



Regular Meeting Minutes

City of Los Angeles Commission on Disability

Thursday, October 16, 2025

2:00 P.M.

Edward R. Roybal Board of Public Works Session

Room 350

Los Angeles City Hall

200 North Spring Street

Los Angeles, CA 90012

Zoom Video Conference

Commissioners Present

Akiko Tagawa, President

Myrna Cabanban, Vice President

Mary Grace A. Barrios, Commissioner

Jorge E. Acevedo, Commissioner

Iran Hopkins, Commissioner

Alisa Schlesinger, Commissioner

Robert Bitonte, Commissioner

Louis Herrera, Commissioner

Commissioners Absent

Robert Williams, Commissioner

City Staff Present

Stephen David Simon, Executive Director, Department on Disability
Alison Everett, Assistant Executive Director, Department on Disability
Heather Aubry, Assistant City Attorney, City Attorney's Office
Kayvon Wroten, Department on Disability
Peter Soto, Department on Disability

Item One (1) - Request for Remote Participation Option Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e)(2)(a)

Action Taken: There were no Commission members attending the Commission on Disability meeting remotely. No action required by the Commission on Disability.

Item Two (2) - Multiple Agenda Item Public Comment

Public comment was provided on the following topics applicable to the Commission's scope of work:

- Concerns about issues related to ADA violations and the alleged abuses committed by the Church of Scientology against the disabled and elderly.
- Commendation of the Commission's detailed meeting minutes.
- Statements alleging the Los Angeles Housing Department (LAHD) has committed breaches of federal and state accessibility legislation. Further statements alleged violations have adversely affected residents who have been denied appropriate accommodations.

No action taken, information purposes only.

Item Three (3) - Approval of the September 18th, 2025, Regular Minutes

The Commission reviewed the September 2025 Regular Meeting minutes.

Action Taken: Vice President Cabanban moved, and Commissioner Barrios seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the September 2025 Regular Meeting. The motion passed.

Item Four (4) - Presentation by Matthew Holen, Senior Management Analyst, Los Angeles Housing Department (LAHD) about an update and overview of the Accessible Housing Program (AHP).

Matthew Holen, a senior management analyst with the LAHD's Accessible Housing Program, presented an update and overview of the Accessible Housing Program (AHP). The presentation included information about the AHP history, programs objectives, how the program is structured, eligibility criteria, and the grievance process. Mr. Holen also discussed the accessible housing registry, noting that it will relaunch next spring with improved navigation. Questions from the Commissioners followed.

No action taken, information purposes only.

Item Five (5) - Commission on Disability FY 2025-26 Work Plan Updates

The Ad Hoc Committees provided the following updates:

- Ad Hoc Committee 1 (LA28 Games Support):
 - No updates given.
- Ad Hoc Committee 2 (Disability Cultural Impact):
 - No updates given.
- Ad Hoc Committee 3 (Healthcare and Social Security Access):
 - No updates given.
- Ad Hoc Committee 4 (Affordable and Accessible Housing):
 - The Committee reported that it completed its objective of receiving a presentation from the Los Angeles Housing Department (LAHD) on the Accessible Housing Program (AHP)..

No action taken, for information purposes only.

Item Six (6) - Department on Disability Executive Director's Report

The Department on Disability (DOD) Executive Director, Stephen David Simon, provided the following information as part of his Executive Director's Report:

- Noted the return of Matan Koch and Sergio Samayoa to the Department.
- Noted the Department turned in the short form of its budget request to the Mayor's Office and City Administrative Officer the prior Tuesday.
- Highlighted the 18th Annual Disability Art Exhibition Award Ceremony
 - Date: October 16th, 2025, Location: City Hall Board of Public Works Hearing Rm 350, Time: 10am-12pm

No action taken, for information and discussion only.

Item Seven (7) - Announcements

Announcements from Commissioners and City staff and requested agenda items for future Commission meetings.

- Commissioner Barrios announced that October was Filipino American History Month (FAHM) and the City Councilwoman Ysabel Jurado, CD14 was hosting an FAHM Lighting Ceremony held at Los Angeles City Hall and to contact her if any Commissioners would like to attend.

No action taken, information purposes only.

Item Eight (8) - Adjournment

Action Taken: President Tagawa moved that we adjourn, and Commissioner Barrios seconded. The motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:28 P.M.