

Evelyn Briones, Commissioner
Cindy Flores, Commissioner
Sara Gaeta-Anguiano, Commissioner
Elizabeth Gutierrez, Commissioner
Sophia Sosa, Commissioner



Ariana De La Cruz,
Executive Director

**CITY OF SOUTH EL MONTE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN AND GIRLS COMMISSION**

AGENDA

April 15, 2026, 6:00 PM
1415 Santa Anita Avenue, South El Monte, CA 91733

GENERAL COMMENT

Those wishing to participate during Public Comment may do so in person at the South El Monte City Hall Council Chambers, or may submit written public comments by emailing adelacruz@soelmonte.org. Emailed public comments are due by 5:00 p.m., and should be limited to no more than 250 words. Written public comments will be provided to the Community Services Commission and will be part of the record but will not be read aloud.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, if you require a disability-related modification or accommodation to attend or participate in this meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please call the City Clerk's office at (626) 579-6540 at least 72 hours prior to the meeting.

MEETINGS

The Advancement of Women and Girls Commission holds regular meetings quarterly. Regular meetings start at 6 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 1415 Santa Anita Avenue, South El Monte, California. Special and Adjourned Regular meetings start time are to be determined.

POSTING LOCATIONS OF AGENDA AND/OR CANCELLATION NOTICES

Regular meeting agendas will be posted at least 72 hours before the meeting (GC 54954(a)(1)).

Agenda and Cancellation Notices can be viewed online and are also posted at the following three (3) locations: City Hall located at 1415 Santa Anita Avenue, Senior Center located at 1556 Central Avenue and the Community Center located at 1530 Central Avenue, South El Monte, California.

VIEWING OF AGENDA PACKETS

Full agenda packet can be viewed either at
<https://www.cityofsouthelmonte.org/129/Meeting-Agendas-Minutes> or in the Community Center during normal business hours Monday through Thursday, 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Closed on Fridays and major holidays.

ISSUES RELATED TO AGENDA

For issues related to the agenda, including a disability-related accommodation necessary to participate in this meeting, please contact:

Ariana De La Cruz, Executive Director
Ph (626) 652-3109

AGENDA BEGINS ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE

1. ROLL CALL

Commissioners: Briones, Flores, Gaeta-Anguiano, Gutierrez, Sosa

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Flores

3. PRESENTATIONS

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

By motion of the Advancement of Women and Girls Commission, this is the time to notify the public of any changes to the agenda, remove items from the consent calendar for individual consideration and/or rearrange the order of the agenda.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Speakers may provide public comments on any matter within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Advancement of Women and Girls Commission, including items on the agenda. Each speaker will be limited to five minutes. Unless a majority of the Commission objects, the Chair may provide speakers more or less time to speak. All comments or queries shall be addressed to the Commission as a body and not to any specific member thereof. Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2(a)(2), the Ralph M. Brown Act, no action or discussion by the Advancement of Women and Girls Commission shall be undertaken on any item not appearing on the posted agenda, except to briefly provide information, ask for clarification, provide direction to staff, or schedule a matter for a future meeting.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

Items on the consent calendar are considered to be routine and customary and are enacted by a single motion with the exception of items previously pulled by a member of the Advancement of Women and Girls Commission during "Approval of the Agenda" for individual consideration. Any items pulled shall be individually considered immediately after taking action on the Consent Calendar.

6.a. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF THE SPECIAL ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN AND GIRLS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 19, 2026

Staff is requesting approval of the Minutes of the March 19, 2026, Special Advancement of Women and Girls Commission Meeting.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Staff is requesting approval of the Minutes of the March 19, 2026, Special Advancement of Women and Girls Commission Meeting.

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

7.a. SELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

The Advancement of Womens and Girls Commission will nominate and select a Chair and Vice Chair for the term commencing on April 15, 2026, through December 31, 2026.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Staff recommends the Commission nominate and select a Chair and Vice Chair for the term commencing on April 15, 2026, through December 31, 2026.

