

# MEETING NOTES

## PASADENA CITIZENS' ADVISORY COUNCIL

[www.pasadenacac.org](http://www.pasadenacac.org)

Tuesday, February 25, 2025

### PISD's Kirk Lewis Career and Technical High School

The 313<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Pasadena Citizens' Advisory Council (PCAC) was held on Tuesday, Feb. 25, 2025, at Pasadena ISD's Kirk Lewis Career and Technical High School. The meeting notes from Jan. 28, 2025, were approved without change. Facilitator Emily Morris reviewed the agenda, which was accepted without change, and the PCAC meeting ground rules.

#### ATTENDEES *italicized*

##### PCAC Members

Andrew Aleman, City of Pasadena OEM  
Jed Aplaca, City of Pasadena Parks and Rec.  
*Vanessa Ayala-Medina*  
*Diane Barnes, Pasadena ISD CTHS*  
*Hal Burke, City of Pasadena Neighborhood Network*  
*Raul Camarillo, Jr.*  
Emilio Carmona  
Azell Carter, City of Pasadena OEM  
Yessenia Cervantes, RYSS STEM Academy  
*Sheena Childs, Harris County Pct. 2*  
Monica De La Portilla  
Tammy Delossantos, City of Pasadena Parks and Rec.  
Tish Eubanks, City of Pasadena  
Ramiro Fonseca, RYSS STEM Academy/Tejano Center  
Albert Gonzales  
*Mandy Gosch*  
Rick Guerrero, Pasadena Economic Development Corp.  
*Ninfa Herrera*  
M.P. Jackson  
*Shawn McNair*

Ellis Orozco  
*Margie Peña, Baker Ripley*  
Dominick Rezza  
*Christian Rocha, Pasadena Chamber of Commerce*  
*LaTonya Ross*  
Erin Webb, Pasadena Chamber of Commerce  
Blake Whitaker, Harris Co. Pct 2  
Cristina Womack, Pasadena Chamber of Commerce

##### Support

*Emily Morris, Facilitator*

##### Observers or Resources

Ruth Askine, former member  
*Judy Bodine*  
*Keith Bodine*  
John Collins  
Brett Conaway, HCOHSEM  
Brandy Deason, Air Alliance  
*Jo Estrada, Pasadena Economic Development Corp.*  
Danny Forest, American Chemistry Council  
*Anita Jones*  
*Jerry Jones*

*William Lathan, Harris Co. Pollution Control*  
*Shannon McNair*  
*Nina Palacios*  
George Perrett  
*Christine Torres*  
*David Wade, HCOHSEM*  
*Tiana Washington*  
Steve Zach, Pasadena Public Library  
*Natasha Zarnstorff, Galveston Bay Foundation*

##### CAC Plant Members

*Afton Chemical: Hari Sundaram, Maryam Shekari, Doug Ruring, Ethan Heins*  
*Air Products: Gaby Lacayo*  
*BASF: Abe Ahmed rep by Lia Hayes, Brian Melancon*  
**Chevron Pasadena Refinery:**  
Tifanie Steele, Joe Ebert, Jennifer Silva, Rebecca Froedge, Steph Seewald  
**Chevron Phillips:** Andy Woods  
**Enterprise:** Audrey Munson, Heather Makarczyk

*Ethyl: Hari Sundaram, Maryam Shekari, Doug Ruring, Ethan Heins*  
*Evonik: Nathan Boye rep by Michael Segree, Donovan Phelan*  
**Gulf Coast Authority:** Denise Ehrlich, John Mletzko  
*INEOS Phenol: Mike Meyer rep by David Pastalaniec, Pedro Hernandez*  
**Intercontinental Terminals Co.:**  
Robert Surguy, Jesus Davila, Carlos Gracia  
**Ketjen:** Lisa Frugé rep by Paul Hernandez, Doug Thompson, Kevin Paul  
**KM Export Terminal:** Chris Dale  
**Kinder Morgan Pasadena Terminal:** Robert Hammons, Donnie Martinez  
**LyondellBasell Refinery:** Mark Staes, Susan Scott  
**Next Wave Energy:** Shane Presley, David Muscat  
**OxyChem:** Eric Delgado, Liliana Sarpong, Brandon Pearson  
**Sekisui:** Jeff Thompson, Jenna Timtiman

