



COMMISSION ON DISABILITY

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, August 17, 2023 2:00 P.M.

Department on Disability

Board of Public Works Hearing Room 350, City Hall

200 North Spring Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Zoom Video Conference

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Myrna Cabanban, President
Robert Bitonte, 1st Vice President
Robert Williams, 2nd Vice President
Akiko Tagawa, Commissioner
Alisa Schlesinger, Commissioner
Candace Cable, Commissioner
Iran Hopkins, Commissioner
Mary Grace A. Barrios, Commissioner

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

Betty Wilson, Commissioner

DEPARTMENT ON DISABILITY:

Stephen David Simon, Executive Director, Department on Disability

Ali Everett, Assistant General Manager, Department on Disability

OTHER CITY DEPARTMENTS:

Chris Lee, City Attorney Office

GUESTS:

ITEM NO. (1): FINDINGS TO CONTINUE TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS PURSUANT TO

In accordance with AB 2449 Section 2(a)(i) members may now notify the legislative body of their need to participate remotely for just cause, if they haven't already done so, including a general description of the circumstances relating to their need to appear remotely. The provisions of this clause shall not be used by any member of the legislative body for more than two meetings per calendar year.

Action Taken: There was no Commission member that was attending the Commission on Disability meeting virtually, no action required by the Commission on Disability.

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

The Commission reviewed the minutes of the June 2023 regular meeting and the Commission on Disability will vote to approve them.

Action Taken: The Commission approved the minutes for the June 2023 regular meeting as amended during the meeting.

ITEM NO. (3): PUBLIC COMMENT

For items not on today's agenda, but under the Commission's jurisdiction, members of the public who wish to speak on items shall be allowed to speak for up to two minutes per item up to a total of five minutes per meeting.

No Action Taken, Information Purposes Only.

ITEM NO. (4): COMMISSION ON DISABILITY – ELECTION

The Commission on Disability Officer Elections will be held. A brief overview of the requirements and deadlines will be shared with the Commission and Commissioners may nominate and self-nominate for the officer positions of: President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, and Secretary.

- I. Presentation is by the Department on Disability. A brief overview of the requirements and deadlines will be shared with the Commission and commissioners may nominate and self-nominate for the officer positions of: President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, and Secretary. The Commission on Disability did not reach a majority vote and will extend the voting period to the next Commission on Disability meeting.

Action Taken: The Commission on Disability did not reach a majority vote and will extend the voting period to the next meeting.

ITEM NO. (5): COMMISSION ON DISABILITY CALENDAR CREATION

The Commission will review and discuss proposed future meeting items and will have the opportunity to create a calendar for up to June 2024.

- I. Presentation is by Stephen David Simon, Executive Director, Department on Disability. The Commission on Disability reviewed the calendar that lists the topics for presentations through June. The Commission on Disability wanted to add the following topics: mobile SSI, long COVID update by Dr. Simon or a community physician, transportation issues at LAX a response from the airport, update on the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower project, update with Metro, Olympics and Paralympics, update on DOD's self-evaluation and transition plan, DBS report on landlord compliance with efficiency benchmarking and reporting, and

an Inside Safe update.

Action Taken: The Department on Disability will include those topics on the Commission on Disability calendar.

ITEM NO. (6): 16TH SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF STATES PARTIES TO THE CRPD (COSP16) - UPDATE

Commissioner Candace Cable will provide information on the COSP16 recently held in New York at the United Nations Headquarters on June 13-15, 2023.

- I. Presentation is by Commissioner Candace Cable on COSP16. This presentation will be moved to the next Commission on Disability meeting.

No Action Taken, Information Purposes Only.

ITEM NO. (7): FEDERAL AIR AND GROUND TRAVEL MEETING - UPDATE

- I. Presentation is by Assistant General Manager, Ali Everett, will provide an update on the meeting with Secretary of Transportation, Pete Buttigieg. The working group is a coalition of municipal offices for persons with disabilities. These disability leaders across the country work on systemic change within their respective city governments in order to improve the lives of those with disabilities. The cities that participated in this meeting were Los Angeles, Boston, New York City, Philadelphia, San Francisco, Cambridge, Chicago, Detroit, Salt Lake City and St. Louis. A letter was sent to the Secretary of Transportation outlining four transportation priorities from people with disabilities, which were enabling safe and accessible air travel, multimodal accessibility of public rights-of-way, access to good paying jobs and business opportunities, and enabling accessibility of electric vehicle charging and automated vehicles. The next steps for the working group are to focus on looking at priorities for public rights of accessibility and communicating those to the U.S. Department of Transportation.

No Action Taken, Information Purposes Only.

ITEM NO. (8): BRIEFING ON US ACCESS BOARD FINAL RULE ON ACCESSIBILITY GUIDELINES FOR PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES IN THE PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY

- I. Presentation is by Assistant General Manager, Ali Everett, will discuss the final rule on the federal guidelines. The United States Access Board issued the final rule on guidelines for facilities in the public right of way to provide minimum accessibility for new construction, alterations, and additions in the public right of way which includes sidewalks, curb ramps, street crossings, pedestrian signals and other elements. The standards will be required in order to comply with the ADA and the Rehabilitation Act and will make Los Angeles and communities across the country more accessible to people with disabilities who often rely on walking, rolling, and public transit as their primary mode of transportation. Once the guidelines have been adopted the enforcement date will apply to all new construction, alterations, and additions. Within the City of Los Angeles, the Department on Disability has begun working with other City departments including Public Works and the Department of Transportation to review their current policies, procedures, and standard plans to determine what changes will be necessary to incorporate.

No Action Taken, Information Purposes Only.

ITEM NO. (9): EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ongoing update on items relating to Department activities, metrics, budget, planning, and/or other relevant issues. Presentation is by Stephen David Simon, Executive Director, Department on Disability and/or other department staff. On September 7th, the DOD will be having a meeting with the Civil and Human Rights Department on making disability a part of the City's anti-discrimination ordinance. DOD is currently changing the internal reporting metrics to highlight the work the department does on a daily basis. DOD is also waiting for the Mayor's budget letter that outlines the Mayor's vision for the budget to start working on the departmental budget. The Disability Art Exhibit will be in person at City Hall and will have a virtual exhibit from October 16th to November 10th. DOD conducted two hands-on overdose prevention trainings for staff and Commissioners. DOD is very active with the City's Language Access Working Group to ensure ASL and other related accessibility communications are highlighted.

No Action Taken, Information Purposes Only.

ITEM NO. (10): NEW BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Items for the next regular meeting's agenda and announcements from Commissioners, DOD staff, and guests, as well as follow-up items from this or previous commission meetings to be presented at the next meeting.

No Action Taken, Information Purposes Only.

ITEM NO. (11): ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED AT APPROXIMATELY 4:30 P.M.