



**COMMISSION ON DISABILITY
MINUTES**

1:00 p.m., Wednesday, August 5, 2015

Los Angeles City Hall Board of Public Works

200 North Spring Street, Room 350, Los Angeles, California 90012

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Robert Bitonte

David Wolf

Theresa de Vera

Iran Hopkins

Richard Rothenberg

Alisa Schlesinger

Robert Williams

Betty Wilson

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

Harriet Posner (excused)

DEPARTMENT ON DISABILITY:

Stephen Simon, Executive Director

Angela Kaufman, ADA Compliance Officer

Tony Abraham, Senior Management Analyst

COMMISSION STAFF:

OTHER CITY DEPARTMENTS:

GUESTS:

Elan Shultz, Health Deputy of the Los Angeles County Supervisor Sheila Kuehl District 3

Molly Davies the Vice President from the WISE & Healthy Aging Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program

Dr. Gordon Horn

*** AUDIO TAPE(S) and CAPTIONING NOTES ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST
ITEM NO. (1) : CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INTRODUCTIONS**

President Bitonte called the regular meeting to order at 1:17 P.M. Roll call was conducted and a quorum of the commissioners was present.

Action Taken: Roll call.

ITEM NO. (2): APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Action Taken: Commission approved the July and June 2015 meeting minutes.

ITEM NO. (3): PUBLIC COMMENT

PUBLIC COMMENTARY RECEIVED – FOR ANNOUNCEMENT PURPOSES ONLY*

Public comments were granted.

Action Taken: The minutes will be retroactively post in the coming weeks.

ITEM NO. (4) PROPOSED CONSOLIDATION OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY'S HEALTH DEPARTMENTS.

In January 2015, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors proposed to consolidate three county departments. The consolidation would merge the departments of public health, and mental health with the Department of Health Services

Action Taken: Gather more information.

ITEM NO. (5): SENATE BILL 29 FIELD TRAINING PROGRAM: BEHAVIORAL TRAINING FOR CA PEACE OFFICERS.

This bill responds to the growing public concerns by mandating additional evidence-based behavioral training proven to reduce the negative interactions between peace officers and people suffering from a mental illness or intellectual disability. It mandates 40 hours of evidence-based behavioral health training for Field Officer Trainers, mandates and additional 20 hours of evidence-based behavioral health training for trainees in the Field Training Program, and calls for the training to address issues related to stigma and culturally appropriate procedures.

Action Taken: Requesting more information pertaining to the Bills.

ITEM NO. (6): SENATE BILL 11 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TRAINING FOR CALIFORNIA PEACE OFFICERS.

This bill responds to the growing public concerns by mandating additional evidence-based behavioral training proven to reduce the negative interactions between peace officers and people suffering from a mental illness or intellectual disability. It mandates 20 additional hours of promising or evidence-based behavioral health training the Academy so that all officers can recognize, de-escalate, and refer people with mental illnesses who are in crisis; designates behavioral health training as equivalent in importance to a perishable skill each law enforcement officer to complete four hours of promising or evidence-based behavioral health training every four years; and calls for the training to address issues related to stigma and culturally appropriate procedures

Action Taken: Requesting more information pertaining to the Bills.

ITEM NO. (7) COMPLAINT SYSTEM FOR LONG-TERM CARE FACILITIES.

Residents of Los Angeles City and County occupy some 75,000 beds in long-term care facilities. Current and former residents of these facilities may be unclear as where to lodge complaints about the care provided.

Action Taken: Department on Disability will support Molly Davies in group trainings or coordinate a larger way to get this information into the community and have a public health person speak about the outstanding issues.

ITEM NO. (8) INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY (CALIFORNIA SENATE BILL 190).

MOTION 07012015-7 relative to recommending to the Mayor and City Council to support Senate Bill 190 (SB 190), which requires insurance carriers to cover care in residential facilities for patients of an acquired traumatic brain injury and prevent cost shifting by insurance carriers to the public sector for undertreated disability. SB 190 preserves skilled nursing benefits under most plans and SB 190 will reduce or may prevent disease progression after traumatic brain injury such as Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's disease, Multiple Sclerosis or Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis

Action Taken: Commission recommend to the Mayor and City Council to support Senate Bill 190.

ITEM NO. (9): DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S DISABLED PARKING PLACARD POLICY.

Discussion on the Los Angeles Department of Transportation's "Disabled Parking Placard Policy."

Action Taken: Asking the Commission for support for a resolution for increasing penalties for disabled parking placards violations and increasing the enforcement of disabled placards codes.

ITEM NO. (10): PUBLIC SWIMMING POOLS AND CHANGING FACILITIES.

ADA title II public entities should have clear policies about accessibility to changing rooms of public swimming pools special for caregivers or personal assistants who are of the opposite sex.

Action Taken: Department on Disability will give recommendations and invite someone from Parks and Recreation.

ITEM NO. (11): ADA25 CELEBRATION.

The 25th anniversary of the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act will be celebrated by the City of Los Angeles on Saturday, July 11, 2015. Disability's staff will discuss the celebration's details at today's commission meeting.

NO ACTION TAKEN, INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY*

ITEM NO. (12) CALIFORNIA PROPOSITION 41, VETERANS HOUSING AND HOMELESS PREVENTION BOND ACT.

The measure authorized the state to provide local governments, nonprofit organizations, and private developers with financial assistance so they may construct, renovate and acquire affordable housing for low-income veterans and their families.

NO ACTION TAKEN, INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY*

ITEM NO. (13): DISCUSSION EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT.

Stephen David Simon, Executive Director, highlighted concerns of the department.

Discussion covers Department activities, metrics, budget, planning, and other relevant issues. Presentation is by Stephen David Simon, Executive Director, Department on Disability.

NO ACTION TAKEN, INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY*

ITEM NO. (14): NEW BUSINESS

NO ACTION TAKEN, INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY*

ITEM NO. (15): ANNOUNCEMENTS

Action Taken: The commission and the Department on Disability to participate in the Holocaust Memorial day and to bring issues of disability to next year's event.

ITEM NO. (16):

ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED AT APPROXIMATELY 4:14 P.M.

Robert Bitonte, President DATE
COMMISSION ON DISABILITY

Juliana Soto, DATE
DEPARTMENT ON DISABILITY