



# Washington State Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs

## Staff Report

**Saturday, September 20, 2025**

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September Public Board Meeting: **Spokane**

## Staff Report

September 20, 2025

Staff report to the Commission covering activities, progress, and updates from May 26, 2025 to September 19, 2025

### STAFF AND COMMISSIONER ACTIVITY

**Commissioner Activity:** Commissioners submitted activity reports for the period of May 26, 2025, to September 16, 2025, for the September 20th board meeting. Activity Report response rate = 67% (8/12 respondents). Outstanding reports for this period: 4. Details of Commissioner Activity can be found in Appendix I.

Total events reported = 90

#### 1. Appointments

Commissioners Carrie Huie, Lydia Faitalia, and Kendall Kosai were officially reappointed to their consecutive terms by Governor Ferguson. CAPAA designated Commissioner Scott Lehrman and Kiana Fuega to the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instructions' (OSPSI) K-12 Funding Equity Workgroup. The Commission also designated Commissioner Ekkarath Sisavatdy and Sina Packer to OSPI's to the School Safety & Student Well-being Advisory Committee.

#### 2. Finance

CAPAA is currently in good financial condition, spending below the budget for fiscal year 2025.

**Audit:** The State Auditor is currently auditing CAPAA for compliance with State law and administrative policies. This is a regular audit that occurs every three years. One of the issues that the State Auditor has flagged, thus far, is CAPAA's compliance with its own administrative policy on sponsorship. Therefore, the Executive Committee has suspended sponsorship pending the Auditor's report and review by the entire Commission. CAPAA received two sponsorship requests since the June meeting. We approved the 50 Years of Lao Heritage and denied one from United We Stand in Spokane for their Philippine History Month.

#### 3. Educational Disparities Study Roll-Out

The University of Washington Research Team released the educational disparities studies in June 2025, one report is on the Asian American students and one is the Native Hawaiians/Pacific Islander students. Please let us know if you want a copy of the reports. The UW Research Team is also currently visualizing the reports for publishing on CAPAA's website and distribution to the general public.

#### 4. Governor's Budget for Supplement 2026-27

The Governor is developing his budget for the upcoming session, due for release in mid-December, with the State facing decreases in Federal funding for healthcare, nutritional programs such as SNAP, education and other programs. As part of the budget development process, CAPAA has submitted a decision package to

move the funding for appropriation the agency received for FY 2025 to develop Lunar New Year education programs to FY 2027.

## 5. 50 Year Celebration of Lao Heritage and Resilience

The Laotian community, including Commissioner Ekkarath Sisavatdy and Commissioner David Phongsa, hosted a community celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary the Laotian migration to the United States in front of the State Capitol Building and the Temple of Justice on August 8, 2025. CAPAA sponsored the event and helped with logistics. Representative My Linh Thai was the guest of honor and keynote speaker.

## 6. Meeting Calendar for 2025

King County – November 15, 2025

Staff will provide specific details on exact locations at a later date.