7.b. CONTINUED FROM THE MARCH 19, 2026, SPECIAL ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN AND GIRLS COMMISSION MEETING — WOMEN AND GIRLS EVENING OF EMPOWERMENT EVENT

The Advancement of Women and Girls Commission will continue the discussion regarding the City Council approved gala event, scheduled for Friday, September 25, 2026.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Staff recommends the Commission continue the discussion regarding the City Council approved gala event, scheduled for Friday, September 25, 2026.

8. COMMISSIONERS REPORTS, INCLUDING AB 1234 REPORTS

AB 1234, section 53232.3(d) requires Members of a legislative body to provide brief reports on meetings attended at the expense of the local agency (i.e., Conferences, seminars, training etc.) at the next regular meeting of the legislative body.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

10. COMMISSIONERS AGENDA

10.a. COMMISSIONER GUTIERREZ

1. Consideration to implement a Maya Meditation Session taught by Itzpapalotl Patino for the Women and Girls Mental Health Class in May.
2. Review and consideration of DJ and Photo Booth bids for the Women and Girls Evening of Empowerment Event.


11. ADJOURNMENT

NEXT REGULAR ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN AND GIRLS COMMISSION MEETING:

Wednesday, July 15, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

CERTIFICATION

I, Ariana De La Cruz, Executive Director of the City of South El Monte Advancement of Women and Girls Commission, or my designee, hereby certify under penalty of perjury that a true, accurate copy of the foregoing agenda was posted on this April 9, 2026, seventy-two (72) hours prior to the meeting per Government Code 54954.2 at the following locations: City of South El Monte City Hall, Senior Center and Community Center and made available at www.cityofsouthelmonte.org.


Secretary



Commission Agenda Report

Agenda Item No. 6.a.

DATE: April 15, 2026

TO: Honorable Chair and Members of the Advancement of Women and Girls Commission

FROM: Ariana De La Cruz, Director of Community Services

SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF THE SPECIAL ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN AND GIRLS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 19, 2026

SUMMARY: Staff is requesting approval of the Minutes of the March 19, 2026, Special Advancement of Women and Girls Commission Meeting.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Staff is requesting approval of the Minutes of the March 19, 2026, Special Advancement of Women and Girls Commission Meeting.

FISCAL/FINANCIAL IMPACT:

DISCUSSION:

ATTACHMENT(S):

A. DRAFT March 19, 2026, Minutes

**CITY OF SOUTH EL MONTE
SPECIAL ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN AND GIRLS COMMISSION MEETING –
MINUTES**

Thursday, March 19, 2026
1415 Santa Anita Avenue, South El Monte, California 91733

Commissioner Gutierrez called the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

1. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Commissioner(s): Briones, Flores, Gutierrez
ABSENT: Commissioner(s): Gaeta-Anguiano

STAFF PRESENT: Ariana De La Cruz, Director of Community Services, Nancy Rodriguez, Community Services Analyst, Noelia Saucedo, Senior Recreation Leader

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Commissioner Briones led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. PRESENTATIONS

1. The Advancement of Women and Girls Commission Board and Staff introduced themselves.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Commissioner Gutierrez, seconded by Commissioner Briones to approve the agenda as amended, moving Item 7.a. to the next regular meeting scheduled for Wednesday, April 15, 2026. Motion passed 3-0-1, by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioner(s): Briones, Flores, and Gutierrez
NAYS: Commissioner(s): None
ABSENT: Commissioner(s): Gaeta-Anguiano

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Commissioner Gutierrez opened Public Comment.

There being no public comments, Commissioner Gutierrez closed Public Comment.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion by Commissioner Gutierrez, second by Commissioner Flores to approve the consent calendar. Motion passed 3-0-1, by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioner(s): Briones, Flores, and Gutierrez

NAYS: Commissioner(s): None
ABSENT: Commissioner(s): Gaeta-Anguiano

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

7b. WOMEN AND GIRLS EVENING OF EMPOWERMENT EVENT

Commissioner Gutierrez introduced the item, and Ariana De La Cruz, Director of Community Services, provided a report on the Women and Girls Evening of Empowerment event scheduled for Friday, September 25, 2026, at the Community Center.

