



LOS ANGELES CITY/COUNTY NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN COMMISSION

Chairperson
SHAWN IMITATES-DOG
Lakota

October 15, 2024

Vice Chairperson
MARK VILLASEÑOR
Fernandeño Tataviam

LA County Board of Supervisors
500 W Temple St
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Secretary
BRYCE LEWIS-SMITH
Citizen Potawatomi Nation

Dear Board of Supervisors,

Treasurer
DENISE ESCOTO
Northern Cheyenne

I am sending this budget request letter on behalf of the Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission (Commission). We appreciate the opportunity to formalize our budget requests for the County of Los Angeles' FY25-26 budget.

CAROLINE BHALLA
Menominee Tribe of Wisconsin

CHRISSE CASTRO
Navajo

At the May 18, 2021 Commission meeting the body adopted a resolution recommending that the County create an Office of Tribal Affairs. The need for this type of office has been uplifted by local tribal leaders and members of the AIAN community in numerous County-led processes. We request that the Board allocates funding for the creation of this critical office.

ANDREA N. GARCIA, M.D.
Mandan, Hidatsa, Arikara

VIVIAN GARCIA
Cherokee

DAWN JACKSON
Saginaw Chippewa

On September 20, 2023 the Commission transmitted letters to you and your colleagues on the Board of Supervisor's requesting a sustainability plan to build on the great work of the "Identifying, Supporting, and Serving American Indians and Alaska Natives Who Are at Risk of or Experiencing Homelessness" Board Motion (October 2019). The Commission also uplifted this request in our FY24-25 budget request letter submitted on October 17, 2023. Unfortunately, this critical work remains unfunded. We respectfully request that you support funding in the FY25-26 budget for a dedicated position within CEO Homelessness Initiative to ensure that the County of Los Angeles continues to prioritize fighting American Indian and Alaska Native homelessness.

MONA MORALES RECALDE
Gabrieleno Tongva

JOHN ONLY A CHIEF
Pawnee Nation

RUDY ORTEGA JR.
Fernandeño Tataviam

TED TENORIO
Tiguan Nation

RICH TOYON
Acjachemen

At the direction of the Board in 2021 we collaborated with the Department of Human Resources to develop a 2 part *DIALOGUE* event focused on building the awareness and understanding of the American Indian and Alaska Native population by the County workforce. While these webinars were highly attended and effective we believe a Countywide mandated training focused on building the understanding of the County's workforce on unique history and issues facing Native American people in Los Angeles would have a far greater impact. We request that the Board allocates funding and directs CEO to procure the training.

RENE WILLIAMS
Colville Tribes

ALEXANDRA VALDES
Executive Director

At the May 21, 2024 Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission (LANAIC) meeting the Commission unanimously adopted a letter requesting that that the County of Department of Arts and Culture allocate funding and qualified resources to support the development of a new

website for the LANAIC. The LANAIC website is a key communication tool with and the American Indian and Alaska Native (AIAN) community and public, plays a pivotal role in disseminating information, sharing County and Commission services and events, and highlighting Commission accomplishments. The outdated design and functionality of our current website hinders our ability to effectively communicate with and engage AIAN community members. We request that the Board allocates funding for the Commission to develop a new website.

Thank you for considering the Commission's FY25-26 budget requests.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink on a yellow sticky note. The signature reads "Shawn Imitates Dog" in a cursive script.

Shawn Imitates Dog, Chairperson
Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission