

# **Social Services Commission Meeting Agenda Announcement**

On September 16, 2021, Governor Newsom signed into law Assembly Bill 361, which allows Brown Act bodies to attend meetings telephonically. Please be advised that some, or all, Whittier Social Services Commissioners may attend this meeting telephonically.

Consistent with mandates of Assembly Bill 361 and local adopted policies, 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 viewing and public comment options are provided below.

To submit Public Comments/Questions:

- Email: [hhollmann@cityofwhittier.org](mailto:hhollmann@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  
FEBRUARY 1, 2022, 6:30 PM**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**2. ROLL CALL**

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

**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: [hhollmann@cityofwhittier.org](mailto:hhollmann@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 December 7, 2021, and the Minutes of the Special Meeting of January 10, 2022.

**5.B. 2022 WHITTIER SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM-SPONSORED BY ATHENS AND REPUBLIC SERVICES**

Recommendation: Review and approve the 2022 Whittier Scholarship Program criteria.

**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 28th day of January 2022.

/s/ Holly Hollmann

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Holly Hollmann, Secretary



# Agenda Report

Social Services Commission

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**Date:** February 1, 2022

**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 December 7, 2021, and the Minutes of the Special Meeting of January 10, 2022.

## **BACKGROUND**

None.

## **DISCUSSION**

Staff prepared draft minutes and hereby submits the Minutes for Commission approval.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no fiscal impact associated with this report.

## **STRATEGIC PLANNING GOAL**

Goal 4: Transparent & Open Government

## **ATTACHMENTS**

- A. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 7, 2021
- B. Minutes of the Special Meeting of January 10, 2022

**MINUTES  
CITY OF WHITTIER  
SOCIAL SERVICES COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER, 13230 PENN STREET  
DECEMBER 7, 2021 – 6:30 P.M.**

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

Chair Illingworth, consistent with Executive Order No. N-25-20, called the regular meeting of the Social Services Commission to order at 6:32 p.m. on December 7, 2021.

**2. ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** Kathleen McDonnell, Commissioner  
Marisol Enriquez-Santos, Commissioner  
Loletta Barrett, Vice-Chair  
Carlos Illingworth, Chair

**ABSENT:** Jose Luevano, Commissioner

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Virginia Santana, Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services  
Erin Hamilton, Community Services Manager  
Roxanne Gonzalez, Administrative Secretary

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Commissioner Enriquez-Santos led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Administrative Secretary Gonzalez reported no public comments were received.

**5. STAFF REPORTS**

**5.A. Approval of Minutes**

It was moved by Vice-Chair Barrett, seconded by Commissioner Enriquez-Santos, and carried 4-0 by roll call vote, to approve the Minutes of the October 5, 2021, Regular Meeting.

**5.B. Election of Officers**

Secretary Santana updated Commissioners on the terms they are currently serving and opened the floor for elections.

Commissioner Enriquez-Santos asked when her extended term would end. Secretary Santana responded that her extended term would end when Council selects her replacement.

Commissioner McDonnell asked if elections were for the 2021-2022 fiscal year, and Secretary Santana responded yes. Commissioner McDonnell commented that the Commission needs new people with new ideas and would like her term to expire so that the Council may freely choose new Commissioners.

It was moved by Commissioner McDonnell, seconded by Commissioner Enriquez-Santos, and carried 4-0 by roll call vote, to have Chair Illingworth and Vice-Chair Barrett continue in their position for FY 21-22.

### **5.C. Information and Referral**

Secretary Santana presented the September, October, and November I&R Reports.

Commissioner McDonnell asked which Legal Aid Office staff was referring callers to, and Secretary Santana responded that staff refers callers to the Los Angeles branch.

It was moved by Commissioner McDonnell, seconded by Commissioner Enriquez-Santos, and carried 4-0 by roll call vote to receive and file the September, October, and November I&R Reports.

### **5.D. 2022 Whittier Scholarship Program-Sponsored by Athens Services and Republic Services**

Secretary Santana stated that the 2022 Athens and Republic High School Scholarship Program Criteria is the same as last year and introduced the essay questions to the Commission.

