



Regular Meeting

City of Los Angeles Commission on Disability

Thursday, April 16, 2026

2:00 P.M. until the conclusion of business

Edward R. Roybal Board of Public Works Session Room 350,
City Hall, 200 North Spring Street,
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Virtual Meeting Information

Join via Zoom: bit.ly/zoom-lacdod24

Dial by phone: 1 (669) 444-9171

Meeting ID: 896 4264 0290

Real-Time Captioning: bit.ly/streamtext-lacdod

Commissioners

Akiko Tagawa, President

Myrna Cabanban, Vice President

Jorge E. Acevedo, Commissioner

Mary Grace A. Barrios, Commissioner

Robert Bitonte, Commissioner

Louis Herrera, Commissioner

Iran Hopkins, Commissioner

Alisa Schlesinger, Commissioner

Robert Williams, Commissioner

Meeting Information

Commission on Disability regular meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 2:00 PM.

Virtual Attendance Information

Public participants may join the Commission meeting via the Zoom link or phone number provided above. Participants joining by phone will be asked for a meeting ID. Please enter 844-7583-0151 followed by the pound sign (#).

Public Comment

Comments by the public on agenda items and on non-agendized matters within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission will be heard during the "Public Comment" period of the meeting.

Members of the public who wish to speak on Agendized items and Non-Agendized items shall be allowed to speak for up to two (2) minutes per Agendized item, and two (2) minutes on Non-Agendized items, up to a total of five (5) minutes per meeting. We request that each speaker announce their name before public comment. This is for the benefit of meeting captioners, interpreters, and attendees.

All in-person requests to address the Commission must be submitted to the Commission support staff prior to the Commission's consideration of the item through physical Public Comment cards available at the meeting room entrance.

During virtual meetings all attendees are automatically muted upon entry. Please use the RAISE HAND function to indicate your wish to speak on a specific agenda item. To use the RAISE HAND function, press star (*) and then 9 When called upon, you may UNMUTE by pressing star (*) and then 6.

If you wish to provide documents to the full Commission for consideration on an item, please present the COD Liaison with 20 copies. Otherwise, your material will simply be added to the official record.

Agenda Packet

This agenda packet is available on the Department on Disability Website at <https://disability.lacity.gov/about/commission-disability>. To request to be placed on the agenda packet mailing list, provide your email address to the Commission support staff at the Commission meeting or contact the Department on Disability: 201 North Figueroa Street, Suite 100, Los Angeles, CA 90012; (213) 202-2764; DOD.Contact@lacity.org.

Accommodations

Communication Access Real-time Translation (CART) and American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation are provided at each meeting. Upon request, materials in alternative formats and other reasonable accommodations are available for City-sponsored meetings and events. For additional information or to request an accommodation, please contact the Commission on Disability at least five business days in advance by calling 213-202-2764 (Voice), dial 711 for CA Relay, or email DOD.Contact@lacity.org.

Meeting Agenda

Item One (1) - Public Comment

Item is for **Information**.

Item Two (2) - Approval of the February 19th, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes and the March 19, 2026, Special Meeting Minutes

Item is for **Discussion** and **Action**.

Item Three (3) - Discussion of the Commission on Disability's March 19th, 2026, Public Hearing on Accessible Transportation for the 2028 Games and Other Upcoming Major Events in Los Angeles, including discussion and possible action regarding the Commission's Public Hearing Report

Item is for **Discussion** and **Action**.

Item Four (4) - Discussion and possible action regarding the Disability Cultural Impact Ad Hoc Committee's recommendation for the 2026 Betty Wilson Humanitarian Award Recipient

Item is for **Discussion** and **Action**.

Item Five (5) - Discussion and possible action regarding the Commission on Disability's Letter of Support for the City Council motion (CF26-0123) to designate "Wheelchair Basketball Square" and the City Council motion (26-0428) to rename a street "Paralympics Street"

Item is for **Discussion** and **Action**.

Item Six (6) - Discussion and possible action regarding the Commission on Disability's Letter of Support for the City to Adopt the Atkinson Hyperlegible Font

Item is for **Discussion** and **Action**.

Item Seven (7) - Commission on Disability FY 2025-26 Work Plan Updates

Item is for **Discussion** and **Action**.

Item Eight (8) - Mayor's Office Recognition of former Disability Commission President, Theresa May de Vera

Item is for **Information**.

