

From: [Civic Whittier](#)
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Subject: Fwd: Public Comment – Agenda Item: Code of Ethics – Advisory Bodies (February 24, 2026)
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I am submitting this public comment in support of adopting a comprehensive, current Code of Ethics and Conduct expressly applicable to all Elected Officials, Board and Commission Members.

Tonight's staff report confirms what this community has been expecting for a long time, particularly in the aftermath of conduct by Planning Commission Vice Chair Richard Quirk that many residents consider racially insensitive and demeaning toward the community he is appointed to serve.

It is worth stating **again** that at the November 18, 2025, City Council meeting, Councilmember Warner stated she was not interested in having this conversation because the League of California Cities and other professional associations already have codes of ethics embedded in them, and she defers to those. **If Councilmember Warner genuinely believes those professional association codes already govern Whittier's commissioners, I would ask her to explain how Richard Quirk continues to serve.** If the city observed the standards Councilmember Warner defers to, we might already have a vacancy on the Planning Commission.

I also want to flag a gap in tonight's report. West Hollywood's current [Code of Conduct](#) (2022) is available at [weho.org](#). The version cited in Attachment E does not reflect West Hollywood's current standards. If Whittier is benchmarking against peer cities, the analysis should reflect what those cities have in place now, not outdated documents (2016).

Finally, this Council should be clear about why this conversation is happening at all and why it has gone unaddressed for so long. Commissioner Quirk has well-documented ties to the Log Cabin Republicans, a group that will host a mixer and walk precincts in support of Mayor Joe Vinatieri and council candidates Octavio Martinez and Fernando Dutra. Quirk's partner is a Log Cabin member, and Councilmember Dutra's son, a Young Republican, has been photographed at Log Cabin events and networked within the same circles. These are not coincidences; they are a web of political relationships that this Council has an interest in protecting.

That context makes this Council's reluctance to address Commissioner Quirk's conduct not just troubling, but telling. It has not been lost on this community that, despite over 100+ public comments, local news coverage, and clear evidence of his inability to serve impartially, he not only remains on the Planning Commission but was rewarded with a promotion to Vice Chair with zero accountability for his actions. **When political alliances take precedence over public trust, residents are right to ask: who is this Council actually serving?**

Ashley Reveles