Commissioner McDonnell stated that she liked question number 12 because starting in January 2022, many of us will need to begin composting our food. She asked Secretary Santana what the projected timeline for the scholarship essays was. Secretary Santana stated that the essay would go out in March, Commissioners would review in April, and award the scholarships in May. Commissioner Enriquez-Santos added support for essay question number 12.

Vice-Chair Barrett suggested that question number 5 would be more applicable to students because they have control over their purchasing power, and they generally consume goods.

Chair Illingworth stated that he liked question 13 on contamination. He suggested combining essay questions 12 and 13 by adding "properly recycle." Question 12 and 13, if combined, would read as follows: "Pretend you are the new Director of Sustainability for the City of Whittier, and it is your job to educate 86,000 residents on how to properly recycle and compost their food

waste. Discuss how you would encourage residents to participate in your proposed new program(s) by describing your marketing plan, goals, and measures of success.”

After reviewing the 2022 Athens and Republic High School Scholarship Program Criteria, the Commission unanimously decided to review and approve question 12 at the next meeting scheduled on January 4, 2022, allowing staff time to combine and reword questions 12 and 13 and bring back to the Commission for review and approval.

#### **5.E. Volunteer of the Year**

Secretary Santana shared the Volunteer of Year application for 2022 with the Commissioners and stated that staff is considering not using Google Docs as a medium for the application.

Commissioner McDonnell stated she liked that the application allowed for the submission of video files and photographs of nominees this year. She asked if we could post photos and video files online after we present awards. Secretary Santana said yes if we get photo releases from the nominees.

Chair Illingworth stated that changing the wording from “submission may include photographs and videos” to “photographs and videos are highly encouraged.”

Vice-Chair Barrett suggested that when we host the volunteer awards, we avoid hosting it in July and August and work around the heat. Secretary Santana suggested June as an option. Chair Illingworth suggested hosting the volunteer awards during National Volunteer Recognition Week, celebrated from April 17 through 23.

It was moved by Commissioner McDonnell, seconded by Commissioner Enriquez-Santos, and carried a 4-0 by roll call vote to approve the recommended details for the 21/22 Volunteer of the Year Award Application and selected April for the reception to coincide with National Volunteer Recognition Week.

#### **6. SECRETARY’S COMMENTS**

Secretary Santana explained to the Commission that the Google Doc closed prematurely, which meant that some organizations lost their progress while preparing to submit their application for the grant funding. Staff reached out to the organizations to recollect their supporting documents. Secretary Santana informed Commissioners that Secretary Hollmann sent them a grading rubric for focus groups 1 and 2 and flash drives containing the applications submitted.

Secretary Santana shared with Commissioners that the Letters to Santa program is ongoing until December 13. Cookies with Santa still has spaces available and is on December 18; participants can enjoy five different crafts, hot cocoa, and a photo op with Santa. The Aquatics Division is hosting a Rubber Duck Race event on December 19, and participants will be able to decorate and race rubber ducks. Also, the Christmas parade is back, and it will begin at 10:00 a.m. on December 11. Secretary Santana ended the meeting by wishing the Commissioners a happy holiday season.

## **7. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**

Vice-Chair Barrett asked if we have the dollar totals the Commission needs to work towards for groups 1 and 2. Secretary Santana stated that the amount for focus group 1 is \$132,387, and the amount for focus group 2 is \$44,129.

Commissioner McDonnell stated that she enjoyed participating in the Whittier Spooktacular this year and thanked staff for their work on the 5K.

Commissioner Enriquez-Santos and Chair Illingworth had no comments.

## **8. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

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

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Virginia Santana, Secretary



**MINUTES  
CITY OF WHITTIER  
SOCIAL SERVICES COMMISSION  
SPECIAL MEETING  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER, 13230 PENN STREET  
JANUARY 10, 2022 – 6:30 P.M.**

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

Chair Illingworth, consistent with Executive Order No. N-25-20, called the special meeting of the Social Services Commission to order at 6:33 p.m. on January 10, 2022.

**2. ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** Marisol Enriquez-Santos, Commissioner  
Jose Luevano, Commissioner  
Kathleen McDonnell, Commissioner  
Carlos Illingworth, Chair

**ABSENT:** Loletta Barrett, Vice-Chair

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Virginia Santana, Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services  
Erin Hamilton, Community Services Manager  
Holly Hollmann, Secretary  
Rachel Tryon, Staff Assistance

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Commissioner Enriquez-Santos led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Secretary Hollmann reported no public comments were received.

