



Santa Cruz County Women's Commission

701 Ocean Street, Fifth Floor, Room 510
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
(831) 454-2772 (F) 831-454-2411 TTY/TDD: 711
commissions@santacruzcountyca.gov
www.sccwc.org

Notice of Public Meeting and Agenda

Date: Thursday, March 19, 2026
Time: 6:00 to 8:00 PM
Location: County Govt Building, 701 Ocean Street, Fifth Floor Redwood Conference Room
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

*As a courtesy to those affected, kindly attend the meeting **scents-free** and **smoke-free**.*

AGENDA

1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Agenda Review
2. Approve *February 19, 2026 Meeting Minutes*
3. Public Comment:
Any person may address the Commission for a period not to exceed five minutes on matters within the jurisdiction of the Commission.
4. New/Continuing Business/Action Items:
 - 4.1. Consider Advocacy Letter in Support of the Pleasure Point Surf Statue
 - 4.2. Consider Advocating in Support of the Latino Affairs Commission's Recommendations
 - 4.3. Consider Establishing an Ad Hoc Women's Equality Day Subcommittee
 - 4.4. Consider Establishing an Ad Hoc Community Outreach Subcommittee
5. Ad Hoc Subcommittee Reports
 - 5.1. Ad Hoc 2026 Status of Women and Girls Report Subcommittee Update (*Albert, Gordon*)
 - 5.2. Ad Hoc Legislative Priorities Subcommittee Update (*Albert, Michaelis-Ow, Doty*)
 - 5.3. Ad Hoc Resource Directory Subcommittee Update (*Rogers, Gordon*)
 - 5.4. Ad Hoc EEO/CR Advocacy Subcommittee Update (*Doty, Sanchez*)
6. Priority Reports
 - 6.1. CEDAW Recommendation Implementation Status Report (*Staff*)
 - 6.2. Social Media Outreach Report (*Gordon*)
 - 6.3. Immigration Enforcement Activity Report
7. Staff Report
8. Correspondence
9. Emerging Matters
10. Adjournment

The next scheduled regular meeting will be on Thursday, April 16, 2026 at 6:00 PM

The County of Santa Cruz does not discriminate on the basis of disability, and no person shall, by reason of a disability, be denied the benefits of its services, programs, or activities. If you require special assistance to participate, please call (831) 454-2772 (TTY/TDD: 711) at least 72 hours in advance to make arrangements.



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Meeting Minutes

DATE: Thursday, February 19, 2026
TIME: 6:00 PM
LOCATION: County Government Building, 701 Ocean Street, 5th Floor Redwood Conference Room
PRESENT: Amanda Crowder (1st District), Paige Gordon (1st District), Brenda Rogers (2nd District), Gail Michaelis-Ow (2nd District), Suzanne Doty (3rd District), Allison Albert (3rd District),
EXCUSED: Rita Sanchez (4th District), Ariel Young (5th District), Kate McGrath (5th District)
ABSENT: None
STAFF: Kaite McGrew (Commissions Manager)
GUESTS: Kari Lochhead and 1 member of the public were present.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Agenda Review
Meeting convened at 6:17 PM.
2. Approve January 15, 2026 Meeting Minutes
Motion to approve January 15, 2026 Meeting Minutes as written
Motion/Second: Gordon/Rogers
Motion passed unanimously.
3. Public Comment: None
4. New/Continuing Business/Action Items:
 - 4.1. Proposed Eastside Santa Cruz Female Surf Statue Report
Lochhead informed the Commission that a privately funded companion sculpture of a female surfer—created by the same artists who designed the surfer statue on West Cliff Drive—is planned for East Cliff Drive and is currently awaiting Coastal Commission approval after receiving all required local approvals. Interested parties may support the project by emailing the Planning Department.
 - 4.2. Consider Amended 2026 Commission Strategic Action Plan
Motion to approve the 2024-2025 Strategic Action Plan as amended.
Motion/Second: Gordon/McGrath
Motion passed unanimously.
 - 4.3. Consider Establishing an Ad Hoc 2026 Status of Women and Girls Report Subcommittee
Motion to establish an Ad Hoc 2026 Status of Women and Girls Report Subcommittee.
Motion/Second: Gordon/Rogers
Motion passed unanimously.
Chair appointed Albert and Gordon to the subcommittee.

4.4. Consider Establishing an Ad Hoc Legislative Priorities Subcommittee

Motion to establish an Ad Hoc Legislative Priorities Subcommittee.

Motion/Second: Gordon/Rogers

Motion passed unanimously

Chair appointed Albert, Michaelis-Ow, and Doty.

4.5. Consider Establishing an Ad Hoc Resource Directory Subcommittee

Motion to establish an Ad Hoc Resource Directory Subcommittee

Motion/Second: Gordon/Rogers

Motion passed unanimously

Chair appointed Rogers and Gordon.