Item Nine (9) - Department on Disability Executive Director's Report

Item is for **Information**.

Item Ten (10) - Announcements

Item is for **Information**.

Item Eleven (11) - Adjournment

Item is for **Action**.



Regular Meeting Minutes

City of Los Angeles Commission on Disability

Thursday, February 19, 2026

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
Iran Hopkins, Commissioner
Robert Williams, Commissioner
Mary Grace A. Barrios, Commissioner
Jorge E. Acevedo, Commissioner
Louis Herrera, Commissioner

Commissioners Absent

Robert Bitonte, Commissioner
Alisa Schlesinger, Commissioner

City Staff Present

Stephen David Simon, Executive Director, Department on Disability
Alison Everett, Assistant Executive Director, Department on Disability
Kayvon Wroten, Department on Disability
Salina Goytia, 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:

- Commenters raised specific grievances concerning Scientology's impact on public accessibility in Los Angeles.
- Commenters expressed support for the detailed nature of the Commission's minutes.

No action taken, information purposes only.

Item Three (3) - Approval of the January 15, 2026, Special Meeting Minutes

The Commission reviewed the January 15, 2026, Special Meeting Minutes.

Action Taken: President Tagawa moved, and Commissioner Barrios seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the January 15, 2026, Special Meeting Minutes. The motion passed.

Item Four (4) - Presentation from the Office of Major Events (OME) and other transportation entities about games mobility

Salvador Gutierrez (LADOT) presented an update on the Integrated Mobility Hub Project in preparation for the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games as well as the implementation of mobility hubs in Downtown LA and Hollywood to enhance transit connectivity.

Questions from the Commissioners followed.

No action taken, information purposes only.

Item Five (5) - Discussion and Approval of the Commission on Disability's Letter of Support

The Commission discussed the letter of support for naming a street in honor of the Paralympics, and naming an intersection in honor of wheelchair basketball athletes.

Action Taken: President Tagawa moved and Commissioner Williams seconded the approval of the Letter of Support. The motion passed.

Item Six (6) - Announcement of the 2026 Betty Wilson Humanitarian Award Nomination Period

Commissioner Cabanban announced the upcoming nomination period for the award from March 1st through March 30th, 2026.

Action Taken: Commissioner Cabanban moved, and President Tagawa seconded the motion to approve the nomination period for the award from March 1st through March 30th, 2026. The motion passed.

Item Seven (7) - Commission on Disability FY 2025-26 Work Plan Updates

The Ad Hoc Committees provided the following updates:

- Ad Hoc Committee 1 (LA28 Games Support):
 - Commissioner Barrios was formally added to this committee.
 - The Commission approved the committee's Letter of Support for naming a street to "Paralympic".
 - Provided an update from the Major Events Accessibility Advisory Committee (MEAAC).
 - The Committee reported that it completed its objective of receiving a presentation from the Office of Major Events (OME) and other transportation entities about games mobility.
- Ad Hoc Committee 2 (Disability Cultural Impact):
 - The Committee announced the 2026 Betty Wilson Humanitarian Award Nomination Period from March 1st through March 30th, 2026.
- Ad Hoc Committee 3 (Healthcare and Social Security Access):
 - No updates given.
- Ad Hoc Committee 4 (Affordable and Accessible Housing):
 - Commissioner Barrios was formally added to this committee.

No action taken, for information purposes only.

Item Eight (8) - 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 March 19 meeting will serve as a public hearing focused on accessible transportation.
- Highlighted the "Play LA" expansion for programs like adaptive archery and pickleball.
- Noted the upcoming Abilities Expo in Long Beach (March 27-29) and the CSUN Assistive Technology Conference.

No action taken, for information and discussion only.

Item Nine (9) - Announcements

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

- Commission Liaison, Kayvon Wroten, announced that all commissioners received a complimentary copy of the LA Metro annual booklet.

No action taken, information purposes only.

Item Ten (10) - Adjournment

Action Taken: President Tagawa moved to adjourn and Commissioner Barrios seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:26 P.M.



Special Meeting - Public Hearing Minutes

City of Los Angeles Commission on Disability

Thursday, March 19, 2026

3:00 P.M.