## Workforce Development II: Tour of Pasadena ISD's Kirk Lewis Career and Technical High School

Video links and documents posted at [www.pasadenacac.org](http://www.pasadenacac.org)

Articulate, confident, and knowledgeable were the descriptions PCAC meeting attendees used to describe the students from Pasadena ISD's Dr. Kirk Lewis Career and Technical High School during the tour there on Feb. 25, 2025. Touting a 100% graduation rate, the staff, faculty, and students shared their experiences about CTHS programs that prepare students for careers and continuing education.

CTHS Principal Jessica McCoy welcomed attendees and explained that the school not only educates its students but also provides opportunities for students to earn certifications regardless of their post-graduate plans. McCoy said that 98% of CTHS students earn certifications or licenses, which equip students with current skills and the adaptability to thrive in the evolving job market. McCoy said a critical piece of the CTHS program is the school's

collaboration with business partnerships: The school learns from businesses what skills they want new graduates to have, and the school plans its programs with those skills in mind. Another key element of the CTHS is its hands-on instruction, which McCoy said engages students and gives them an opportunity to explore a variety of career options. After hearing from additional staff, faculty, and students, attendees were divided into groups to tour the facility, which included stops at the health sciences, robotics, and engineering rooms, as well as the maritime simulator. Additional highlights from the evening and a list of CTHS speakers follow.

#### **History and Vision:**

- CTHS opened in 2014 after years of planning with local business partners. The goal was to create a school that prepares students for the future workforce.
- The school has earned an "A" rating for accountability and leads the district in certifications, academic performance, and college readiness.
- CTHS is an application-based campus, accepting approximately 400 incoming 9th graders each year, with a total student enrollment of about 1,500.

#### **Student Testimonials:**

- Students from the engineering pathway discussed their work with Computer-Aided Design (CAD) and how the program has helped them build confidence and teamwork skills.
- Maritime students shared their experiences with field trips and certifications, emphasizing how their studies involve classroom learning and practical experiences like cruises on the Gulf of Mexico.
- EMT students talked about their hands-on clinical work and real-world patient care, explaining how the program is preparing them to save lives.
- Business pathway students discussed the value of real-world experiences like internships and the opportunity to run a school store, helping them to develop retail and customer-service skills.

**Application Process:** Carol Patterson, instructor for Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID), said the application process for prospective students includes applying to a specific pathway and participating in interviews. Part of the selection process requires students to write essays for the programs they want to study.

**Success Stories:** Several alumni were mentioned, with one graduate now working at a nuclear power plant, another employed in logistics, and another working in the maritime industry.

**Soft Skills:** Instructors emphasized the importance of soft skills, such as punctuality, professionalism, and communication, in preparing students for the workforce. Many local businesses have indicated that they can train students in the technical skills of the job, but having strong soft skills when they get hired is essential.

**Field Trips and Real-World Experience:** The school organizes more than 200 field trips a year, such as tours of the ship channel and cruises, providing students with valuable exposure to their potential careers. These experiences help students see how their studies are connected to real-world industries.

