



# COMMISSION ON DISABILITY

## MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY, JUNE 20, 2024 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:

Akiko Tagawa, President  
Jorge E. Acevedo, 2nd Vice President  
Alisa Schlesinger, Commissioner  
Candace Cable, Secretary  
Iran Hopkins, Commissioner  
Myrna Cabanban, Commissioner  
Robert Bitonte, Commissioner

### COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

Mary Grace A. Barrios, 1st Vice Pres.  
Robert Williams, Commissioner

**DEPARTMENT ON DISABILITY:**

Stephen David Simon, Executive Director, Department on Disability  
John Rodriguez, Project Coordinator, Disability Access Services Division,  
Department on Disability  
Luis Mata, Project Coordinator, Disability Access Services Division,  
Department on Disability

**OTHER CITY DEPARTMENTS:**

**GUESTS:**

**ITEM NO. (1): REQUEST FOR TELECONFERENCE OPTION PURSUANT TO AB 2449**

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 were no Commission members attending the Commission on Disability meeting virtually. No action required by the Commission on Disability.

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

The Commission will review the minutes of the May 2024 special meeting and vote to approve them.

Action Taken: The Commission approved the minutes for the May 2024 special 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): SELF EVALUATION AND TRANSITION PLAN PROGRAM STATUS AND UPDATES**

The Department on Disability, Disability Access Services Division (DASD), will provide an update on the Self Evaluation Transition Plan (SE/TP) and its current status.

- I. Presentation by Luis Mata and John Rodriguez, Project Coordinators, Disability Access Services Division (DASD), Department on Disability, and former Commissioners on Disability. Mr. Mata and Mr. Rodriguez described the requirements, background, process, facility evaluation status and next steps of the City of Los Angeles Self-Evaluation & Transition Plan (SE/TP) Project. The SE/TP Project brings City facilities and programs into compliance with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), which states that public entities must assess their existing services, policies, and practices to determine if they comply with the Title II Regulations. Title II ensures equal opportunities for people with disabilities in various aspects of civic life, including education, employment, transportation, health care, and more. In July 2012, Mayor Villaraigosa convened an inter-departmental working group, the ADA Ad Hoc Committee, to spearhead citywide efforts to achieve compliance with federal and state disability laws, including the Americans with Disabilities Act ("ADA") and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The Ad Hoc Committee was established to monitor, set goals and oversee the DOD's implementation of City departmental self-evaluation surveys toward the goal of creating a Citywide disability compliance plan. There have been 750 evaluations and 33,199 known barriers to date for the City of Los Angeles. Barriers identified include bathrooms,

toilets, doors, reach ranges, and more. The department will identify funding to contract services to continue to perform program evaluations. A main goal of the Department on Disability, Disability Access Services Division (DASD) is to complete all of the citywide evaluations.

No Action Taken: Informational Purposes Only.

### **ITEM NO. (5): COMMISSION ON DISABILITY – ELECTION OPENING**

The Commission on Disability Officer Election process will be opened. 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. The Commission on Disability will hold its election from today, June 20th through July 18th, 2024 and nominations may be made verbally. Voting will be held on July 18th during the Commission on Disability meeting where final nominations and self-nominations will be accepted. Then the Commission will proceed to the election of the four officer positions. Commissioner Cable nominated herself for Secretary, Commissioner Cabanban nominated President Tagawa for President, Commissioner Acevedo nominated Commissioner Barrios for President, Commissioner Barrios nominated President Tagawa for President, Commissioner Cable for 1st Vice President, and Commissioner Acevedo for Secretary.

No Action Taken: Informational Purposes Only

### **ITEM NO. (6): COMMISSION COMMITTEE UPDATES**

The four current committees: Disabled Homelessness, Policy and Legislation, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Emergency Management will provide work plan updates and written recommendations, if any, which the Commission may choose to act upon.

- I. Presentations by the Commission on Disability Ad Hoc Committees. Commissioner Bitonte gave an update for the Disabled Homelessness Committee, which will meet Jerry Levey, Innovation and Performance Commissioner and a part of the Innovation Fund Committee. They will discuss funding for Commissioner Bitonte's Mobile Social Security Disability Unit Program. Commissioner Tagawa gave an update for the Policy and Legislation Committee regarding the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) letter of support that was sent to the Mayor's office. Transportation and Infrastructure and Emergency Management committees had no updates.

No Action Taken: Information Purposes Only.

#### **ITEM NO. (7): EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Ongoing updates on items relating to Department activities, metrics, budget, planning, and/or other relevant issues. Presentation is by Stephen David Simon, Executive Director and/or other department staff.

- I. The 2024-2025 budget is now in place and the Department on Disability is responding appropriately with new levels of staffing and funding for the coming year. The executive team cataloged all departmental services provided into 3 categories: internal, what is done for other city departments, and constituent services external to the city. The City has changed its entire timekeeping payroll system and as part of that shift the Department has re-allowed the option of a 9/80 schedule (working 9 hour days within a 2 week period) to support employees and reduce burnout. Additionally, positions have been restructured to keep employees focused. Executive Director Simon will keep the Commission informed on this topic with more updates in the future.

No Action Taken: Information Purposes Only.

#### **ITEM NO. (8): NEW BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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.

- I. Commissioner Cabanban would like to suggest the Self Evaluation and Transition Plan (SE/TP) Project be added to the agenda to track progress, follow up as needed, and present at the next annual council meeting. Commissioner Hopkins would like to request the Department on Disability create a letter articulating challenges and present at the next Commission Meeting.

No Action Taken: Information Purposes Only.

**ITEM NO. (9): ADJOURNMENT**

MEETING ADJOURNED at APPROXIMATELY 4:04 P.M.