



KAREN BASS
MAYOR

October 3, 2024

Honorable Members of the City Council
c/o City Clerk
City Hall, Room 395

Honorable Members:

Subject to your confirmation, I have reappointed Mr. Bryce Lewis-Smith to the Los Angeles City-County Native American Indian Commission for the term ending October 07, 2028. Mr. Lewis-Smith's current term expires on October 7, 2024.

I certify that in my opinion Mr. Lewis-Smith is especially qualified by reason of training and experience for the work which shall devolve upon him, and that I make the appointment solely in the interest of the City.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Karen Bass'.

KAREN BASS
Mayor

KB:tga

Attachment

COMMISSION APPOINTMENT FORM

Name: Bryce Lewis-Smith
Commission: Los Angeles City-County Native American Indian Commission
End of Term: 10/7/2028

Appointee Information

1. **Race:** Native American
2. **Gender:** Male
3. **Council District and neighborhood of residence:** 13 - East LA
4. **Are you a registered voter in the City of Los Angeles?** N/A
5. **Prior commission experience:**
6. **Highest level of education completed:** Master of Marine and Environmental Affairs & Graduate Certificate in American Indian and Indigenous Studies, University of Washington School of Marine and Environmental Affairs
7. **Occupation/profession:** Senior Tribal Research Engagement Specialist, CA Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
8. **Experience(s) that qualifies person for appointment:** See attached resume
9. **Purpose of this appointment:** Reappointment
10. **Current composition of the commission:**

| Commissioner | APC | CD | Race | Gender | Term End |
|--------------------|--------------|-----|-----------------|--------|-----------|
| Lewis-Smith, Bryce | East LA | 13 | Native American | M | 10/7/2024 |
| Castro, Chrissie | East LA | 1 | Native American | F | 10/7/2025 |
| Garcia, Andrea | Central | 10 | Native American | F | 10/7/2025 |
| Garcia, Vivian | N/A | N/A | Native American | F | 10/7/2025 |
| Villasenor, Mark | North Valley | 7 | Native American | M | 10/7/2027 |

Bryce Lewis-Smith (Citizen Potawatomi)

(he/him)

Passionate, community-oriented environmentalist specializing in equitable approaches to climate resiliency, ecological restoration, and Indigenous environmental justice. Expertise in using mixed quantitative, qualitative, and Indigenous approaches to complicated issues of environmental justice, climate change, and tribal sovereignty.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

CA Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation - Los Angeles, CA 2024 - Present

Senior Tribal Research Engagement Specialist

- Manage California's Tribal Research Program to respectfully and meaningfully braid tribal priorities and knowledges into California's Fifth Climate Change Assessment.
- Convene and facilitate the Tribal Advisory Group to advise on tribal integration into the Fifth Assessment, ensuring equitable and respectful approaches to informed consent and other topics.
- Conduct research to better understand the opportunities for the state to support tribal climate resiliency.

Better World Group - Los Angeles, CA 2023 - 2024

Associate II

Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Office of Environmental Justice

- Wove Native American environmental justice priorities into the Office of Environmental Justice and Climate Health's strategic plan by interviewing Tongva, Chumash, and Tataviam Tribal and cultural leaders.

Washington State Clean Shipping Campaign

- Mobilized local network of Tribal leaders, environmentalists, and community NGOs to support the expansion of California's port electrification policies to regulate localized pollution and reduce CO2 emissions.

The University of Washington - Seattle, WA

s?ilwit - Center for American Indian and Indigenous Studies (CAIIS) 2022 - 2023

Community Liaison

- Advocated Indigenous student needs for the expansion of wəłəbʔaltx^w (our on campus longhouse) to 30+ tribal leaders at the 2023 Tribal Leadership Summit in Washington State.
- Revitalized the Native Organization of Indigenous Scholars program by fostering a network of Native American, Pacific Islander, and Alaskan Native faculty, staff, and students from across campus.

Center for Human Rights 2021 - 2022

Graduate Research Assistant

- Partnered with Native youth from Chief Leschi Tribal School to share the importance of Indigenous language revitalization for environmental justice and restoration of the Salish Sea.

City Plants - Los Angeles, CA 2021 - 2022

Tree Ambassadors Project Assistant

- Assessed pathways to green disadvantaged neighborhoods, focusing on formerly redlined areas
 - Established partnerships with Tataviam and Tongva leaders to promote native tree species for urban greening.
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PUBLIC LECTURES and PANELS

Responsibility & Reciprocal Relationships with the Land, OxyArts 2023

Bisakaabiiyang "Returning to Ourselves" with Kyle Whyte, Trent University 2023

Braiding Sweetgrass with Robin Wall Kimmerer, UW Public Lecture 2023

EDUCATION

MMA - University of Washington School of Marine and Environmental Affairs Seattle, WA

Master of Marine and Environmental Affairs & Graduate Certificate in American Indian and Indigenous Studies

BA Environmental Biology - Occidental College Los Angeles, CA



KAREN BASS
MAYOR

October 2, 2024

Dear Mr. Lewis-Smith:

I am pleased to inform you that I am reappointing you to the Los Angeles City-County Native American Indian Commission for the term ending October 07, 2028, subject to confirmation by the City Council.

To begin the reappointment process, please review, sign, and return the enclosed Remuneration Form and undated Letters of Separation **within one week** of receiving this letter. These documents are necessary to ensure the most efficient, open, and accountable city government possible.

As part of the reappointment process, Hugo Soto-Martinez, your Councilmember, and Councilmember Eunisses Hernandez, the Chair of the Neighborhoods and Community Enrichment Committee, may wish to meet with you to answer any questions they have. Our office will assist with arranging these meetings.

Additionally, you will be required to attend public meetings at City Hall where your reappointment will be considered. You will be hearing from our office and a City Council Clerk who will let you know when your reappointment will be considered by the Neighborhoods and Community Enrichment Committee. Sometime thereafter, you will be notified of the date when your reappointment will be presented to the full City Council. Immediately following the meeting, you will again be required to take the Oath of Office in the City Clerk's Office located in Room 395 of City Hall. If you require parking for these meetings, please contact my Commissions team by email at myr-commissions@lacity.org.

Mr. Bryce Lewis-Smith
October 2, 2024
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Per the City Charter, most commissioners must be registered voters of the City of Los Angeles, and must therefore reside within Los Angeles. If you move at any point during your term, or your contact information changes, please contact my Commissions team immediately at the email listed below. While we hope that you complete a successful term, if for some reason you intend to resign, please do so in writing to my Commissions team at myr-commissions@lacity.org.

Congratulations, and thank you for agreeing to serve the people of Los Angeles.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karen Bass". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

KAREN BASS
Mayor

KB:tga

Attachment I
Mr. Bryce Lewis-Smith
October 2, 2024

Nominee Check List

I. Within 7 days:

- Email the below completed documents, found on the last three pages of this letter, to: myr-commissions@lacity.org OR mail them to:

Office of the Mayor
Attn: Thomas Arechiga
200 N. Spring Street, Room 303
Los Angeles, CA 90012

- Remuneration Form
- Undated Separation Letters (2)

II. The Mayor's Office will notify the below Councilmembers of your nomination, so that they may reach out to schedule a meeting with you should they wish.

- Your City Councilmember Hugo Soto-Martinez
- Councilmember Eunisses Hernandez, Chair of the Council Committee considering your nomination

III. Public Meetings at City Hall:

- Neighborhoods and Community Enrichment Committee Hearing
- Full Council Hearing