#### **CTHS Staff that participated**

- Andrew Crawford, Technology Facilitator
- Cecil Gray, Maritime/Logistics Instructor
- Adriana Flores, Support Counselor
- Dr. Christina Flores, 11<sup>th</sup> grade Counselor

- Jennifer Jett, English Content Specialist
- Carol Patterson, AVID Instructor
- Angelica Silva, Para-professional
- Tina Dvorak, Culinary/Hospitality Instructor
- Traci Stewart, Computer Maintenance Instructor
- Melinda Medina/ EMT Instructor
- Dr. Diane Barnes, Career and Community Coordinator and longtime PCAC member

**24 students from the following pathways participated**

- Engineering - 4
- EMT - 3
- Business 1
- Culinary/Hospitality - 2
- Robotics - 8
- Maritime/Logistics - 5
- Computer Maintenance - 1

**Note:** PCAC small-group discussion was eliminated from the agenda to allow more time to hear from PISD CTHS students, faculty, and staff, and to take the tour. If anyone would like to comment on the tour, please send your comments to [ekmorrisconsulting@gmail.com](mailto:ekmorrisconsulting@gmail.com) by 3-14-25, and Morris will compile them and send them to PCAC member Diane Barnes, who arranged the tour for the group.

## **HOST PLANT INTRO: Air Products**

Slide posted at [www.pasadenacac.org](http://www.pasadenacac.org)

**Gaby Lacayo**, Plant Manager of Air Products Pasadena, did not have an opportunity to address the PCAC during the tour, but a slide about the substances that Air Products makes is posted on the PCAC website at the link above.

## **UPDATES**

### **Plant Updates**

The Plant Update Summary was mailed to attendees by 1:10 p.m. on Feb. 25, 2025, with 18 of 18 plants reporting. Direct questions to Emily Morris, [ekmorrisconsulting@gmail.com](mailto:ekmorrisconsulting@gmail.com) **AND** [pcac.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:pcac.secretary@gmail.com), 832-443-3617.

**In a Nutshell:**

- Updates were received from 18 of 18 plants
- **2 of 18** had environmental events, with **3** events reported
- **2 of 18** had an OSHA recordable injury
- **15** had neither environmental nor safety incidents

### 16 plants had no environmental incidents:

- |                        |                                |                            |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Afton Chemicals     | 7. Evonik                      | Terminal                   |
| 2. Air Products        | 8. Gulf Coast Authority        | 13. Kinder Morgan Pasadena |
| 3. BASF                | 9. INEOS Phenol                | 14. Next Wave              |
| 4. Chevron Phillips    | 10. Intercontinental Terminals | 15. OxyChem                |
| 5. Enterprise Products | 11. Ketjen                     | 16. Sekisui                |
| 6. Ethyl               | 12. Kinder Morgan Export       |                            |

### 16 plants had no safety incidents:

- |                        |                               |                            |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Afton Chemicals     | 7. Gulf Coast Authority       | 12. Kinder Morgan Pasadena |
| 2. Air Products        | 8. INEOS Phenol               | Terminal                   |
| 3. Chevron Phillips    | 9. Intercontinental Terminals | 13. LyondellBasell         |
| 4. Enterprise Products | 10. Ketjen                    | 14. Next Wave Energy       |
| 5. Ethyl               | 11. Kinder Morgan Export      | Partners                   |
| 6. Evonik              | Terminal                      | 15. OxyChem                |
|                        |                               | 16. Sekisui                |

**Plant Update Reports:** Since Plant Updates were not reported during PCAC's tour of Pasadena ISD's CTHS, we will hear about the events at our meeting on Thursday, March 27. A revised Plant Update Summary was sent to PCAC members on Feb. 28, which included some clarification of one of the events.

**Title V operating permit:** Chevron Pasadena Refinery submitted a timely and complete application to renew the existing Title V operating permit. The permit must be renewed every 5 years. TCEQ and the Refinery are currently finalizing the date and location of a public hearing to receive public comments regarding the permit renewal application. Details on location and time will be published and communicated promptly, once finalized.

## Community Updates

The following announcements and their fliers were sent in an email to the entire PCAC on Feb. 28, 2025, because of time-sensitive events. These announcements were not made during the Feb. 25, 2025, PCAC meeting because of time limitations during the tour.