Edward R. Roybal Board of Public Works
Session Room 350,
City Hall, 200 North Spring Street,
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Zoom Video Conference

Commissioners Present

Akiko Tagawa, President
Myrna Cabanban, Vice President
Iran Hopkins, Commissioner
Robert Williams, Commissioner
Mary Grace A. Barrios, Commissioner
Jorge E. Acevedo, Commissioner
Robert Bitonte, Commissioner

Commissioners Absent

Alisa Schlesinger, Commissioner
Louis Herrera, Commissioner

City Staff Present

Stephen David Simon, Executive Director, Department on Disability
Alison Everett, Assistant Executive Director, Department on Disability
Heather Aubry, City Attorney's Office, Kayvon Wroten, Department on Disability, Salina Goytia, Department on Disability, Ashley Rodriguez, Department on Disability, Rosemarie Punzalan, Department on Disability

Item One (1) - Commission on Disability's 2026 Public Hearing: Accessible Transportation for the 2028 Games and Other Upcoming Major Events in Los Angeles

The public hearing included contextual remarks provided by The City of Los Angeles Office of Major Events (OME), the Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT), Los Angeles Metro (LA Metro), and Access Services.

Public comment was provided by 11 speakers both in person and online, providing an array of recommendations and concerns regarding the importance of accessible transportation related to the Games. (An additional 17 written public comments were received in advance of the hearing)

Topics addressed included: infrastructure and safety concerns, heat mitigation, City and vendor staff training and communication, personal care and accessible restrooms, first-mile/last-mile challenges, ticketing and registration, and safety measures for Vulnerable Road Users.

A summary and analysis of the comments will be provided in the Commission's Hearing Report.

Item Two (2) - Adjournment

Action Taken: President Tagawa moved to adjourn and Commissioner Bitonte seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 5:12 P.M



City of Los Angeles Commission on Disability

Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Work Plan

The Commission on Disability provides a forum for the identification and discussion of difficulties encountered by Disabled persons in our society, and makes recommendations to the Mayor and the City Council on measures which the Federal, State, and local governments may undertake to assure that persons with disabilities may participate without hindrance in the life of our community.

Powers and Duties

1. Advise the Mayor, the City Council and the Department on Disability on the needs and challenges of persons with disabilities in the City of Los Angeles.
2. Hold public hearings at least once a year as a regular or special meeting to take testimony from persons with disabilities and others regarding issues impacting the lives of persons with disabilities in the City of Los Angeles, and report the Commission's findings and recommendations to the Mayor and the City Council.
3. Monitor the program mandates of the Department on Disability and make recommendations to the Mayor and the City Council on program and policy initiatives to improve the service of the Department to the Disability community and provide persons with disabilities in the City of Los Angeles a better opportunity and ability to pursue activities of daily living without discrimination.
4. Review and make recommendations to the Mayor and City Council on funding disability access for City programs and services.
5. Maintain active liaisons with Disability community stakeholders interested in the problems facing persons with disabilities.
6. Promote greater awareness of Disability culture, as well as civic and community engagement of persons with disabilities.
7. Investigate and report to the Mayor and the City Council instances of discrimination based on disability, as well as ableism and attitudinal barriers in

areas including housing, transportation, employment, recreation, public information, health and social services, civil and human rights, and legislation.

8. Perform specific studies and surveys on the needs of persons with disabilities when requested by the Mayor and/or the City Council.
9. Submit an annual report to the Mayor and the City Council on the activities of the Commission.

FY 2025-2026 Ad Hoc Committees

[Ad Hoc Committee #1 - LA28 Games Support](#)

[Ad Hoc Committee #2 - Disability Cultural Impact](#)

[Ad Hoc Committee #3 - Healthcare and Social Security Access](#)

[Ad Hoc Committee #4 - Affordable and Accessible Housing](#)

Ad Hoc Committee #1 - LA28 Games Support

Ad Hoc Committee Members

- Commissioner Acevedo (Chair)
- Commissioner Hopkins
- President Tagawa
- Commissioner Barrios

Objectives and Action Items

1. Monitor the progress of naming a street to "Paralympic," including requesting an update from the Office of Major Events.
2. Provide a representative from the Commission to serve on the City's Major Events Accessibility Advisory Committee and provide updates on the activities of that Committee at each Commission meeting.

Presentations requested related to Ad Hoc Committee #1

- Presentation by the Office of Major Events about the Games Mobility Plan.
- Presentation by Throne Labs about the process to participate as a games vendor.

Work Plan Updates

September

- President Tagawa appointed herself, Commissioner Hopkins, and Commissioner Acevedo to the LA28 Games Support ad hoc committee.
- The ad hoc committee finalized its objectives and action items.

