

Who Sits on Commissions?

■ In response to audits of Airports, DWP and Harbor, City Controller Laura Chick creates database to assess commission rosters. Patterns are revealing.



Laura Chick, City Controller

Calling for a "new expansion of representation on our City Commissions," City Controller Laura Chick announced the creation of the first-ever online City Commission Database, which she expects to unveil this month.

"In June, I made an open call for women across Los Angeles to apply for City Commissions. [Recently] I gave the mayor the 17 resumes I received in that effort. But appointing more women to City Commissions is only part of the solution. We must do more to appoint people from all parts of our City, reflecting our great diversity," she said.

"Los Angeles's citizen commission form of government can be one of our great strengths. We also know that it can be a weakness, as we have found in my audits of the Airport, Water and Power, and Port," she said.

Compiled from public records captured by the City Clerk's Office, the Controller's Database shows that there is a great disparity between men and women, for example, on the three proprietary commissions: six men and one woman on the Airport Commission, three men and two women on the DWP Commission, and four men and one woman on the Port of Los Angeles Commission.

As described by Chick, the most striking revelation is the great disparity of appointments among Council Districts. The greatest number of Commissioners come from Council District Five, which includes communities including Holmby Hills and Bel Air. The most underrepresented district is District Six in the mid-San Fernando Valley, which includes Van Nuys and North Hills.

"This database is an additional way in which I am making the city of Los Angeles more transparent to the people," Chick continued. "This tells an important story, one that has been part of a longtime culture of the way the City does business. Opening up these Commissions will help us achieve the full promise of public involvement and deliver a truly representative form of citizen government," Chick said.

The Controller's City Commission Database is expected to be launched at the beginning of November.



Harbor Generates Fun

■ DWP's Harbor Generating Station holds annual picnic.

By Liz Montes, Club Counselor
Photos by Angel Gomez, Club Member Services Manager

DWP's Harbor Generating Station held its tenth annual employee picnic Sept. 18 at the Harbor Pistol Range in San Pedro.

About 70 DWP employees attended with their families and friends. They enjoyed barbecue ribs, chicken, hot dogs and hamburgers. There were games for the children and lots of raffle prizes were given out at the end of the day. The band Broken Moon, led by Club member Dennis Dorsey, volunteered to perform at the picnic.

Thanks go to the organizers and to Club Member Mary Mallory for inviting us.



Broken Moon Members, from left: Michele Bara; Dennis Dorsey, DWP; Richard Bara; Veronica Little; and James Sagun.



From left: Yvonne and John Blansfield.



From left: Dionandre Stevenson, DWP, 1 month, with wife Debra; and Erica Stevenson.



Lonnie Reyes; Linh Thai; Can Nguyen, DWP, 20 years; and Lawrence Fugee, DWP, 32 years.



Broken Moon



From left: Greg Nazarian, DWP, 25 years; John Toeble, DWP, 25 years; and Patrick Sanchez, DWP, 4 years.



Children enjoying the festivities.



From left: Mostafa Haji, DWP, 15 years; and Gordon Murphy, DWP retiree.



From left: Carla Carrillo with son Sean on lap; Bianca Carrillo; and Phillip Carrillo, DWP, 5 years.



John Vallow, DWP, 31 years, with wife Annette.



Front row: Madeline; and Erika. From left: Wade Allen; Michelle Flagg; Doriane Allen; and Lenny Reed, DWP, 23 years.



From left: George Cobian, DWP, 23 years; Megan Suarez, DWP, 4 years; Zachary (holding son); and David Suarez, DWP, 3 years. Front row: Noah.



DWP employees with friends and family at the employee picnic.



Shirley Gaskins, DWP, 11 years.



Lawrence Fugee with granddaughter Dahjane.



John Nance.



Left side: Linne Chu. Right side, from back: Peter Chu, DWP, 4 years; and Leo Chow.