**5. STAFF REPORTS**

**5.A. SOCIAL SERVICES GRANT FUNDING APPLICATIONS FY 2021-22**

Secretary Santana opened the discussion with Focus Group #1; stated that as seen on the average scores chart, Interfaith Food Center was ranked highest, followed by Women's and Children's Crisis Shelter, and Whittier Area First Day. Secretary Santana stated that a few organizations have been approved for the allocation of CDGB funds and Low/Mod funds; explained that City Council has approved these funds. However, funds can still be subsidized by money from the Social Services Fund to increase the amount received by these organizations.

Chair Illingworth opened the discussion with Focus Group #1 in order of ranking, beginning with the highest ranked agency, Interfaith Food Center.

Chair Illingworth stated that his funding to Interfaith was low compared to the other Commissioners in hopes to distribute the funds across more organizations. Chair Illingworth stated that he would be willing to increase his suggested amount now that more funds are available after the distribution of the CDGB Funds and Low/Mod Funds; he stated that he would be willing to allocate \$20,000 to Interfaith out of their requested \$25,000. Commissioner McDonnell agreed that clarifying the allocation of the CDGB Funds and the Low/Mod Funds will allow the Commission to allocate more of the General Funds to other deserving agencies like Interfaith. Commissioner Luevano stated that through the first round of discussion, the Commission should err on the side of austerity and suggest a modest amount to revisit later; he stated that we should begin by suggesting Interfaith receive \$15,000. Commissioner McDonnell stated that Interfaith was the highest-scoring agency and should receive the highest percentage of their requested funds or be fully funded. Chair Illingworth asked Secretary Santana if the chart can note that Interfaith should be revisited or be allocated remaining funds later in the discussion.

Chair Illingworth continued the discussion on the second highest-ranking agency, the Women's and Children's Crisis Shelter. Commissioner McDonnell stated that their request would be fully funded from the Low/Mod Funds.

Secretary Santana opened the discussion on the third highest-ranking agency, Whittier Area First Day, regarding their Access Window Project; she stated that Whittier First Day has submitted this project in the past, receiving \$8,250 from CDGB Funds. In response to Commissioner McDonnell's question, Secretary Santana stated that the Commission can allocate \$8,250 again this year from the CDGB Funds and subsidize their request from the Social Services Fund if the Commission so chooses. Commissioner Enriquez-Santos stated that she chose not to suggest funds for this project to increase funding to organizations with the highest number of residents served and whose services focused on providing food and shelter. Commissioner Luevano stated that he is content suggesting the average amount of \$10,877.40. Chair Illingworth agreed and stated that he is comfortable suggesting the average amount in addition to the \$8,250. Commissioner McDonnell asked the Commission if we could round the average amount. Commissioner Luevano suggested rounding to \$11,000 bringing the total suggested \$19,250. Chair Illingworth confirmed with the Commission that there were no objections.

Secretary Santana opened the discussion on the fourth highest-ranking agency, The Whole Child. Secretary Santana stated that Whole Child has requested \$50,000 and is being funded \$20,000 from the Low/Mod Funds, leaving an unfunded balance of \$30,000 unless the Commission chooses to subsidize from the Social Services funds. Chair Illingworth stated that if the Commission were to give Whole Child the average amount of \$20,000 plus the \$20,000 from the Low/Mod Fund, they would be funded about 80% of their request. Secretary Santana stated we could start with \$20,000 and revisit the amount later. Chair Illingworth confirmed with the Commission that there were no objections.

Secretary Santana opened the discussion on the fifth highest-ranking agency, Whittier Area First Day regarding, their Homeless Recovery project; she stated that the average suggested amount was \$21,200. Commissioner McDonnell stated that since Whole Child and Whittier First Day scored similarly and have similar requests, it would make the most sense to fund Whittier First Day 80% of their request. Chair Illingworth and Commissioner Enriquez-Santos support \$20,000 being funded through the Low/Mod Fund and \$20,000 through the General Fund. Chair Illingworth confirmed with the Commission that there were no objections.