## Appendix I: Commissioner Activity Report

Commissioner Name	Name of Activity	Date of Activity	Issue Area	Type of Activity
Kiana McKenna	WashPop NH/PI CAB Meeting	9/15/2025	Health and Human Services	Local Government hosted meeting/event
Kiana McKenna	Community Research Collaboratory with UW	8/20/2025	General Community Engagement	Local Government hosted meeting/event
Kiana McKenna	PICA-WA Disability Pop-Up Event	8/20/2025	Health and Human Services	Community hosted meeting/event
Kiana McKenna	Meeting with CHHS at City of Spokane	8/20/2025	Health and Human Services	Local Government hosted meeting/event
Kiana McKenna	Meeting with Representative from Gov. Ferguson's Office	8/18/2025	General Community Engagement	Governor's Office hosted meeting/event
Kiana McKenna	Meeting with Providence Maternal Health Team	8/14/2025	Health and Human Services	Community hosted meeting/event
Kiana McKenna	Office of Equity - Language Access Protections for NH/PI	8/5/2025	Civil Rights & Immigration	State Agency hosted meeting/event
Kiana McKenna	NAOPO PACE Council Meeting	7/30/2025	General Community Engagement	Community hosted meeting/event
Kiana McKenna	Pasifika Village Council of Washington Meeting	7/23/2025	General Community Engagement	Community hosted meeting/event
Kiana McKenna	Pasifika Village Council of Washington Meeting	6/25/2025	General Community Engagement	Community hosted meeting/event
Kiana McKenna	NAOPO Policy and Civic Engagement Council Meeting	6/25/2025	General Community Engagement	Community hosted meeting/event
Kiana McKenna	Spokane City Council Meeting - Marshallese Day	6/23/2025	General Community Engagement	Local Government hosted meeting/event
Kiana McKenna	Office of Independent Investigations Training Plan Discussion	6/23/2025	General Community Engagement	State Agency hosted meeting/event
Kiana McKenna	Better Health Together Board Meeting	6/20/2025	Health and Human Services	Community hosted meeting/event
Kiana McKenna	Providence INWA Board Meeting	6/19/2025	Health and Human Services	Community hosted meeting/event
Kiana McKenna	Eastern Washington University Multicultural Center Meeting with PICA-WA	6/18/2025	Education (Early Education, K-12, & Higher Education)	Community hosted meeting/event
Kiana McKenna	Hate Crimes and Bias Incidents Hotline Advisory Committee Meeting	6/10/2025	General Community Engagement	State Agency hosted meeting/event
Kiana McKenna	Equity Conversations at Health Point - For Us, By Us, Centering Pasifika in D	6/4/2025	Health and Human Services	Community hosted meeting/event
Kiana McKenna	2025 Legislative Session Post-Mortem Meeting - Spokane Community with E	6/2/2025	General Community Engagement	Community hosted meeting/event
Kiana McKenna	Pacific Village Council of Washington Meeting	5/28/2025	General Community Engagement	Community hosted meeting/event
Kendall Kosai	Meeting with Former CAPAA ED Michael Itti	7/29/2025	Health and Human Services	Community hosted meeting/event
Kendall Kosai	Tacoma Buddhist Temple Bon Odori	8/2/2025	General Community Engagement	Community hosted meeting/event
Kendall Kosai	White River Buddhist Temple Bon Odori	7/26/2025	General Community Engagement	Community hosted meeting/event
Kendall Kosai	Seattle Betsuin Bon Odori	7/19/2025	General Community Engagement	Community hosted meeting/event
Kendall Kosai	OCA National Convention	7/25/2025	General Community Engagement	Community hosted meeting/event
Kendall Kosai	CAPAA Strategy Lunch	7/1/2025	General Community Engagement	CAPAA/Commissioner hosted meeting/event
Kendall Kosai	Make Us Visible Meeting	6/18/2025	Education (Early Education, K-12, & Higher Education)	Community hosted meeting/event
Kendall Kosai	Asian/Jewish Initiative Meeting	6/12/2025	General Community Engagement	Community hosted meeting/event
Lalita Uppala	Early childhood immunization forum	8/8/2025	Health and Human Services	Community hosted meeting/event
Lalita Uppala	Know your rights workshop workers	7/17/2025	Civil Rights & Immigration	Community hosted meeting/event
Lalita Uppala	Nightmarket	6/22/2025	Economic Development	Community hosted meeting/event
Lalita Uppala	Immigration forum	7/8/2025	Civil Rights & Immigration	Community hosted meeting/event
Ping Ping	Make us visible steering committee meeting	9/8/2025	Education (Early Education, K-12, & Higher Education)	National grass root organization MUV's Washington

