



County of Santa Cruz

Santa Cruz County Youth Commission
701 Ocean Street, Room 520, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060
(831) 454-7901 FAX: (831) 454-7940 TDD/TTY: call 711
Elizabeth Padilla, Juliette Rezzato - Staff Liaisons

YOUTH COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Monday, August 31, 2026
5:30 pm – 7:00 pm

Santa Cruz County BOS Chambers
701 Ocean Street, 5th Floor, Room 520
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

1. CALL TO ORDER /ROLL CALL – 5:35 PM

Commissioner:	Seat:	Status:
Aliyah Marcus	District 1	Present
Danna Perez-Garcia	District 2	Present
Natalie LeBlanc	District 3	Present
Chloe Schacher	District 4	Excused
Paige Haentjens	District 5	Present
Samuel Rios	At-Large (Immigrant / farmworker family background)	Present
Chiara Rojas	At-Large (Identifies as LGBTQ+)	Present
Fritzi Aparicio Hernandez	At-Large (Identifies as low-income)	Present
Americo Castillo	At-Large (Person with physical / learning disability)	Present
Amber Chavez	At-Large (Person of color)	Present
Cristina Nolasco	At-Large (Person living in rural / unincorporated area)	Present

Staff:	Title:
Elizabeth Padilla	Youth Commission Staff Liaison
Juliette Rezzato	Youth Commission Staff Liaison
Grace Graessle	Commission Intern

2. SELECTION OF CHAIR & VICE CHAIR

Selected Commissioner Amber Chavez as Chair.

Result:	Approved [10 to 0]
Motion/Second:	LeBlanc, Nolasco
Ayes:	Marcus, Perez-Garcia, LeBlanc, Haentjens, Rios, Rojas, Hernandez, Castillo, Chavez and Nolasco
Nayes:	None
Abstain:	None

Selected Commissioner Paige Haentjens as Vice Chair.

Result:	Approved [10 to 0]
Motion/Second:	Chavez, Rios
Ayes:	Marcus, Perez-Garcia, LeBlanc, Haentjens, Rios, Rojas, Hernandez, Castillo, Chavez and Nolasco
Nayes:	None
Abstain:	None

3. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

None

4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

1 person addressed the commission

5. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

a. **Santa Cruz County Like Me** (*Non-Action Item*)

County Executive Officer Nicole Coburn addressed the commission.

b. **Youth Advisory Task Force** (*Non-Action Item*)

County Executive Officer Nicole Coburn addressed the commission.

c. **Youth Commission Roles** (*Non-Action Item*)

County Executive Officer Nicole Coburn addressed the commission.

d. **County of Santa Cruz Overview** (*Non-Action Item*)

County Executive Officer Nicole Coburn addressed the commission.

e. **Story Mapping Activity** (*Non-Action Item*)

County Executive Officer Nicole Coburn and Youth Commission Liaison Elizabeth Padilla addressed the commission to explain the activity.

Public Comment:

1 person addressed the commission

6. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 6:49 PM.

NEXT MEETING DATE:

5:30 PM Monday, September 28, 2026

Westridge Community Room, 500 Westridge Drive, Watsonville, CA 95076

Submitted By:

Juliette Rezzato

Youth Commission Staff Liaison