

Policy Roundtable for Child Care and Development Meeting Minutes

June 10, 2026

1. Welcome and Introductions of Commissioners, Alternates, and Guests

Chair Justin Blakely opened the Policy Roundtable for Child Care and Development Commission (Policy Roundtable) meeting at 10:04 a.m. by welcoming Commissioners and guests.

2. Comments from the Chair

Chair Blakely welcomed Breeda McGrath newly appointed Commissioner for the Fifth Supervisorial District to the Policy Roundtable. Chair Blakely highlighted key points from First 5 LA Commission's May 2026 meeting. He noted that First 5 LA provided information about its fiscal changes due to budget constraints and the impact this will have on some of First 5 LA's programs. Chair Blakely also shared that Policy Roundtable meetings for FY 2026-27 will be held at Pacific Oaks College.

3. Approval of Minutes –May 13, 2026

Chair Blakely presented the minutes for May 13, 2026 Policy Roundtable meeting and asked for a motion to approve the May 13, 2026 minutes. Commissioner Mercedes Santoro made the motion to approve the May 13, 2026 minutes; Commissioner Gloria Davis seconded the motion. The motion to approve the May 13, 2026 minutes was approved unanimously.

4. Presentation on Child Care Planning Committee Activities for FY 25-26 Update

Commissioner Andrea Fernandez Mendoza provided an update regarding Child Care Planning Committee (Planning Committee) activities. Specifically, Commissioner Fernandez Mendoza focused on the status of the Planning Committee's implementation of its work to strengthen the special needs system that supports young children. This work included conducting a landscape analysis of special needs and inclusion services and supports for children ages 3 and 4 years old. Commissioner Fernandez Mendoza presented the LA County Special Needs and Inclusion Systems Map. Additional information is available in the PowerPoint presentation.

5. Presentation on Service Coordination Strategy: Review Key Themes from Service Coordination Discussions

Vice Chair Mercedes Santoro reviewed the purpose of the Policy Roundtable Service Coordination Strategy and highlighted key themes and actions that were raised during Policy Roundtable's Service Coordination discussions. Additional details are available in the PowerPoint presentation. Vice Chair Santoro opened the floor for Commissioner discussion and some of the points raised are listed below.

- It was requested that at the beginning of each fiscal year the Policy Roundtable continue to highlight ECE-related work conducted by County departments' represented on the Policy Roundtable
- Continue to dedicate time on Policy Roundtable agendas to elevate and discuss service coordination efforts related to issues that intersect with ECE
- Increase a focus on activities, services, and needs based on geography
- Continue to use data to inform discussions

6. Presentation on Status of Local, State and Federal Public Policies, Joint Committee on Legislation, and Proposed Pursuit of Positions

Chair Blakely provided an update on the status of the three Pursuits of Position that were approved by the Policy Roundtable in March 2026. Chair Blakely shared that LA County Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations approved the Pursuits of Position and started advocacy efforts for these positions. Alternate Commissioner Colin Legerton presented updates on state and federal public policies. Alternate Commissioner Legerton noted that the deadline for the state legislature to pass the budget is June 15, 2026 and provided status updates for bills related to the Pursuits of Position and other state legislation previously flagged by the Joint Committee on Legislation (JCL). Alternate Commissioner Legerton also noted multiple federal regulations are being proposed that will impact ECE. Additional information is available in the PowerPoint presentation. Chair Blakely provided an update on the JCL. He shared that the JCL recommends for FY 2026-27 that JCL meetings begin in Fall 2026 and the JCL provide Public Policy Platform modification recommendations to the Planning Committee and Policy Roundtable in Fall 2026. Additional information is available in the PowerPoint presentation. Chair Blakely opened the floor for Commissioner discussion and some of the points raised focused on clarifying the impact of federal policy changes to ECE in California; non-profits need to be aware of how they will be impacted by federal policy changes; and more families are enrolling in subsidized ECE programs thus it is important that the remaining subsidized child care slots identified by California statute are provided.

7. Presentation on Early Care and Education Supervisorial District Delegation Updates

Chair Blakely introduced the Board of Supervisors (BOS) ECE Delegation teams, reminded Commissioners that the Policy Roundtable created the Delegation teams to ensure consistent engagement with the BOS, and noted that Delegation Teams were supposed to meet with their respective Supervisorial District offices to provide ECE and Policy Roundtable updates. Chair Blakely invited each Delegation Team to share the status of their engagement efforts with their respective BOS Offices.