Ekkarath Sisavatdy	MUV- Washington Steering Committee	9/8/2025	Education (Early Education, K-12, & Higher Education)	Community hosted meeting/event
Ekkarath Sisavatdy	Thai Festival	9/9/2025	General Community Engagement	Community hosted meeting/event
Ekkarath Sisavatdy	Lao Senior Outreach: Programming	9/5/2025	General Community Engagement	Community hosted meeting/event
Ekkarath Sisavatdy	Asia Pacific Cultural Center's Grand Opening	8/29/2025	General Community Engagement	Community hosted meeting/event
Ekkarath Sisavatdy	King County Metro Equity Cabinet	8/26/2025	Health and Human Services	Local Government hosted meeting/event
Ekkarath Sisavatdy	CAPAA Education Committee	8/22/2025	Education (Early Education, K-12, & Higher Education)	CAPAA/Commissioner hosted meeting/event
Ekkarath Sisavatdy	United Communities of Laos Summer Festival	8/23/2025	General Community Engagement	Community hosted meeting/event
Ekkarath Sisavatdy	Coffee CAPAA/Make Us Visible	8/21/2025	Education (Early Education, K-12, & Higher Education)	CAPAA/Commissioner hosted meeting/event
Ekkarath Sisavatdy	50 Years Celebration of Lao Heritage and Resilience	8/8/2025	General Community Engagement	CAPAA/Commissioner hosted meeting/event
Ekkarath Sisavatdy	Lao Coalition Lao 50th Anniversary Planning	5/8/2025	General Community Engagement	CAPAA/Commissioner hosted meeting/event
Ekkarath Sisavatdy	Lao Coalition: Lao 50th Anniversary Planning	7/29/2025	General Community Engagement	CAPAA/Commissioner hosted meeting/event
Ekkarath Sisavatdy	Lao 50th planning Committee Meeting w/ WA State Parks	7/30/2025	General Community Engagement	CAPAA/Commissioner hosted meeting/event
Ekkarath Sisavatdy	CAPAA Brainstorming	7/28/2025	Civil Rights & Immigration	CAPAA/Commissioner hosted meeting/event
Ekkarath Sisavatdy	Lao Women's Lao Arts and Cultural Showcase	7/19/2025	General Community Engagement	Community hosted meeting/event
Ekkarath Sisavatdy	Ed Committee: UW Visualization Report Discussion	7/22/2025	Education (Early Education, K-12, & Higher Education)	CAPAA/Commissioner hosted meeting/event
Ekkarath Sisavatdy	CAPAA Social Media Support / Announcement	7/16/2025	General Community Engagement	CAPAA/Commissioner hosted meeting/event
Ekkarath Sisavatdy	Site Visit for Lao 50th Anniversary	7/16/2025	General Community Engagement	CAPAA/Commissioner hosted meeting/event
Ekkarath Sisavatdy	MUV Washington Steering Committee	7/14/2025	Education (Early Education, K-12, & Higher Education)	Community hosted meeting/event
Ekkarath Sisavatdy	Lao Coalition: 50th Anniversary Planning Committee	7/1/2025	General Community Engagement	CAPAA/Commissioner hosted meeting/event
Ekkarath Sisavatdy	CAPAA Commissioner Lunch meeting	7/1/2025	General Community Engagement	CAPAA/Commissioner hosted meeting/event
Ekkarath Sisavatdy	Lao 50th Anniversary Space Meeting	6/27/2025	General Community Engagement	CAPAA/Commissioner hosted meeting/event
Ekkarath Sisavatdy	King County Metro Equity Cabinet	6/24/2025	General Community Engagement	Local Government hosted meeting/event
Ekkarath Sisavatdy	Gimay AANHPI Fundraiser	6/23/2025	General Community Engagement	Community hosted meeting/event
Ekkarath Sisavatdy	Kinnaly Lao Traditional Music and Dance Troupe Recital	6/22/2025	General Community Engagement	Community hosted meeting/event
Ekkarath Sisavatdy	CAPAA Education Committee	6/20/2025	Education (Early Education, K-12, & Higher Education)	CAPAA/Commissioner hosted meeting/event
Ekkarath Sisavatdy	CAPAA Legislative Session Debrief	6/18/2025	Civil Rights & Immigration	CAPAA/Commissioner hosted meeting/event
Ekkarath Sisavatdy	Commissioners Meeting with Comm Faitalia and Phongs	6/13/2025	General Community Engagement	CAPAA/Commissioner hosted meeting/event
Ekkarath Sisavatdy	CAPAA ED Committee: Lunar New Year Eval	6/10/2025	Education (Early Education, K-12, & Higher Education)	CAPAA/Commissioner hosted meeting/event