### March

**Baker Ripley Food Fairs** are in partnership with the Houston Food Bank and are open to the public on a first-come, first-served basis. Please bring a bag/cart in which to put your food items. [Click this link for more information.](#)

**Free Tax Preparation Assistance:** Baker Ripley offers [Free Tax Preparation](#) through April 15, 2025, for families or individuals making \$58,000 or less. Virtual service is offered, but there are no appointments, only walk-in service.

**Marketing Event:** The Pasadena Chamber of Commerce is hosting a mini-conference titled "[Big Marketing on a Small Budget: Building Your Brand Through Creative Marketing.](#)" The event is 8:30-10 a.m. on Thursday, **March 13, 2025**, at Community Transformation Church, 6109 Fairmont Pkwy, Pasadena, TX.

**Annual Trash Bash:** The annual River, Lakes, Bays 'N Bayous Trash Bash is scheduled for Saturday, **March 29, 2025**. For event details and to register, scan/click on the QR code or visit [www.trashbash.org](http://www.trashbash.org).



## **April**



**Job Fair Prep:** Let the Pasadena Chamber of Commerce help you prepare for the upcoming Pasadena Chamber Job Fair during a special event 3-6:30 p.m. Wednesday, **April 9, 2025**, at San Jacinto Center for Petrochemical, Energy, and Technology, 7901 Fairmont Pkwy, Pasadena, TX. For event details and to register, scan/click the QR code.

**2025 Job Fair:** Once you've tidied up your résumé, cover letter, and interviewing skills, head to the [Pasadena Chamber Job Fair](#), 3-6:30 p.m. Wednesday, **April 23, 2025**, at the Pasadena Convention Center, 7902 Fairmont Pkwy, Pasadena, TX. Employers looking to fill vacancies can sign up for complementary and paid table spots. Call 281-487-7871 to secure a booth.

## **UPCOMING PCAC MEETINGS**

***Dinner available at 5:30 p.m.** Call to order at 6:00. Adjourn at 7:30 p.m.*

- **Thursday, March 27, 2025 – Annual Report on Worker Safety in PCAC Plants**  
*\*Alternate meeting DAY this month\** (to avoid scheduling conflict with Pasadena Chamber Candidates' Forum)  
PCAC facilitator will collect OSHA recordable injury and illness data for PCAC plants, covering both employees and contractors, and will create a report and presentation. The report will contain details about each plant plus summaries showing the totals for all plants and the trends. Jesus Davila, Safety Specialist/VPP Coordinator with ITC, will present. *(Host plant: ITC)*
- **Tuesday, April 22, 2025 – Plant Security I: Overview of Security in Local Industry**  
Buck Tadlock, EHS Specialist for Afton and Ethyl and a zone rep for the Houston Ship Channel Security District, will give PCAC a general understanding of the laws and protocols that plants and the port follow to prevent and respond to any security incidents. Tadlock also will describe HSCSD's purpose and activities. Sgt. Benjamin Luce, with the Harris County Sheriff's Department, will demonstrate tools that the plants and port use to support security response. *(Host plant: Enterprise Products)*
- **Tuesday, May 27, 2025 – Plant Security II: Cybersecurity**  
An FBI cybersecurity expert will be asked to describe the kinds of cybersecurity risks and the steps that can be taken to help prevent intrusion of hackers into the various kinds of computerized devices. James Morrison, former FBI cybersecurity analyst, presents. *(Host plant: Chevron Phillips)*
- **No meetings in June or July**

## **PCAC DATES FOR 2025**

Unless otherwise noted, all are 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays. 5:30 dinner – 6:00 call to order – 7:30 adjourn

Tues., Jan. 28

Tues., Feb. 25

**Thurs., Mar. 27\***

Tues., Apr. 22

Tues., May 27

No June or July meetings

Tues., Aug. 26

Tues., Sept. 23

Tues., Oct. 28

No November meeting

Tues., Dec. 2

No late December meeting

*\* Tues., March 25 is Pasadena Chamber of Commerce Candidates' Forum*