- Supervisor Hilda Solis, District 1: The Team did not meet with Supervisor Solis' Office
- Supervisor Holly Mitchell, District 2: Delegation Team Lead Chair Blakely and Commissioner Davis reported that the Delegation Team met with Supervisor Mitchell's Deputy LaJuanna Hills and shared information on the Policy Roundtable's priorities and the importance of sustainability funding to support the ECE workforce.
- Supervisor Lindsey Horvath, District 3: The Delegation Team provided an update during the Policy Roundtable's May 2026 meeting.
- Supervisor Janice Hahn, District 4: Delegation Team Lead Alejandra Albarran Moses reported that the Delegation Team met with Supervisor Hahn's deputies Esther Lim, Nick Holden, and Vianca Campos-Serna. The Delegation Team shared the status of the Pursuits of Position and discussed impacts of immigration enforcement on ECE, the children and families it serves, and the ECE workforce. The Deputies connected the Delegation Team with the LA County Office of Immigration Affairs to foster collaboration between immigration resources and ECE.
- Supervisor Kathryn Barger, District 5: The Delegation Team has scheduled an in-person meeting with Supervisor Barger.

Chair Blakely shared that BOS Deputies will be invited to attend and present at Policy Roundtable meetings in FY 2026-27. Additional information is available in the PowerPoint presentation. Chair Blakely opened the floor for Commissioner Comments. No comments were provided.

8. Policy Roundtable FY 2025-2026 Reflections and Goals for 2026-2027

Chair Blakely highlighted some of the Policy Roundtable's goals and accomplishments for FY 2025-26 and invited Commissioners to: 1) share FY 2025-26 reflections, and 2) identify FY 2026-27 goals for the Policy Roundtable. Commissioners identified the following.

Reflections on FY 2025-26: Effective Policy Roundtable Activities

- Reviewing data as a group helped inform Policy Roundtable discussions throughout the year
- Elevating resources and facilitating opportunities for collaboration between organizations and County departments
- Presentations on issues that intersect with ECE such as federal funding for ECE food programs and requirements for public higher education institutions to provide supports for student parents
- County, state and federal public policy presentations
- Child Care Planning Committee presentations

Goals for FY 2026-27: Practices to Implement and/or Issues to Focus On

- Continue implementing the practices identified as FY 2025-26 effective activities
- Strengthen Policy Roundtable's collective knowledge about issues such as:
 - Impact of County budget on ECE
 - Needs of student parents
 - Special needs ECE system and how it operates
- Continue to invest in understanding, developing, and strengthening inter-County department relationships and promoting shared goals
- Continue elevating issues related to:
 - ECE interconnection between ECE and other social safety net programs
 - ECE workforce
 - Family access to ECE mixed delivery system
 - Special needs
- Strengthen BOS ECE Delegation engagement
- Utilize additional tools to influence support for Policy Roundtable priority issue areas and policy recommendations
- Continue to support a strong partnership with Child Care Planning Committee

9. Announcements and General Public Comment

Vice Chair Santoro opened the floor for announcements and public comment and the following were provided.

- California Assembly Bill 495, the Family Preparedness Plan Act of 2025, requires licensed child care providers to implement specific safety protocols by July 1, 2026. CAAEYC State Board and Public Policy Committee is hosting a webinar on June 23, 2026 to review the protocols established by AB 495 providers must implement.
- The Child Care Planning Committee elected Commissioner Fernandez Mendoza as the next Chair of the Planning Committee for FYs 2026-28
- Child Care Choices Initiative received a National Association of County Health Officials (NACCHO) Promising Practice award
- Maryam Diaab, new OAECE team member, introduced herself

10. Call to Adjourn Meeting

Chair Blakely moved to adjourn the June 10, 2026 meeting. Commissioner Albarran Moses seconded the motion. The motion to adjourn the meeting passed with no objections. The Policy Roundtable meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Attendance

Commissioner Attendance

1. Justin Blakely, *Second Supervisorial District*
2. Gloria Davis, *Second Supervisorial District*
3. Jennifer Cowan, *Third Supervisorial District*
4. Alejandra Albarran Moses, *Fourth Supervisorial District*
5. Breedra McGrath, *Fifth Supervisorial District*

Note: Commissioner McGrath attended the Policy Roundtable meeting via teleconference because she was traveling on official agency business.

6. Karla Rivas, *Fifth Supervisorial District*
7. Olga Vicuna, *Department of Children and Family Services*
8. Mercedes Santoro, *Department of Parks and Recreation*
9. Andrea Fernandez Mendoza, *Child Care Planning Committee*
10. Fran Chasen, *Southern California Chapter – California Association for the Education of Young Children*

Alternate Commissioner Attendance

1. Rebeca Hurtado, *Department of Mental Health*
2. Dora Jacildo, *Commission for Children and Families*
3. Jaime Kalenik, *First 5 LA*
4. Colin Legerton, *Los Angeles County Office of Education*
5. Mary Melvin, *Los Angeles Unified School District*
6. Samuel Lujan, *Department of Public Social Services*
7. Steve Sturm, *Department of Children and Family Services*

Guests Attendance

1. Lisa Wilkin, *Child Development Consortium Los Angeles*
2. Mary Berberian, *Pacific Oaks College*

OAECE Staff Attendance

1. Diana Alvarado, *Policy and Program Specialist*
2. Alejandra Berrio, *Program Manager*
3. Debra Colman, *Director*
4. Maryam Diaab, *UPK Program Specialist*
5. Leanne Drogin, *Deputy Director*