**From:** Virginia Santana, Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services  
Jeff Lopez, Management Assistant

**Subject:** Update on City of Whittier Homeless Plan Implementation

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Receive and file update on City of Whittier Homeless Plan implementation.

## **DISCUSSION**

### **Whittier Senior Center Emergency Homeless Shelter Update**

The Whittier Senior Center Emergency Homeless Shelter is scheduled to open on Tuesday, September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020. The Salvation Army will be managing the program with assistance from the City of Whittier. This emergency facility will provide beds to house Whittier residents experiencing homelessness and also allow the City to enforce anti-camping and park curfew ordinances. The Salvation Army staff will be responsible for the management, vetting, registration, and servicing processes.

### **Whittier Homeless Navigation Center Update**

Council voted in favor and directed staff to negotiate agreements with the Salvation Army as the service provider to utilize the 15,000 sq ft building on Pickering, also provided by the Salvation Army. Renovation and construction are moving along nicely with expectations to be ready to serve clients by January 31, 2021, with 139 beds available. The facility will be able to provide regular meals, showers, medical facilities, and access to resources to help clients transition to more permanent housing. In the 2020 Los Angeles County homeless count, Whittier counted 232 individuals living on the streets or in cars/RVs.

### **Whittier Consortium 2020 State of Homelessness Annual Meeting**

The Whittier Consortium on Homelessness held a planning meeting for the annual "Whittier Consortium 2020 State of Homelessness". Scheduled date of the Zoom State of Homelessness meeting is **Saturday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00 am – 11:30 am**. This date would only change should the Whittier Senior Center Emergency Shelter opening date be postponed into October or later.

**Agenda Item No. 5.D.**

- The Zoom meeting can accommodate 100 Zoom attendees and will provide a Spanish Translator. Questions from the public will be emailed before.
- They will invite a panel of speakers to include representatives from the City, School Districts, First Day, Whole Child, Salvation Army, LAHSA, etc.
- Topics to include City Homeless Census, Family Homeless Data, Homeless Hot Spots, Project RoomKey, Local Shower Program Expansion, and the Whittier Senior Center Emergency Shelter.
- City representative will report on the status of the Whittier Senior Center Emergency Shelter. Salvation Army to report on Shelter program outreach data, specifics, success stories and needs from the community to assist, if appropriate.

### **Whittier Homeless 24/7 Report**

Since January 2020, the Whittier public has submitted 570 online/smart phone homeless reports for action. These submissions primarily include overnight camping, trespassing and vagrancy. There were 11 vandalism submissions. In the month of August, there are 24 submissions, down from the monthly average of 80 per month. These action reports are forwarded to Whittier Police, Public Works, and Los Angeles County services, depending on the situation.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

None.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

None.