Chair Illingworth opened the discussion on the sixth highest-ranking agency, PIH Health Foundation; he stated PIH scored an average with 8.64. Commissioner McDonnell stated that she supports PIH and their program, however, since they are a larger non-profit with multiple funding sources, she felt our funding may have a greater impact on a smaller non-profit. Commissioner Luevano suggested funding them \$4,000; Commissioner Enriquez-Santos and Chair Illingworth agreed with the amount. Commissioner McDonnell agreed but would like to revisit the amount. Chair Illingworth confirmed with the Commission that there were no objections.

Chair Illingworth opened the discussion on the seventh highest-ranking agency, Volunteers of America of Los Angeles. Commissioner Luevano stated that he supports Volunteers of America and their projects in the Whittier Area, however, he does not feel like we can fund the high amount they requested. Commissioner McDonnell agreed and stated that they requested a large amount of money for a low population served. Commissioner Enriquez-Santos stated that she chose not to offer funds since they are a larger organization with multiple funding sources available. Commissioner McDonnell questioned if it would be helpful at all to fund them any amount if we would be funding them at less than 10% of their request. Chair Illingworth stated he is comfortable with not funding them. Chair Illingworth confirmed with the Commission that there were no objections.

Secretary Santana opened the discussion on the eighth highest-ranking agency, L.A. CADA; she stated that they requested \$15,000, and the average amount suggested was \$7,237.40. In response to Commissioner Enriquez-Santos' question, Secretary Santana stated that we have funded them at least part of their request for the last few years. Chair Illingworth stated he is comfortable with funding them at \$10,000. Commissioner Enriquez-Santos agreed with \$10,000. Chair Illingworth confirmed with the Commission that there were no objections.

Secretary Santana opened the discussion on the ninth highest-ranking agency, the Salvation Army. Commissioner McDonnell stated that the City may not approve a chain link to be installed; she stated that she is open to funding the security cameras in their request but not the portion allocated to the fence. Commissioner McDonnell stated that she is also concerned with the Salvation Army's ability to complete the project since they have no other funding resources. Chair Illingworth agreed and stated that they requested a large

amount and would be worried to fund if they cannot complete the project due to the material they want to use. Chair Illingworth stated he is comfortable not funding. Commissioner McDonnell stated she is also comfortable not funding. Chair Illingworth confirmed with the Commission that there were no objections.

Chair Illingworth asked for clarification on the CDGB funds available to the tenth highest-ranking agency, SASSFA. Secretary Santana stated that SASSFA requested \$40,000 and is approved \$40,000 from CDGB Funds, so they are fully funded.

Secretary Santana opened the discussion to the eleventh highest-ranking agency, SPIRITT Family Services; stated that they requested \$30,000 and the average amount suggested was \$8,100. Commissioner Enriquez-Santos stated that she supports SPIRITT's projects and the only reason she suggested not to fund was because she was focused on funding agencies that provide food and shelter. Commissioner McDonnell suggested that we could fund them at \$10,000 and revisit later; Commissioner Enriquez-Santos agreed. Chair Illingworth confirmed with the Commission that there were no objections.

Secretary Santana opened the discussion to the twelfth highest-ranking agency, the Nehemiah Project LA; stated that they requested \$25,000, and the average amount suggested was \$6,400. Chair Illingworth stated that he chose to fund them only \$5,000 because he was trying to spread the money to as many agencies as possible; he stated that he is comfortable increasing his suggested amount. Commissioner McDonnell stated that she was impressed with Nehemiah's application which is why she suggested funding them at \$20,000. Chair Illingworth suggested to fund at \$15,000. Chair Illingworth confirmed with the Commission that there were no objections.

Chair Illingworth opened the discussion to the thirteenth highest-ranking agency, the Whittier Lions Foundation. Commissioner Luevano stated that their application did not meet the Focus Group #1 criteria, which is why he chose not to fund and suggested that they move to Focus Group #2. Commissioner McDonnell stated that she chose not to fund since their project was funding other agencies that have also applied. Chair Illingworth suggested that the Commission not fund the remaining agencies in focus group #1, instead use the remaining \$16,387 to increase the funds of groups we wanted to revisit. Commissioner McDonnell stated we should discuss Bridge of Faith (Rank #15), since it is the agency left with the highest average suggested funding amount. Commissioner Enriquez-Santos stated she chose to fund them a large amount due to their long history of serving Whittier's homeless population. Commissioner McDonnell stated that the agency does great work; however, their application was weak. Chair Illingworth suggested not to fund them. Commissioner McDonnell, Commissioner Luevano, and Commissioner Enriquez-Santos stated they were comfortable not funding the remaining agencies.