Staff was directed to continue the item at the next Commission meeting.

8. COMMISSIONERS REPORTS, INCLUDING AB 1234 REPORTS

Commissioner Gutierrez announced she had nothing to report.

Commissioner Briones announced she had nothing to report.

Commissioner Flores announced she had nothing to report.

9. CORRESPONDENCE – None

10. COMMISSIONERS AGENDA

10a. COMMISSIONER GUTIERREZ

1. Consideration to host a Spring Mental Health Event in May for Women and Girls.

Discussion/Action: Commissioner Gutierrez proposed the City offer a Mayan Yoga Class in May in recognition of Mental Health Awareness Month. Commissioner Briones suggested incorporating a sound bath class on the same day.

Staff suggested tentatively scheduling the class for Thursday, May 14, 2026, at the Mary Van Dyke Park.

10b. COMMISSIONER BRIONES

1. Discussion on the 2023 Girls' Index a national research capturing the options, behaviors, and aspiration of thousands of U.S. girls.

Discussion/Action: Commissioner Briones presented the statistics and survey results that were compiled on the 2023 Girls' Index.

Item was received and filed.

2. National Girls and Women in Sports Day

Commissioner Briones proposed the City consider an All-Girls Youth Basketball League as well as acknowledge the National Girls and Women in Sports Day.

Staff shared that the City does not have sufficient resources and staffing for an All-Girls League, therefore the City offers a Co-Ed Youth Basketball League. Also, staff informed the Commission that the Parks and Recreation Instagram shared a post on National Girls and Women in Sports Day.

Item was received and filed.

11. ADJOURNMENT

At 6:59 p.m., there being no more business before the Commission, Commissioner Gutierrez adjourned the meeting to a Regular Advancement of Women and Girls Commission meeting on Wednesday, April 15, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

Ariana De La Cruz, Director of Community Services



Commission Agenda Report

Agenda Item No. 7.a.

DATE: April 15, 2026

TO: Honorable Chair and Members of the Advancement of Women and Girls Commission

FROM: Ariana De La Cruz, Director of Community Services

SUBJECT: SELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

SUMMARY: The Advancement of Womens and Girls Commission will nominate and select a Chair and Vice Chair for the term commencing on April 15, 2026, through December 31, 2026.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Staff recommends the Commission nominate and select a Chair and Vice Chair for the term commencing on April 15, 2026, through December 31, 2026.

FISCAL/FINANCIAL IMPACT:

DISCUSSION:

ATTACHMENT(S):

None



Commission Agenda Report Agenda Item No. 7.b.

DATE: April 15, 2026

TO: Honorable Chair and Members of the Advancement of Women and Girls Commission

FROM: Ariana De La Cruz, Director of Community Services

SUBJECT: CONTINUED FROM THE MARCH 19, 2026, SPECIAL ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN AND GIRLS COMMISSION MEETING — WOMEN AND GIRLS EVENING OF EMPOWERMENT EVENT

SUMMARY: The Advancement of Women and Girls Commission will continue the discussion regarding the City Council approved gala event, scheduled for Friday, September 25, 2026.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Staff recommends the Commission continue the discussion regarding the City Council approved gala event, scheduled for Friday, September 25, 2026.

FISCAL/FINANCIAL IMPACT:

DISCUSSION: At the October 15, 2025, Regular Advancement of Women and Girls Commission meeting, commissioners deliberated from the past Women and Girls Empowerment Conference and recommended to staff to propose a Gala in lieu of the conference.

Subsequently, staff presented the commissioner's recommendation to host a Gala at the December 2, 2025, City Council meeting and obtained approval to host this event on Friday, September 25, 2026, at the South El Monte Community Center.

Lastly, at the March 19, 2026, Special Advancement of Women and Girls Commission meeting commissioner deliberated and provided preliminary ideas for the proposed gala event. Staff is now seeking to continue the conversation to plan and coordinate this event.

ATTACHMENT(S):

None