October

- No updates provided.

November

- No updates provided.

December

- Meeting Canceled.

January

- President Tagawa appointed herself as the representative from the Commission to serve on the City's Major Events Accessibility Advisory Committee.

- The Committee reported that it completed its objective of receiving a presentation from Throne Labs about the services they provide and expected expansion in advance of upcoming major events.

February

- Commissioner Barrios was formally added to this committee.
- The Commission approved the committee's Letter of Support for naming a street to "Paralympic".
- Provided an update from the Major Events Accessibility Advisory Committee (MEAAC).
- The Committee reported that it completed its objective of receiving a presentation from the Office of Major Events (OME) and other

March

- Public Hearing

Ad Hoc Committee #2 - Disability Cultural Impact

Ad Hoc Committee Members

- Vice President Cabanban (Chair)
- Commissioner Hopkins
- Commissioner Williams
- President Tagawa

Objectives and Action Items

1. Establish the "Betty Wilson Humanitarian Award of Excellence"
 - To be awarded by the Commission on Disability to recognize work advancing the interests of persons with disabilities, including developing award criteria and processes for nomination and selection. The award recipient is to be announced annually in October to spotlight Disability Awareness month.
2. Prepare a letter to the Mayor's Office recommending the City adopt Atkinson Hyperlegible Font as the City's primary font.
3. Prepare a letter to the Mayor's Office recommending the City create a mural commemorating LA28 and the Paralympics.

Presentations requested related to Ad Hoc Committee #2

- Presentation from the Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) about the process to install a mural and what steps are necessary to ensure this process functions effectively.

Work Plan Updates

September

- President Tagawa appointed herself, Commissioners Hopkins, Cabanban, and Commissioner Williams to the Disability Cultural Impact ad hoc committee.
- The ad hoc committee finalized its objectives and action items.

October

- No updates provided.

November

- Commissioner Cabanban identified a potential candidate for the first Betty Wilson Humanitarian Award.

December

- Meeting Canceled.

January

- The Commission approved the establishment of the Betty Wilson Humanitarian Award. President Tagawa appointed herself, Vice President Cabanban, and Commissioner Williams to the Betty Wilson Humanitarian Award ad hoc committee.
- The Committee reported that it completed its objective of receiving a presentation from the Department of Cultural Affairs, (DCA) about the City's policies to install murals

February

- The Committee announced the 2026 Betty Wilson Humanitarian Award Nomination Period from March 1st through March 30th, 2026.

March

- Public Hearing

Ad Hoc Committee #3 - Healthcare and Social Security Access

Ad Hoc Committee Members

- Commissioner Bitonte (Chair)
- Commissioner Schlesinger
- Commissioner Williams

Objectives and Action Items

1. Review and recommend the Commission readopt the previous [policy memorandum](#) issued by the Commission regarding the provision of a mobile Social Security Disability Office.
2. Submit a recommendation to the Mayor that the City support the development of a mobile Social Security Disability Office.

Presentations requested related to Ad Hoc Committee #3

- Presentation from a Healthcare provider about the healthcare benefit denial process and the types of disabilities that are most frequently denied.

Work Plan Updates

September

- President Tagawa appointed Commissioners Bitonte, Schlesinger, and Commissioner Williams to the Healthcare and Social Security Access ad hoc committee.
- The ad hoc committee finalized its objectives and action items.

October

- No updates provided.

November

- Commissioner Bitonte informed the Commission that he would like to invite LA Care to a future meeting to discuss how many enrollees they are expected to lose due to diminished healthcare subsidies after the first of the year.

December

- Meeting Canceled.

January

- No updates provided.

February

- No updates provided.

March

- Public Hearing

Ad Hoc Committee #4 - Affordable and Accessible Housing

Ad Hoc Committee Members

- Vice President Cabanban (Chair)
- President Tagawa
- Commissioner Acevedo
- Commissioner Barrios

Objectives and Action Items

1. Submit a recommendation to the Mayor regarding the allocation of additional funding to support people with disabilities who are experiencing homelessness.
2. Make a recommendation to the Mayor that the City adopt the policy of referring to affordable housing as “affordable accessible housing.”
3. Submit a recommendation to City Council offices regarding possible strategies to support people with disabilities who are experiencing homelessness.

