CITYWIDE PRIORITIES

of the Strategic Plan

The **Citywide Youth Development Priorities** of the Strategic Plan comprise six focus areas that guide Los Angeles' efforts to support youth in achieving well-being, leadership, and success. They address critical needs like economic opportunity, mental health, housing, safety, access to services, and youth leadership. These priorities align city departments and partners around shared goals to ensure equitable outcomes for all young people in Los Angeles.

1. ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

Goal: Youth have the knowledge and means to achieve economic independence.

- Centralize and improve access to City internships, fellowships, and workforce exposure opportunities, and develop uniform processes to ensure quality control and equitable access to these opportunities.
- Create more career pathways for youth to access well-paid employment opportunities within the City and beyond.
- Reconnect disconnected youth to education and employment.
- Expand mentorship across City programs.
- Ensure that youth know how to navigate necessary financial tasks.

2. MENTAL HEALTH

Goal: Youth have access to culturally appropriate mental health services to support their overall well-being.

- Expand access to culturally appropriate mental health services for youth.
- Expand and diversify the clinical and non-clinical workforce of mental health professionals.
- Train City staff in trauma-informed care and appropriate responses to mental health crises.
- Destigmatize mental health support.

3. YOUTH LEADERSHIP

Goal: Angeleno youth understand the political process and have decision-making power.

- Develop and standardize a civic engagement curriculum that can be used consistently across the City.
- Develop a continuum of youth leadership structures across the City that demystify the political process and provide youth with opportunities to directly communicate with policymakers and share input on City efforts.
- Expand the role of the Olivia E. Mitchell Youth Council (OMYC) to increase its opportunities to influence policy and advise the City.
- Pilot a youth-led participatory budgeting initiative.

CITYWIDE PRIORITIES

of the Strategic Plan
(Continued)

YOUTH SPACES

Goal: Youth have access to safe spaces where they can build community and engage in activities they desire.

- Facilitate the creation of a drop-in network of Youth Hubs that complement existing services and resources.
- Increase access to parks and green spaces for youth.

NAVIGATE SERVICES & SYSTEMS

Goal: Youth and their guardians know how to and can easily access youth services.

- Develop a comprehensive, searchable database of youth development programs and services that centralizes all youth development opportunities across the City.
- Develop a streamlined, single-entry portal for City youth services that enables youth to enroll in programs, manage their participation, and upload documents into a single system.
- Hire a team of Community Ambassadors to assist youth in navigating City programs, services, and basic needs.
- Ensure that City staff understand the various youth programs available across the City and know how to effectively connect with youth.
- Strategically market youth programs to ensure equity in outreach and reduce duplication of efforts.

HOUSING & PUBLIC SAFETY

Goal: Youth have access to safe and affordable housing and safe communities.

- Assist youth and their families in navigating housing options and obtaining the support they need.
- Increase and prioritize housing options for Transition-Age Youth (TAY) and their families.
- Improve public infrastructure to make communities safer.
- Establish community trust and build relationships with law enforcement. 5. Strengthen support systems for youth who engage in hazardous substance use.