

Youth Commission: 2023 Annual Update

July 17, 2023

Chair Isabela Velasco-Zubia & Vice Chair Aliyah Acevedo



Youth Commission Members

Aliyah Acevedo
Adam Day
Desiree Kennison
Isabela Velasco-Zubia
Keegan Jones
Megan Pham
Olivia Cordero
Christina Wickersheim
Cobe Koonce
Paia Martinez
Serrianna Safieh

Elizabeth Martinez-Atayde
Manuel Guardiola-Rodriguez
Alejandra Guardiola
Eduardo Quintana-Rodriguez

Adult Members:

Councilmember Douglas
Councilmember Kim
Michael Kelley
Laura Hellewell
Travis Watkins

***5 Student Vacancies, 1 Adult Vacancy**



About Youth Commission

- Youth Commission consists of adult members and student members between 13-19 years old
- Meets the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month at Eagle Pointe Rec Center in the Teen Room at 6:30 p.m.
- Youth Commission Duties & Actions:
 - Advise the City Council on youth matters
 - Community Service Projects
 - Volunteer
 - Advise PRG on future programming and activities
 - Professional Development & Team Bonding Activities
 - Learn Roberts Rules of Order

2022-2023 Goals

Goal #1: By June 2023, the Youth Commission will complete 1 new service project and volunteer at least 2 additional times with different events or organizations in Commerce City.

Volunteer Event	# of Volunteers	Total Hours
70 th Anniversary Event (4 Hours)	9	36
Fall Fest (6 Hours)	5	30
Project Present Wrapping Event (3 Hours)	4	12
Tree Lighting (2.5 Hours)	6	15
Tres Reyes Volunteer Event (5 hours)	3	15
Daddy Daughter Dance (3 Hours)	2	6
Earth Day Event (4.5 Hours)	3	13.5
Senior Resource Fair (4 Hours)	1	4
Total 2022-2023 Volunteer Hours		131.5

Goal #1 Continued

2022-2023 Service Projects:

- Veteran's Day: Thank You Card Project
- Hosted a craft table at the Earth Day Event to make reusable grocery bags



Commissioner Acevedo volunteering at the Earth Day Event.

2022 – 2023 Goal #2

Goal #2: This year, the Youth Commission will have at least 1 speaker per month come present on different careers or skills. Additionally, the Youth Commission will attend a least 1 youth conference.

Guest Speakers:

- Author
- Rocky Mountain Partnership
- South Adams County Fire Department
- Denver International Airport, Career Pathways
- Emergency Manager at the Super Bowl
- Environmental & Sustainability Planner
- Civic Academy
- City Planners

Goal #2 Continued

2022-2023 Youth Conferences:

- Brighton Image Summit (Nov. 2023)
- Youth Celebrates Diversity – Cherry Creek (Jan. 2023)
- National League of Cities – Washington D.C. (March 2023)



*Commissioners with Councilmembers
Noble & Douglas at NLC.*

Washington D.C.

- Six Commissioners participated in the NLC youth track focused on elections, transportation solutions and solving complex social issues
- Explored Washington D.C. via Moonlight Trolley & Smithsonian Museums



Commissioners at the American History Museum.



Commissioners at Conference Day 2.

Goal #3

Goal #3: This year, the Youth Commission will participate and communicate regarding meetings and events with each other and the staff liaisons.



Vice Chair Velasco-Zubia & Commissioner Pham at 2022 Memorial Day Parade.



Youth Commissioners at 2022 Holiday Celebration.

Other Accomplishments

- From May 2022 – June 2023, filled 11 vacancies
- Updated the Youth Commission By-Laws and approved a 2023 budget
- Hosted an outreach table at the 2022 & 2023 Music in the Park to spread awareness about Youth Commission
- Participated in the 2022 & 2023 Memorial Day Parade

Questions?



*Commissioners participating in a 2023
Team Building Activity.*