4.6. Consider Establishing an Ad Hoc EEO/CR Advocacy Subcommittee

Motion to establish an Ad Hoc EEO/CR Advocacy Subcommittee

Motion/Second: Michaelis-Ow/Rogers

Motion passed unanimously.

Chair appointed Doty and Sanchez.

5. Priority Reports

5.1. CEDAW Recommendation Implementation Status Report

Staff reported that the CEO's report to the Board of Supervisors will be deferred for approximately a month. Commission requested regular updates to monitor the situation.

5.2. Social Media Outreach Report

Gordon reported accessing the Commission's Facebook page and will work with Staff to access the instagram account.

5.3. Immigration Enforcement Activity Report

Commission discussed the new S.H.E.I.L.D. subcommittee, increased ICE activity at County health centers, and Your Area Rapid Response (YARR) information on confirmed local ICE actions. Commission will consider advocating in support of the Latino Affairs Commission's recent recommendations at the March meeting.

6. Staff Report: None

7. Correspondence

8. Emerging Matters:

Crowder announced that she will be resigning from her seat for family reasons and that this meeting will be her last. The Commission thanked her for her many contributions and expressed appreciation for her service, noting that she will be greatly missed. Staff will invite Western Service Workers Association representative to present. Gordon observed a disappointing lack of integration of CEDAW recommendations in a recent County Department Strategic Planning Town Hall.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 PM.

Respectfully submitted by: Kaite McGrew, *Commissions Manager*



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March 19, 2026

Santa Cruz County Planning Department
Attn: Zoning Administrator
701 Ocean Street, Fourth Floor
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Re: Permit Application 251522 – Proposed Women Surfer Statue

Dear Zoning Administrator,

On behalf of the Santa Cruz County Women's Commission, we write in support of Permit Application 251522 for the proposed women surfer statue in the East Cliff area.

Public art plays an important role in shaping the stories a community tells about itself. In a county internationally recognized for its surf culture, the visible representation of women in that history and identity matters. A statue honoring a woman surfer reflects both the lived experience of countless women who have contributed to this culture and the next generation who deserve to see themselves reflected in public space.

We are particularly encouraged by the strong community support indicated in the results of a recent District 1 survey. Of 668 total responses, 78.29% indicated full support for the project. Among verified local respondents (259 addresses), 75.68% expressed full support

The accompanying geographic heat map further reflects meaningful engagement from residents in the immediate Pleasure Point area.

We also note that the project is privately funded, reducing fiscal impact while contributing to the cultural landscape of the county.

We view this project as aligned with our mission to promote equitable representation in civic spaces. Public monuments stand as lasting symbols of whose contributions a community chooses to honor. Ensuring that women's contributions are recognized in these symbols is both timely and appropriate.

Consistent with the County's stated commitment to equity, we respectfully recommend approval of Permit Application 251522. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Doty, *Commission Co-Chair*

Paige Gordon, *Commission Co-Chair*

Cc. Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors
Enc. *Survey Results*
Heat Map

East Cliff Surfer Statue Results

Date Range

02/09/26

2/23/26

Responses with Addresses		
Yes, I fully support the project	196	75.68%
I like the project, but I am concerned about the location	14	5.41%
I like the location, but am unsure about the design	9	3.47%
No, I dislike the project	40	15.44%
Total	259	100.00%

Total Responses		
Yes, I fully support the project	523	78.29%
I like the project, but I am concerned about the location	33	4.94%
I like the location, but am unsure about the design	20	2.99%
No, I dislike the project	92	13.77%
Total	668	100.00%



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February 4, 2026

Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors

Attn: Chair Martinez

701 Ocean Avenue, St. 500

Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Subject: Follow-Up Recommendations Related to Immigration Enforcement and Community Impacts

Dear Chair Martinez and Members of the Board,

Under the provisions of Santa Cruz County Code 2.117.050(A), the Latino Affairs Commission is mandated to advise your Board of issues and concerns affecting the Latino community.

On November 17, 2025, the Commission issued a letter to your Board outlining community concerns related to immigration enforcement practices, access to services, public safety, and County investments. Since that time, federal immigration enforcement efforts continue to broaden and escalate, and the Commission continues to receive feedback from community members on related issues. Every day, the national news media report alarming events indicating that federal officers have, in some cases, detained U.S. citizens—including Dulce Consuelo Diaz Morales—and have conducted operations while wearing face coverings or disguising themselves as utility or construction workers.