Chair Illingworth asked if the Commission would feel comfortable adding an extra \$5,000 to Interfaith (Rank #1). Commissioner McDonnell suggested

\$5,000 be given to the next two highest-ranked agencies that have not been made whole yet. Secretary Santana reminded the Commission that Interfaith ranked at #1 and should be funded accordingly. Commissioner McDonnell stated that Interfaith should be fully funded at \$25,000. Chair Illingworth confirmed with the Commission that there were no objections. Commissioner McDonnell suggested giving Whole Child and Whittier First Day – Homeless Recovery \$22,500 bringing them to 80% funded. Commissioner McDonnell suggested giving the remaining balance of \$7,387 to PIH, bringing their total to \$11,387. Chair Illingworth confirmed with the Commission that there were no objections.

Secretary Santana opened the discussion to Focus Group #2; stated that five agencies applied; she stated that Women’s and Children’s Crisis Shelter ranked #1, Boys and Girls Club ranked #2, SPIRITT Family Services ranked #3, Center for Health Care Rights ranked #4, and Community Legal Aid SoCal ranked #5. Secretary Santana stated that the Crisis Shelter asked for \$10,000 and the average amount suggested was \$10,825.80 with Commissioner Enriquez-Santos suggesting extra funds. Chair Illingworth suggested that we start with fully funding the Crisis Shelter at \$10,000. Chair Illingworth confirmed with the Commission that there were no objections.

Chair Illingworth opened the discussion on the second highest-ranked agency, the Boys and Girls Club; stated they requested \$10,000, the average amount suggested was \$9,816.40, and they scored a 9.18. Chair Illingworth suggested that we fully fund them at \$10,000. Chair Illingworth confirmed with the Commission that there were no objections.

Chair Illingworth opened the discussion on the third highest-ranked agency, SPIRITT Family Services; stated they requested \$10,000, stated that Commissioner Luevano was the only Commissioner to suggest an amount below \$9,000. Commissioner Luevano stated that he left funds available in Focus Group #2 in case applications were moved from Focus Group #1; he stated he is comfortable fully funding them at \$10,000. Chair Illingworth confirmed with the Commission that there were no objections.

Chair Illingworth opened the discussion on the fourth highest-ranked agency, Center for Health Care Rights. Chair Illingworth suggested that we fully fund them at \$10,000. Chair Illingworth confirmed with the Commission that there were no objections.

Chair Illingworth opened the discussion on the fifth highest-ranked agency, Community Legal Aid SoCal; they requested \$5,000. Chair Illingworth suggested that the remaining balance of \$4,129 be allocated to the Community Legal Aid. Chair Illingworth confirmed with the Commission that there were no objections.

It was moved by Commissioner McDonnell, seconded by Commissioner Enriquez-Santos, and carried 4-0 by roll call vote, (Absent Vice-Chair Barrett)

to recommend the funding allocations as noted for the FY 2021-22 Social Services Grant applications for City Council's consideration.

## **6. SECRETARY'S COMMENTS**

Secretary Santana stated that staff will quickly turn around these proposed allocations to present to City Council at the January 25, 2022, Council meeting. Secretary Santana thanked the Commission for working so hard, especially through the scheduling adjustments to complete the allocation process.

## **7. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**

Commission Enriquez-Santos had no comments.

Commissioner Luevano thanked all the agencies that applied and their hard work in the community. Commissioner Luevano thanked Staff for putting everything together.

Commissioner McDonnell thanked Staff as well. Commissioner McDonnell stated that she appreciated that the funds are divided into focus groups; however, she would caution agencies moving forward to ensure that they apply under the correct focus group.

Chair Illingworth thanked Staff and stated that he looks forward to seeing the results of the Council meeting. Chair Illingworth also gave praise to Staff on the success of their Cookies with Santa event, which he attended with his family.