Presentations requested related to Ad Hoc Committee #4

- Presentation from the Los Angeles Housing Department (LAHD) about an update and overview of the Accessible Housing Program (AChP), noting how funding allocations are determined for these programs and what factors influence the process.
- Presentation from the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) about people with disabilities experiencing homelessness in Los Angeles.

Work Plan Updates

September

- President Tagawa appointed herself and Commissioners Acevedo and Cabanban to the Affordable and Accessible Housing ad hoc committee.
- The ad hoc committee finalized its objectives and action items.

October

- The Commission received a presentation from the Los Angeles Housing Department (LAHD) about an update and overview of the Accessible Housing Program (AChP).

November

- The Committee reported that it completed its objective of receiving a presentation from the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA).

December

- Meeting Canceled.

January

- No updates provided.

February

- Commissioner Barrios was formally added to this committee.

March

- Public Hearing

Presentation Schedule

FY 2025-2026

September 2025 - Regular Meeting

- Presentation by **Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA)** on the plan for the LAX Automated People Mover Train System with an emphasis on accessibility for people with disabilities.

October 2025 - Regular Meeting

- Presentation from the **Los Angeles Housing Department (LAHD)** about an update and overview of the Accessible Housing Program (AcHP).

November 2025 - Regular Meeting

- Presentation from the **Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA)** about people with disabilities experiencing homelessness in Los Angeles.
- Presentation from the **Los Angeles County Regional Coordinating Council on Aging and Disability's Community Engagement and Communications Workgroup** on their Communications Guide.

December 2025

- **Meeting Cancelled**

January 2026 - Special Meeting

- Presentation from **Throne Labs** about the services they provide and their recommendations for providing services during the Paralympic and Olympic Games.
- Presentation from the **Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA)** about the City's policies to install murals.

February 2026 - Regular Meeting

- Presentation by the **Office of Major Events (OME)** about the Games Mobility Plan.

March 2026 - Public Hearing

- Presentation by **The City of Los Angeles Office of Major Events (OME)**, the **Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT)**, **Los Angeles Metro (LA Metro)**, and **Access Services**.

April 2026

- Regular Meeting

May 2026

- Regular Meeting

June 2026

- Officer Nominations

July 2026

- Officer Elections

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

AKIKO TAGAWA, PRESIDENT
MYRNA CABANBAN, VICE PRESIDENT
JORGE E. ACEVEDO
MARY GRACE A. BARRIOS
ROBERT BITONTE
LOUIS HERRERA
IRAN HOPKINS
ALISA SCHLESINGER
ROBERT WILLIAMS
—
(213) 202-2764 TEL
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KAREN BASS
MAYOR

DEPARTMENT ON DISABILITY

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COMMISSION ON DISABILITY
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—
STEPHEN DAVID SIMON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
ALI EVERETT
ASST. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Monday, April 20, 2026

The Honorable Karen Bass, Mayor
The Honorable Marqueece Harris-Dawson, Council President
The Honorable Hugo Soto-Martinez, CREIAD Committee Chair
200 North Spring St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Report from the Commission on Disability Annual Hearing - Accessible Transportation for the 2028 Games and Other Upcoming Major Events in Los Angeles

Greetings Mayor Bass and Council President Harris-Dawson:

On behalf of the Commission, I present the report from the recently held Public Hearing. I am extremely pleased that we successfully accomplished our mission and what I believe to be the essence of a Commission - to actively engage with the public and provide an objective and impartial forum. It is our hope that the thoughts and concerns of the constituents captured herein can help guide policy making and ensure that accessibility and equality remain or are elevated to a top priority as the City looks towards the 2028 Los Angeles Olympic and Paralympic Games, and for all major events the City is preparing to host this decade and beyond.

BACKGROUND:

The Commission on Disability (COD) per Sec. 8.244, item 2, of the Los Angeles Charter and Administrative Code shall “Hold public hearings at least once a year to take

testimony from disabled persons and others regarding conditions adversely affecting the lives of disabled persons in the City of Los Angeles, and report its findings and recommendations to the Mayor and the City Council.”

This year the COD selected “Accessible Transportation for the 2028 Games and Other Upcoming Major Events in Los Angeles” as the topic and invited the public to share their views via written or in-person comment. Enclosed are the aggregated testimonies, an overview of the presentations given, and a brief synopsis of Commissioner discussion during the Thursday March, 19, 2026 Hearing.

