



LA Civil Rights

City of Los Angeles

Reparations Advisory Commission Overview

AB 3121 Task Force Testimony | December 14, 2022



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Michael A. Lawson, Chair*



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Reparations Advisory Commission



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Commission Objectives

Established in 2021 through Mayor Eric Garcetti's executive action, LA's Reparations Advisory Commission focuses on the City's jurisdiction since the establishment of its 1925 Charter. The Commission is tasked with:

Developing and recommending on the format and goals of a reparations pilot program in LA for a group of residents in an effort to confront and dismantle structural and institutional racism.

Seeking opportunities for public and/or private dollars to fund the pilot program.

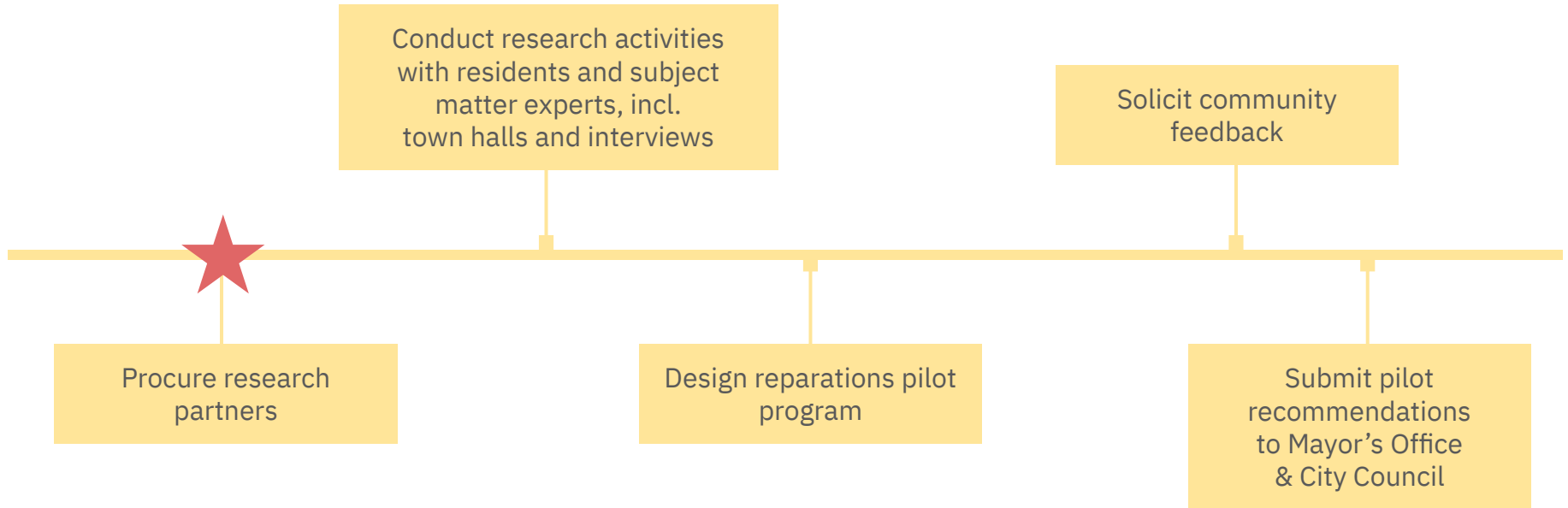
Identifying an academic partner to assist in the formal process of developing and implementing the pilot program.

Maintaining an active relationship with community-based organizations and other key stakeholders.

Engaging relevant experts to inform the development of the pilot program.



Key Milestones: Reparations Pilot Program Study





Community Engagement at a Glance

2

Virtual **public meetings** via Zoom and Facebook Live

116

Total number of **attendees** participating in the Commission's virtual "Homecoming" community meetings

61

Stories, comments or recommendations shared during breakout sessions at our first "Homecoming" event and via the LACR email inbox

356

Responses received to our introductory survey, to date; the survey is still open at bit.ly/ReparationsSurveyLA



A sample of the generational harms expressed at our first event ...