## **8. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

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

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Virginia Santana, Secretary



# Agenda Report

Social Services Commission

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**Date:** February 1, 2022

**To:** Social Services Commission

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

**Subject:** 2022 Whittier Scholarship Program-Sponsored by Athens and Republic Services

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Review and approve the 2022 Whittier Scholarship Program criteria.

## **BACKGROUND**

Included in the contract service agreements with Athens Services and Republic Services is the requirement to have a Scholarship program for students that are Whittier residents within one of the service providers' areas. Annually, the Social Services Commission reviews the criteria for the program prior to application distribution.

Each year five (5) scholarships of \$500 each for college-bound students living in the Athens services area and four (4) scholarships of \$500 each for college-bound students living in the Republic Services area are made available. To promote the scholarship program local High Schools spread the information on campus and Staff shares the opportunity on the City's social media platforms.

## **DISCUSSION**

Staff has added verbiage to question 12 per the request of the Commission during the December 7, 2021, Regular Meeting for final review. Staff has updated the 2022 Scholarship Program criteria (Attachment A) to include the potential essay question and theme for review and approval. Upon the Commissions selection of the environmental essay question(s), the application will be updated and distributed. All essay submissions will be returned to the Social Services Commission for final review and award.

### *Essay question:*

Pretend you are the new Director of Sustainability for the City of Whittier, and it is your job to educate 86,000 residents on how to properly recycle and compost their food waste. Discuss how you would encourage residents to participate in your proposed new program(s) by describing your marketing plan, goals, and measures of success.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no fiscal impact associated with this report.

**STRATEGIC PLANNING GOAL**

Goal 3: Maintain & Enhance Quality of Life

**ATTACHMENTS**

A. 2022 Scholarship Program Criteria





**2022 WHITTIER SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM  
SPONSORED BY **ATHENS SERVICES** AND **REPUBLIC SERVICES****

***Scholarship Criteria and Essay Writing Details:***

**Theme:**

Local Composting and Recycling Made Easy.

**Essay Topic:**

Pretend you are the new Director of Sustainability for the City of Whittier, and it is your job to educate 86,000 residents on how to properly recycle and compost their food waste. Discuss how you would encourage residents to participate in your proposed new program(s) by describing your marketing plan, goals, and measures of success.

**Deadline:**

The due date for submission is **XXX** and must be submitted online or emailed. See Submission Guidelines for details on how to submit.

**Eligibility:**

The essay contest is open to college-bound graduating high school seniors. Applicants must be a resident of the City of Whittier; location of high school is not used as an eligibility factor. Students living in the **unincorporated Los Angeles County areas of Whittier or outside the City of Whittier City limits are ineligible.**

**Scholarship Awards:**

- \$500 individual scholarships will be awarded to five (5) recipients living in **Athens Services'** area.
- \$500 individual scholarships will be awarded to four (4) recipients living in **Republic Services'** area.
- Winners will be notified by **XXX**
- Winners will be invited to a reception at City Hall, 13230 Penn St. for the presentation of scholarship funds.

**Writing Guidelines:**

Essays must be 400 to 500 words in length, typed, double-spaced, 12-point font, and facts and quotations should be appropriately cited following MLA formatting. Entries must be original, unpublished essays written by the contestant.

**Submission Guidelines:**

Please submit only one essay per student. If selected to receive a scholarship, a picture will be requested as part of our media campaign. By submitting a photo, the applicant grants permission to the City of Whittier to use the photograph for advertising purposes.

Please submit your entry via the Google Forms link **OR** email with the subject "Scholarship Essay" as an attached document to pks@cityofwhittier.org

Following MLA formatting, heading needs to include the following information:

- Student's Full Name and Name of Legal Guardian
- Email Address and Contact Number
- Home Address
- School Name and Grade Level
- Name of the Trash Hauling Service Provider (either **Athens Services** or **RepublicServices**)

**Selection of Scholarship Recipients:**

The City of Whittier's Social Services Commission will evaluate the essays. Essays will be judged with no identifying information available to the judges. Decisions by the judges are final.

Essays will be evaluated based on:

- Creativity
- Demonstrated passion for the environment
- Inclusion of local sustainability ideas
- Adherence to MLA formatting
- Use of sources and correct citations
- A vision for the future

If you have any question, contact the  
Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Department at (562)567-9400.