The Hearing began with presentations from the following departments and organizations, also included below are the topics discussed by each:

- Office of Major Events (OME), Daniel Rodman, Deputy Executive Director and Natalie Sparrow, Accessibility Chief
 - Five Key Functions of the OME, LA28 Games as a “Games for All” model, the Host City Games Accessibility Commitment, the Major Events Accessibility Advisory Committee, and the Games Mobility Executives
- Los Angeles Department of Transportation, Salvador Gutierrez, Supervising Transportation Planner
 - Direct Connections for transportation, the Multi-Modal Approach, the Legacy of the projects, and “Accessibility for All Ages and Abilities”, as well as working with Transportation Network Companies (TNCs), such as Uber and Lyft, the bodies that manage them, and that the safety and ease of the day-to-day lives of all persons in Los Angeles is ensured
- METRO, Hector Gutierrez, Senior Manager with Strategic Innovation and Benjamin Alcazar, Senior Director, Civil Rights Programs
 - The Mobility Concept Plan, the 2028 Games METRO’s Universal Inclusive Design Strategy, the Transit System Enhancements plan and its progress, and the Accessibility Solutions plan being pursued
- Access Services (Los Angeles County), Andre Colaiace, Executive Director
 - Modifications to the Visitor Policy , interpretation services, app updates, and promotional campaigns, as well as the updates and practices being deployed for the World Cup regarding drop-off/pick-up locations and requirements at venues and fan sites, site visits by staff, and the every day activities and transportation needs of all Angelinos during major events

FINDINGS:

After the presentations, the COD began accepting public comment from in-person attendees and virtual attendees. Written public comments received earlier in the month were entered into the record as part of the agenda.

Constituents testified that the highest areas of concern (receiving 9-13 mentions each)

were accessibility via communication while utilizing or planning to use public transportation (written, visual, auditory, web, mobile and app based, and signage), followed by the accessibility of physical transit spaces, sidewalks, and intersections. A concern that transit services did not have the frequency of buses operating to meet the needs of the community currently nor in upcoming major events was also noted.

The topics garnering the next highest number of mentions (receiving 2-6 mentions each) include interest in a collaboration between the City and the Hidden Disability Sunflower program, the low availability of Wheelchair Accessible Vehicles (WAV) through TNCs, and a concern regarding the accessibility of emergent technologies, such as Advanced Air Mobility. Accessibility in multiple forms was also noted by constituents in the following areas: wayfinding, sufficient dedicated seating spaces on mass public transit, adult restrooms and changing stations, parking, elevators and escalators at transit centers/hubs, and ensuring that accessible transit include “end to end” or “First/Last Mile” planning. Public comment also echoed that a mechanism for enforcement of ADA, State, County, and City standards needs to be utilized, that both TNCs and municipal transit services focus on greater cultural and technical knowledge while providing services to the highly diverse populations of persons living with a disability. Additionally, requests were made for greater flexibility in scheduling paratransit drop-off/pick-up locations, addressing the Sidewalk Transit Amenities Program (STAP), and attention to shade offerings and heat dangers/abatement.

The listings of all issues raised during public comment and the frequency of their reference is attached in Appendix A (alphabetical) and Appendix B (by frequency).

COMMISSION DISCUSSION

Following public comment, Commissioners discussed the presentations, the public comments received, and added additional areas of interest and concern. Highlights of those discussions included:

- Noting the lack of WAV TNC options, especially considering the accessibility fee levied per ride in TNCs¹, and requested TNC companies be agendized to present their progress on their WAV fleet development and deployment;
- Inquiring on the coordination between bus routes and LAX during major events, and the coordination of mass transit providers such as Greyhound, Flixbus, and rail operations at Union Station. Additionally, they inquired if Access Services will still be able to provide transportation for County residents’ day to day needs during major events and if autonomous vehicles like WAYMO will be allowed to operate;

¹ California Senate Bill (SB) 1376: TNC Access for All Act (Hill, 2018)

- Noting that any planning for the need for services should not be solely based on accessible ticket sales, as those tickets may not fully reflect the impact a gap in services could create, i.e. a bus that cannot accommodate one person may impact that person's friends and family ability to reach the competitions and events as well; and
- Suggesting that Throne Labs Smart bathrooms, which are already positioned at various METRO station locations throughout the County, could be utilized to bolster accessible bathrooms outside of venues or in parking/transit areas.

