



LOS ANGELES COUNTY REDISTRICTING 2021

County of Los Angeles Citizens Redistricting Commission: Filling a Vacancy Process

Prepared May 14, 2021

This document supplements the “Commissioner Selection Process” report because of the resignation of former Commissioner Priya Sridharan on April 17, 2021, and her replacement by Commissioner Mary Kenney, effective May 19, 2021, on the County of Los Angeles Citizens Redistricting Commission (LA County CRC).

Please go to our website at <https://redistricting.lacounty.gov/> for additional details:

- LA County CRC’s purpose to redraw Supervisorial District boundaries following the Federal census and related information
- Commissioner Selection Process report available at: <https://redistricting.lacounty.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/CRC-Selection-Process-210127-FINAL-rev-2.pdf>¹
- LA County CRC By-Laws at: <https://redistricting.lacounty.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Bylaws.pdf>

Process to Fill Vacancy

The selection process involved the Co-Chairs Carolyn Williams and Dan Mayeda convening an Ad Hoc Working Group of three other Commissioners who volunteered: Commissioners Mark Mendoza, Saira Soto, and John Vento. Thus constituted, the Ad Hoc Working Group consisted of members who are registered Democrat, Republican, and Neither Democrat nor Republican (NDR). It also reflected a mixture of races/ethnicities and genders.

Because the vacancy created an increased imbalance in gender, the Ad Hoc Working Group focused on the remaining highly qualified applicants who were female. They each selected up to 5 top candidates, many of whom appeared on multiple lists. The Co-Chairs directed the Executive Director, Gayla Kraetsch Hartsough, to reach out to the tentative list of 7 top candidates who appeared on more than one Working Group member’s list to confirm:

- Their continued interest and availability
- Their continued residency in Los Angeles County

¹ This report also outlines related State legislation (Senate Bill (SB) 958), effective January 1, 2017. The law governing the LA County CRC and the once-a-decade selection of its members is codified in Division 21, Chapter 6.3 (commencing with Section 21530) of the State Elections Code.





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- Their continued lack of any conflict of interest as per the Senate Bill requirements

Three of these candidates were eliminated from consideration because of potential conflicts of interest or residency changes.

This Ad Hoc Working Group engaged in a vigorous two-hour discussion to review the remaining candidates and ultimately reached consensus on their top candidate who they wished to put forward to the full Commission for approval: Mary Kenney. Co-Chair Williams reached out to Ms. Kenney to alert her that her name would be put forth at the May 12, 2021, regular meeting of the LA County CRC.

At the May 12, 2021, regular meeting, Co-Chair Mayeda outlined the process and Co-Chair Williams presented the qualifications and criteria that the Ad Hoc Working Group considered in recommending Mary Kenney to fill the Commissioner vacancy.

A motion was made and seconded. The motion was passed to appoint Mary Kenney as a Commissioner. She took her Oath of Office at a Special Meeting on May 19, 2021.

Update on Commissioners' Demographics

With the addition of Commissioner Kenney, the demographics of the LA County CRC changed but continue to reflect the County's demographic profile.

Political Party Preference

The political party preferences of the CRC Commissioners are not required to be exactly the same as the proportion of political party preferences among the registered voters of Los Angeles County; however, they must be as proportionate as possible.² With the resignation of Commissioner Priya Sridharan and replacement by Commissioner Mary Kenney, the CRC's political party affiliations changed from 8 Democrats to 7 Democrats and from 2 Republicans to 3 Republicans, as displayed in Table 1. As Table 1 reveals, the final political party preferences in the Commission are as proportionate as reasonably possible to the registered voters in Los Angeles County.

² The California Elections Code § 21532(c) requires that: "The commission shall consist of 14 members. The political party preferences of the commission members, as shown on the members' most recent affidavits of registration, shall be as proportional as possible to the total number of voters who are registered with each political party in the County of Los Angeles or who decline to state or do not indicate a party preference, as determined by registration at the most recent statewide election. However, the political party or no party preferences of the commission members are not required to be exactly the same as the proportion of political party and no party preferences among the registered voters of the county."