Ekkarath Sisavatdy	MUV Washington Steering Committee	6/9/2025	Education (Early Education, K-12, & Higher Education)	Community hosted meeting/event
Ekkarath Sisavatdy	Lao Coalition 50th Anniversary Planning Committee	6/3/2025	General Community Engagement	CAPAA/Commissioner hosted meeting/event
Ekkarath Sisavatdy	MUV-Washington	5/31/2025	Education (Early Education, K-12, & Higher Education)	Community hosted meeting/event
Ekkarath Sisavatdy	CAPAA Board Meeting	5/31/2025	Education (Early Education, K-12, & Higher Education)	CAPAA/Commissioner hosted meeting/event
Scott Lehrman	Education Committee Update	9/19/2025	Education (Early Education, K-12, & Higher Education)	CAPAA/Commissioner hosted meeting/event
Scott Lehrman	State K-12 Funding Equity Work Group	9/17/2025	Education (Early Education, K-12, & Higher Education)	State Task Force/Workgroup/Committee Meeting
Scott Lehrman	Education Committee	6/20/2025	Education (Early Education, K-12, & Higher Education)	CAPAA/Commissioner hosted meeting/event
Scott Lehrman	Lunar New Year Proposal Review	6/10/2025	Education (Early Education, K-12, & Higher Education)	CAPAA/Commissioner hosted meeting/event
Scott Lehrman	Health and Human Services Meeting	6/5/2025	Health and Human Services	CAPAA/Commissioner hosted meeting/event
Anna Lising	Junior League Softball World Series	7/30/2025	General Community Engagement	Community hosted meeting/event
Anna Lising	CID Food Walk	6/21/2025	General Community Engagement	Community hosted meeting/event
Anna Lising	Community mahjong	6/16/2025	General Community Engagement	Community hosted meeting/event
Anna Lising	Rainbow Hop PRIDE Festival	6/6/2025	General Community Engagement	Community hosted meeting/event
Anna Lising	Padriwang Filipino Festival	5/31/2025	General Community Engagement	Community hosted meeting/event
David Phongs	Lao Coalition Meeting	9/2/2025	General Community Engagement	CAPAA/Commissioner hosted meeting/event
David Phongs	Assist Small Business with Bookkeeping	8/27/2025	Economic Development	CAPAA/Commissioner hosted meeting/event
David Phongs	NAACP Grand Opening in Pasco	8/16/2025	General Community Engagement	Community hosted meeting/event
David Phongs	Lao 50-Year Celebration	8/8/2025	General Community Engagement	CAPAA/Commissioner hosted meeting/event
David Phongs	Lao Coalition Meeting	7/22/2025	General Community Engagement	CAPAA/Commissioner hosted meeting/event
David Phongs	CAPAA Zoom Meeting	7/9/2025	General Community Engagement	CAPAA/Commissioner hosted meeting/event
David Phongs	Dept of Commerce Grant Application Assistance	7/5/2025	Economic Development	CAPAA/Commissioner hosted meeting/event
David Phongs	Lao Coalition Meeting	7/1/2025	General Community Engagement	CAPAA/Commissioner hosted meeting/event
David Phongs	Governor Bob Ferguson Fundraiser Luncheon	6/26/2025	Economic Development	Governor's Office hosted meeting/event
David Phongs	Meeting with Lao Temple	6/13/2025	Economic Development	CAPAA/Commissioner hosted meeting/event
Ping Ping	Five Elements Acupuncture practice for Asian community members in Spokane	6/23/2025	Health and Human Services	CAPAA/Commissioner hosted meeting/event
Ping Ping	Meeting with one local Asian community leader for a potential community cent	8/28/2025	General Community Engagement	update with a proposal regarding collaboration with
Ping Ping	APIC legislative session debrief meeting	6/18/2025	General Community Engagement	State Agency hosted meeting/event
Ping Ping	AA & NHPi townhall brainstorm meeting # 2	6/18/2025	Education (Early Education, K-12, & Higher Education)	Community organization MUV hosted meeting
Ping Ping	Legislative session debrief and review meeting by CAPAA Civil Rights and Imr	6/18/2025	Civil Rights & Immigration	CAPAA/Commissioner hosted meeting/event

## Appendix II: Sponsorship Requests



FY26 Sponsorship - Philippine Hx Month UWS.docx



FY26 - Lao 50th Sponsorship Request Form.pdf