In response to Commissioner comments, Natalie Sparrow, of the Office of Major Events, stated that the Mayor's Office can request that TNCs share their accessible vehicle data. She also stated OME's understanding is that WAYMO would continue to operate during major events but defers to LADOT as the subject matter experts. Additionally, Hector Gutierrez, of METRO, stated that they are working with numerous providers and public agencies across Los Angeles via the Games Mobility Executives body, to ensure all local mass transit are included in planning and adherent to accessibility requirements, and that Access Transit Services will continue to serve County residents, specifically mentioning the Games Enhanced Transit Service (GETS) initiative.

As Commission President, I closed the hearing with the suggestion that the largest takeaway was the need for normalizing services towards accessibility and support for persons with a disability, and a greater cultural shift among employees, as well as an effort for more kindness and patience.

The Commission on Disability is eager to continue its relationship with the Offices, Agencies, and Departments that presented at the Hearing and remain informed of their initiatives and goals. We look forward to new developments in accessible transit leading up to the World Cup and the 2028 Los Angeles Olympic and Paralympic Games. The Commission also stands ready to provide its knowledge and lived experience to help ensure that all major events for the City include and are accessible to all Angelenos.

Should you have any questions, you may contact Kayvon Wroten of the Department on Disability by phone at (213) 202-2765 or by email at kayvon.wroten@lacity.org.

Sincerely,

Akiko Tagawa
Commission on Disability, President

AT:ps (Signatory Initials:ps)

cc: Brenda Shockley, Deputy Mayor
Stephen David Simon, Executive Director, Department on Disability

Rafael Navar, First District, Alexis Wesson, Second District, Lisa Hansen, Third District, Andrea Conant, Fourth District, Erin Bromaghim, Fifth District, Ackley Padilla, Sixth District, Marie Rumsey, Seventh District, Joanne Kim, Eighth District, Curtis Earnest, Ninth District, Kimani Black, Tenth District, Star Parsamyan, Eleventh District, Hannah Lee, Twelfth District, Patricia Castellanos, Thirteenth District, Lauren Hodgins, Fourteenth District, Jeanne Min, Fifteenth District

Appendix A

(List of issues presented alphabetically)

- Accessibility (“End to End” and “First/Last Mile” transportation) **(3 public comments)**
- Accessibility (Elevators / Escalators at Transit Centers/Hubs) **(2 public comments)**
- Accessibility (Flying Taxis / Advanced Air Mobility, and new modes of transit) **(4 public comments)**
- Accessibility (Fonts)
- Accessibility (LA28 Ticketing)
- Accessibility (Parking) **(3 public comments)**
- Accessibility (Seating/Spaces/wheelchair safety on Mass Public Transit) (4 public comments)
- Accessibility (Sidewalks, curbcuts, crosswalks, platforms, bike lanes, and transition areas) **(11 public comments)**
- Accessibility (Transit: Announcements, Audio, Voice, Signage, written, braille, Internet, Web + Mobile Apps with Disability focus, ticketing) **(12 public comments)**
- Accessibility (Venues; interior and exterior)
- Adult Restrooms / Changing Stations **(4 public comments)**
- Barriers based upon DME/other mobility equipment
- Collaborate with Greater Los Angeles Agency on Deafness (GLAD), CALIF, Luskin Orthopedic Institute for Children for resources or best practices **(2 public comments)**
- Do not rely on ADA adjacent ticket sales to inform accessibility needs
- Efficient Transit as a tantamount need to all others
- Emergency Management Planning (evacuation) for persons with a disability for Major Events
- Games Mobility Executives
- General stress of public transportation during major events
- Greater promotion of LA28 accommodations for persons living with disabilities
- Hidden Disabilities Sunflower Program (6 public comments)
- Hostility from other mass transit passengers while utilizing wheelchair accommodations
- Information Dissemination to neighboring/partnering Cities
- Integration of people with disabilities and lived experience into planning process
- “METRO Neurodiverse Rider in Transit Program” - Constituent request for COD to review and implement findings
- Outreach to families with lived experience of persons with disabilities to volunteer at major events
- Outreach to families with WAVs for ridesharing opportunities