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Table 1: Los Angeles County Political Party Affiliations vis-à-vis 14 Commissioners

Political Party Affiliation	Percent of Registered Voters	Percentages Applied to 14	CRC Commissioners	
			Number	Percent
Democratic	52.449%	7.343	7	50%
NDR ³	30.400%	4.256	4	29%
Republican	17.151%	2.401	3	21%
Totals	100.000%	14.000	14	100%

Reflection of LA County Diversity and Demographics

The Commission is required to reflect the County’s diversity, including racial, ethnic, geographic, and gender diversity.⁴ To comply with the law, the Commissioners did not use such statistics to generate specific ratios or to develop or apply formulas.⁵

Race/Ethnicity Representation

Table 2 displays the Commissioners’ current racial/ethnic makeup with the change in Commissioners, compared to Los Angeles County. As Table 2 reveals, the final racial/ethnic makeup of the Commission is reasonably reflective of the County’s diversity in terms of race and ethnicity.

Table 2: Comparison of Commissioner and Los Angeles County Racial/Ethnicity Demographics

Race/Ethnicity	# CRC Commissioners	% CRC (rounded)	% of LA County
Hispanic/Latino/Latina/Latinx	6	43%	46%
Asian (incl. Pacific Islander)	2	14%	15%
White (Not of Hispanic Origin)	4	29%	25%
Black/African American	2	14%	9%
Other (incl. American Indian/Alaskan Native)		0%	5%

³ Not Democrat/Not Republican (NDR) includes all registered voters who are not registered as preferring either the Democratic or the Republican parties.

⁴ Elections Code § 21523(b) governing the Commission states that the Commission member: “...selection process is designed to produce a commission that is independent from the influence of the board and reasonably representative of the county’s diversity.”

⁵ Los Angeles County population demographics used for assessing this reflection in this report are based on the U.S. Census Bureau’s most recent estimates: <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/losangelescountycalifornia#> (July 1, 2019).





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Gender Representation

The gender profile of the 14 Commissioners remained unchanged: 8 male and 6 female Commissioners, as displayed in Table 3.

Table 3: Comparison of Commissioner and Los Angeles County Gender Demographics

Gender	# CRC Commissioners	% CRC	% of LA County
Female	6	43%	50%
Male	8	57%	50%
Non-Binary	0		

Supervisory District Representation

Los Angeles County has 5 Supervisory Districts, serving approximately 2 million individuals per District. If the 14 Commissioners' were divided evenly, each District would have either 2 or 3 Commissioners. At least one of the 14 Commissioners resides in each of the five Supervisory Districts, as required by law and displayed in Table 4.⁶

Table 4: Commissioners Residency, by Los Angeles County Supervisory District

Supervisory Districts	# CRC Commissioners	% CRC	% of LA County
District 1	3	21%	20%
District 2	3	21%	20%
District 3	2	14%	20%
District 4	3	21%	20%
District 5	3	21%	20%

With the change in Commissioners, the number of Commissioners in District 4 changed from 2 to 3 and in District 5 from 4 to 3.

⁶ Subdivision (c) states: At least one commission member shall reside in each of the five existing supervisory districts of the board.





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Overview of Commissioners Today

Table 5 presents the composition of the current 14 Commissioners:

Table 5: Profile of Current Commissioners

Name	Political Party Affiliation	Demographics			Geographic Distribution	
		Gender	Age (yrs.)	Race / Ethnicity	SD#	City or Unincorporated Area
Apolonio Morales	D	M	43	Mexican/Mexican American	4	Whittier
Brian Stecher	D	M	73	White	3	Santa Monica
Carolyn Williams	D	F	67	Black/African American	2	Hawthorne
Daniel Mayeda	D	M	62	Japanese	2	Culver City
David Holtzman	NDR	M	60	White	5	Burbank
Doreena Wong	D	F	68	Chinese	3	Los Angeles
Hailes Soto	NDR	M	39	Mexican/Mexican American	4	Downey
Jean Franklin	D	F	72	Black	2	Long Beach
John Vento	NDR	M	51	White	5	Palmdale
Mark Mendoza	R	M	58	Mexican/Mexican American	5	La Verne
Mary Kenney	R	F	70	White/Lithuanian American	4	Palos Verdes Estates
Nelson Obregon	R	M	59	Cuban	1	Los Angeles
Priscilla Segura	D	F	31	Mexican/Mexican American	1	Los Angeles
Saira Soto	NDR	F	40	Mexican/Mexican American	1	Los Angeles

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