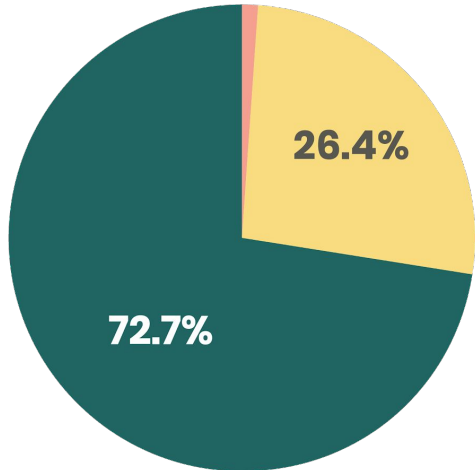
HOUSING & PROPERTY	POLICING, SURVEILLANCE & MASS INCARCERATION	ENVIRONMENTAL & HEALTH OUTCOMES	EDUCATION
<p>“Threat of Foreclosure: After my grandmother died, father and uncle were unable to maintain her mortgage and and got very close to foreclosure. had to sell her home in Jefferson Park, family home of 48 years. Now no one in my generation can afford to buy back into the neighborhood or those around it.”</p>	<p>“Incarceration: The Biden 1994 crime bill and California state three strikes and mandatory minimum laws were very detrimental to my family. I lost a cousin recently, 30 years old who was killed in prison with no closure on his cause of the death. Many of my family members spent most of their adult life due to drug habits that landed them in prison and then thrown out to door with over 1000 barriers to clear to get back into society.”</p>	<p>“Asthma in South LA: all of my cousins and I had asthma growing up. We lived near major highways and played outside often. I still struggle with the effects of the 105 freeway being built right through my neighborhood”</p>	<p>“School Disciplinary Systems: Suspensions — I believe the school disciplinary systems negatively impacted my 6 brothers as the were often suspended from school frequently as a result almost all of them did not complete the high school studies”</p>



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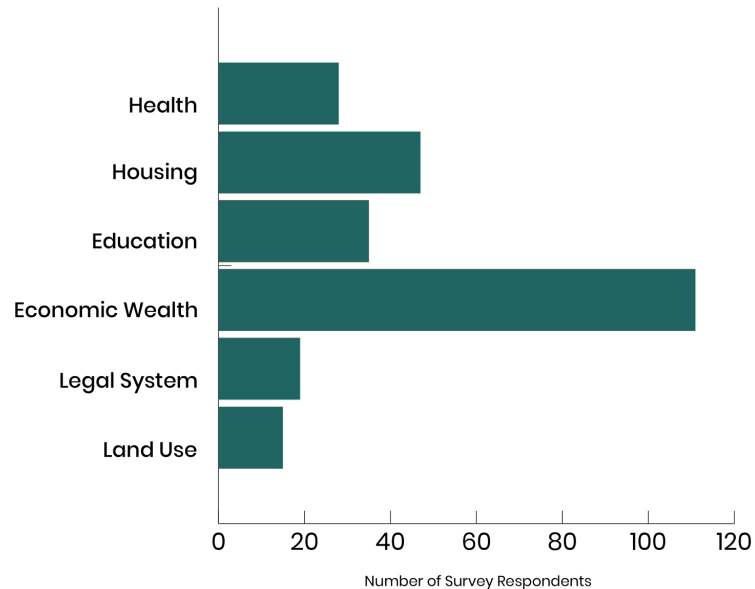
From 356 survey respondents, to date, we're learning ...

73 percent (about 260 respondents) live in the city of Los Angeles



- Yes.
- No.
- I'm not sure

111 of responding Angelenos identified **economic wealth** as the “highest priority” reparations should address





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... and that respondents have diverse views of what reparations could be ...

“**Money and credit** to help redress grievances and support stable living”

“Automatic **acceptance and free admission** of all public and private universities through California, applicants choice.”

“Black people should get **priority in all hiring**”

“**Programs** which open up opportunities in various fields which African Americans have been denied their rights as citizens in housing, education and civic memory commemoration.”

“**Monetary checks** are probably best. Then next best would be to provide for more funding in Black LA communities to help them prosper.”

“Another thing could be this: for every **police officer** that has killed a Black person, their **pension should be given** to the grieving family.”



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For more information,
visit civilandhumanrights.lacity.org