

YEAR 27 / PROGRAM YEAR 2026-2027 ANNUAL PLAN PUBLIC COMMENTS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

On April 2, 2026, the draft Year 27 WDB Annual Plan for Program Year 2026-27 was released for a thirty-day public comment period ending May 2, 2026. During this period, the Economic and Workforce Development Department (EWDD) scheduled in-person presentations of the Annual Plan during the Workforce Development Board (WDB) Youth Council, Olivia Mitchell Youth Council (OMYC), and the WDB Policy & Oversight Committee meetings where the public was afforded the opportunity to provide public comment. The Department also held one virtual community forum to solicit public comments. The next section provides summary notes of the public comments received.

Stakeholders were given the opportunity to submit comments via email. No comments were received to the Planning Unit inbox during the public comment period.

WDB Youth Council (April 7, 2026)

The following public comments were submitted to the City of Los Angeles WDB and shared during the meeting:

- There is support for the minimum wage per case manager being proposed through WorkSource Center Redesign.
- Related to Homelessness Initiatives, even though the Peer Homeless System Navigator (PHSN) pilot program is over, implementing systems or programs where there can be a way to track who's connected and brought into a home rather than just connecting them to program resources would be beneficial.

Olivia Mitchell Youth Council (April 8, 2026)

During the OMYC meeting, members shared several public comments related to the Annual Plan. The following public comments were shared:

- Financial literacy is needed to help youth manage their finances.
- There should be more programming for after school programs to engage young people and support them through extracurricular activities to improve academic performance and foster social and emotional well-being.
- There should be more investment in community organizations. I am seeing a trend with more funding going to schools, but we should also divest more resources in community organizations as schools are limited in the support systems that they can provide.
- How will the Know Youth Rights Ambassador program evolve?
- It would be beneficial to provide more supportive services like transportation passes to youth using YouthSource Center services.

Virtual Community Forum (April 15, 2026)

A total of 6 community members were in attendance.

The following public comments were submitted to the City of Los Angeles WDB and shared during the meeting:

- There should be continued investment in scaling up programs like the Targeted Local Hire Program that creates pathways to government jobs and public sector work.

WDB Policy & Oversight Committee (April 22, 2026)

During the WDB Policy & Oversight Committee meeting, board members shared several public comments related to the Annual Plan:

- Mark Louchein: There is a significant decline in the entertainment industry that should be noted in the economic overview of the region. The WDB should consider other prioritized sectors since this is a declining industry. We should not invest training dollars into a declining industry.
- Benjamin Torres: We should consider the nonprofit sector as a prioritized sector since it's a large sector in Los Angeles and works firsthand with the vulnerable populations and communities we serve.
- Tammy Ortuno: We should consider updating YouthSource policies related to direct deposit or providing alternative forms of payment, such as bank cards. Some populations don't have access to a bank account.
- Benjamin Torres: Supports the requirement for WorkSource Centers to pay a living wage to staff.
- Casey O'Neill: Glad to see WorkSource budgets increasing and would like to know how centers will connect to the sector work.



Year 27 Annual Plan Community Forum

Date & Time:

Wednesday,
April 15, 2026
5:30PM-6:30PM PST

Location:

*This meeting will be
held virtually via Zoom.

TOPICS:

- Alignment to 5-Year Workforce Development Strategic Plan
- Addressing the Homelessness Crisis and LA Wildfires Disaster Recovery
- High Growth Sector Initiatives
- Youth Initiatives

The City of Los Angeles Economic & Workforce Development Department (EWDD) is hosting a community forum on how the public workforce system promotes economic prosperity for All Angelenos.

Come join the conversation and be a part of enhancing the city's workforce system.

The Year 27 Draft Annual Plan can be accessed by visiting: <https://ewdd.lacity.gov/>

Public Comments may be submitted via e-mail to:
EWDD.Planning@lacity.org from April 2 - May 2, 2026 by 5PM PST

Zoom Meeting:

<http://bit.ly/4sJprXC>

Meeting ID: 852 9570 1779
Passcode: 083974



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