

ella Valley History Museum, and Riverside County's Public Library. Paiz does not detail his secondary sources because he aims to shift the focus back to the participants in the movement. Most of the literature on the UFW movement heavily focuses on well-known leaders rather than ordinary members.

*The Strikers of Coachella* is a well-researched and insightful book that sheds a different light on the United Farm Workers movement. This book is for students at the university level who are interested in labor history or social movements. It is a must-read for those who want a nuanced approach to the United Farm Workers movement.

*Karina Gutierrez*

*Past Due: Report and Recommendations of the Los Angeles Mayor's Office Civic Memory Working Group.* Los Angeles: Huntington-USC Institute on California and the West, April 15 2021. Website <https://civicmemory.la/PDF/>.

How does one reimagine the stewardship of civic memory from gatekeeper to community-based facilitator? One does not, but a collective does. The final report from Mayor Eric Garcetti's *Office Civic Memory Working Group* aims to facilitate the conversation by presenting eighteen recommendations to transform the commemoration of both celebratory and somber moments in Los Angeles' past. It spans various timelines, from the overlooked victims of the 1871 Anti-Chinese Massacre to twentieth-century Los Angeles residents and contemporary figures such as COVID-19 essential workers. This is an anthology authored by over forty prominent figures including historians, professors, architects, local L.A. artists, activists, Indigenous Tongva/Gabriolino and Fernandeño Tataviam elders, city officials, and doctoral candidates from USC and UCLA. The project was conceived as a report rather than an implementation plan, focusing on equitable methods for molding civic memory via new policies, monuments, and other symbolic representations. Positioned as a catalyst for dialogue, the report boldly advocates for proactive engagement, emphasizing its crucial role in fostering ongoing conversations and initiatives in today's dynamic landscape.

This project culminated in a comprehensive 166-page print volume accompanied by a website which encompasses diverse elements, such as subcommittees, roundtable discussions, and thematic case studies. The different subcommittees, which have their own titles and themes covering different areas such as labor, process, monument markers and space, theme sites, preservation and care, and decolonization, consist of diverse groups of collective experts. They advocate for conscientious, fair, and community-driven methods to build a more extensive civic foundation for historically oriented commemoration endeavors. It also integrates archivist work and draws upon significant archives like the Los Angeles City Archives, California Revealed Online Archive, Walk the Talk Archive, Los Angeles Poverty and Skid Row History Museum and Archive, and the Carlos Diniz archive to honor and uplift local narratives. Evidence throughout the publication includes oral histories, photographs, murals, and more, supplemented by historiography drawn from a wide range of published academic works, including contributions from the very academics involved in shaping the report. Some of these experts including professors teaching at UCLA, Scripps College, USC, CSU Long Beach, CSU Long Beach, CSU Los Angeles, Harvard University, and more like Eric Avila (History, Chicana/o Studies, and Urban Planning), Wendy Cheng (American Studies), William Deverell (History), Jessica Kim (History), and Natalia Molina (American Studies) to name a few. However, a more inclusive approach, involving more community members, students, vendors, and local business representatives, could have enriched its content with diverse perspectives on commemoration.

In addition, motivated by the nationwide discussions during the COVID-19 pandemic, surrounding Confederate statues and other contentious forms of traditional commemoration, they aimed to connect their efforts to the broader national conversation with new approaches. Instead of preserving civic memory through yet another statue of an elite figure, their intersectional aim was to encourage and investigate methods of narrating the history of Los Angeles through grassroots autonomy in official commemoration. To achieve this, the following are some notable and foundational recommendations that we can utilize as a community. First, a proposed focus on public spaces within City Hall where individuals

can explore historical archives and engage in collaborative efforts. Additionally, there is a call for deliberate and proactive acknowledgment of Indigenous history, extending beyond mere land acknowledgments. This entails establishing a dedicated liaison position and compensating leaders contributing to city-led planning endeavors. Moreover, to preserve and recognize the diverse histories intertwined within the built L.A. environment, suggestions from the authors are to push to reimagine these spaces as gardens which require community-based maintenance and provide autonomy to residents. For aspiring historians, it offers an invitation to engage in avenues where our expertise can wield a meaningful impact. Among its bold recommendations, two stand out: the proposal for a “City Historian position or a council of historians and community elders,” and the call to “educate city staff on civic history and Indigeneity.” These are pivotal concepts that warrant revisitation and a revival, to advance towards a comprehensive plan that incorporates financial allocations, compensating community leaders, and establishing yearly objectives for project completion.

Far from a dry read, the report defies expectations of a mundane document, emerging as a meticulously crafted compendium crucial for reimagining the preservation and construction of civic memory at the local and national level. Its sole existence as a report, rather than an active initiative, leaves its promising suggestions unfulfilled—a disheartening reality. Hence, it falls upon us, the community, to carry forward the legacy of this report. Together, we must collaborate to bring to life the aspects that resonate with us, turning the visions outlined within into tangible realities. This report extends an open invitation to all Angelenos, including you, dear reader, to contribute to the discourse, aspirations, and visions shaping our city’s civic memory.

*Haley Castello*