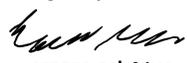
As a follow-up to our prior correspondence, the Latino Affairs Commission respectfully offers the following potential solutions for your Board's consideration:

- Consider directing the Sheriff's Office to work with local law enforcement partners to provide public education on identifying legitimate local and federal law enforcement, recognizing potential impersonators, understanding required officer identification, and appropriate steps to take when impersonation is suspected.
- Consider updates to the County's investment policy to strengthen processes for identifying and divesting from companies with documented human rights concerns.
- Consider emergency or bridge funding for County and community programs that served previously as critical access points for immigrant residents seeking services and assistance, but have been either reduced or eliminated due to recent federal funding changes.
- Consider temporary eviction protections or other housing stability measures to support immigrant residents experiencing barriers to employment or access to resources because of immigration enforcement activities.
- Consider updating Sheriff's Office hiring policies to preclude applicants with prior federal immigration enforcement experience where legally permissible, ensuring compliance with federal anti-discrimination and equal employment laws, and using structured background and screening procedures to safeguard community trust.

- Consider appropriate policy or operational limitations on the Sheriff's Department's access to or use of Flock Safety and Fusion Center data, with attention to privacy, civil liberties, and potential community impacts while still safeguarding public safety.
- Consider encouraging the Sheriff's Office to adopt internal guidance clarifying officer responsibilities in situations where it is clearly evident that federal immigration enforcement is in violation of constitutional, state, or local law, and ensuring that any lawful response occurs only to the extent authorized under officers' jurisdictional and legal authority.

The Commission shares these potential solutions to support your Board's ongoing deliberations regarding policies impacting immigrant communities in Santa Cruz County. We respectfully encourage careful evaluation of these proposed solutions as part of the County's continued commitment to equity, safety, and community well-being.

Respectfully,


Emmanuel Nevarez
Commission Chair
Santa Cruz County Latino Affairs Commission

Enc. *Latino Affairs Commission's November 17, 2025 Letter*



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November 17, 2025

Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors

Attn: Chair Hernandez

701 Ocean Avenue, St. 500

Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Re: Community Concerns Related to Immigration Enforcement and Access to Services

Dear Chair Hernandez and Members of the Board,

Under the provisions of Santa Cruz County Code 2.117.050(A), the Latino Affairs Commission is mandated to advise your Board of issues and concerns affecting the Latino community. The following concerns impacting the Latino immigrant community were brought forward during the last Commission meeting:

- The presence of masked ICE officers undermines trust, unnecessarily increases anxiety, (particularly around whether the masked individuals are imposters), and makes County residents feel unsafe in public spaces.
- County investment funds may include investments in companies with problematic human rights records which raises concerns that County government may be indirectly supporting entities whose practices conflict with their expressed values of equity and human dignity.
- Community members impacted by ICE activities have expressed challenges accessing medical care, food security programs, and other supports essential to family stability and wellbeing.
- There are concerns that current Sheriff's Office hiring practices may not sufficiently account for prior ICE employment which could erode trust in local law enforcement and discourage residents from seeking help when needed.
- Community members are worried about how information—particularly that collected by automatic license plate readers—may be stored, shared, or accessed, and whether it could be used in ways that harm immigrant residents.

The Commission shares these concerns with you to help inform your deliberations and policy decisions impacting County immigrants. We respectfully urge your Board to weigh these community concerns carefully as part of your ongoing commitment to equity, safety, and inclusion in Santa Cruz County.

Respectfully,

Signed by:

Emmanuel Novarez

Commission Chair

Santa Cruz County Latino Affairs Commission



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Scheduled Meetings

Unless otherwise specified below, regularly scheduled Women's Commission meetings are generally held as follows:

DAY: Third (3rd) Thursday*
MONTH: Every month except July and December
TIME: 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
LOCATION: **Santa Cruz County Government Building ***
5th Floor Redwood Conference Room
701 Ocean Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

*Unless noted otherwise below

Locations may vary for outreach, town hall meetings, special meetings, changes of location, or meeting cancellations. Changes to the schedule will be listed on the website at www.sccwc.org as soon as information becomes available.

2026 MEETING DATES		
DATE	TIME	LOCATION
January 15, 2026	6:00 – 7:30 PM	County Bldg – Redwood Rm
February 19, 2026	6:00 – 7:30 PM	County Bldg – Redwood Rm
March 19, 2026	6:00 – 7:30 PM	County Bldg – Redwood Rm
April 16, 2026	6:00 – 7:30 PM	County Bldg – Redwood Rm
May 21, 2026	6:00 – 7:30 PM	County Bldg – Redwood Rm
June 18, 2026	6:00 – 7:30 PM	County Bldg – Redwood Rm
August 20, 2026	6:00 – 7:30 PM	County Bldg – Redwood Rm
September 17, 2026	6:00 – 7:30 PM	County Bldg – Redwood Rm
October 15, 2026	6:00 – 7:30 PM	County Bldg – Redwood Rm
November 19, 2026	6:00 – 7:30 PM	County Bldg – Redwood Rm

Public Participation

- Please check the meeting agenda to learn details about how to participate in the commission meeting.
- If you need special accommodations, please call 454-2935 or TDD: 711 (California Relay Service) at least 48 hours before the meeting.