- Outreach to High School or Secondary Education for volunteer opportunities related to assistance to persons with disabilities at major events
- Paratransit; larger windows/flexibility in scheduling **(2 public comments)**
- Perceived View that the Disability community will only attend/should only attend the Paralympics by the broader public **(2 public comments)**
- Plain Language usage
- Request for Post-Games accountability framework
- Safety (Mass Transit)
- Sidewalk Transit Amenities Program (STAP), Heat Dangers, shade, and Cooling Stations **(2 public comments)**
- Sufficient housing/hospitality of Greater Los Angeles Area for major events
- Suggests COD requests Accessibility Impact Report by Q4 of 2026 on monitoring of emerging and paratransit technology adjustments for equity
- The need for adherence and enforcement of ADA and State, County, City standards, and to strive ahead **(4 public comments)**
- The Paralympics as a fully realized event which deserves accommodations and planning to match any other major event
- TNCs (Low number of Wheelchair Accessible Vehicles (WAV) available) **(8 public comments)**
- TNCs (Alternate/Accessible pick-up/drop-off readiness) **(2 public comments)**
- TNCs (Cultural Competence and Assistance Protocols/etiquette) **(2 public comments)**
- Transit and City Staff Training (Cultural Competence and Assistance Protocols/etiquette) **(3 public comments)**
- Transit Services unable to meet current need for accessibility; need for greater mass transit capacity and reliability **(9 public comments)**
- UC ME visibility company
- Need for Wayfinding **(3 public comments)**

Appendix B

(List of issues presented by frequency)

- Accessibility (Transit: Announcements, Audio, Voice, Signage, written, braille, Internet, Web + Mobile Apps with Disability focus, ticketing) **(12 public comments)**
- Accessibility (Sidewalks, curbscuts, crosswalks, platforms, bike lanes, and transition areas) **(11 public comments)**
- Transit Services unable to meet current need for accessibility; need for greater mass transit capacity and reliability **(9 public comments)**
- TNCs (Low number of Wheelchair Accessible Vehicles (WAV) available) **(8 public comments)**
- Sunflower Hidden Disabilities Program **(6 public comments)**
- Accessibility (Flying Taxis / Advanced Air Mobility, and new modes of transit) **(4 public comments)**
- Accessibility (Seating/Spaces/wheelchair safety on Mass Public Transit) **(4 public comments)**
- Adult Restrooms / Changing Stations **(4 public comments)**
- The need for adherence and enforcement of ADA and State, County, City standards, and to strive ahead **(4 public comments)**
- Accessibility (“End to End” and “First/Last Mile” transportation) **(3 public comments)**
- Accessibility (Parking) **(3 public comments)**
- Transit and City Staff Training (Cultural Competence and Assistance Protocols/etiquette) **(3 public comments)**
- Wayfinding **(3 public comments)**
- Accessibility (Elevators / Escalators at Transit Centers/Hubs) **(2 public comments)**
- Collaborate with Greater Los Angeles Agency on Deafness (GLAD), CALIF, Luskin Orthopedic Institute for Children for resources or best practices **(2 public comments)**
- Paratransit; larger windows/flexibility in scheduling **(2 public comments)**
- Perceived View that the Disability community will only attend/should only attend the Paralympics by the broader public **(2 public comments)**
- Sidewalk Transit Amenities Program (STAP), Heat Dangers, shade, and Cooling Stations **(2 public comments)**
- TNCs (Alternate/Accessible pick-up/drop-off readiness) **(2 public comments)**
- TNCs (Cultural Competence and Assistance Protocols/etiquette) **(2 public comments)**
- Accessibility (Fonts) (1)
- Accessibility (LA28 Ticketing) (1)
- Accessibility (Venues; interior and exterior) (1)

- Barriers based upon DME/other mobility equipment (1)
- Do not rely on ADA adjacent ticket sales to inform accessibility needs (1)
- Efficient Transit as a tantamount need to all others (1)
- Emergency Management Planning (evacuation) for persons with a disability for Major Events (1)
- Games Mobility Executives (1)
- General stress of public transportation during major events (1)
- Greater promotion of LA28 accommodations for persons living with disabilities (1)
- Hostility from other mass transit passengers while utilizing wheelchair accommodations (1)
- Information Dissemination to neighboring/partnering Cities (1)
- Integration of people with disabilities and lived experience into planning process (1)
- “METRO Neurodiverse Rider in Transit Program” - Constituent request for COD to review and implement findings (1)
- Outreach to families with lived experience of persons with disabilities to volunteer at major events (1)
- Outreach to families with WAVs for ridesharing opportunities (1)
- Outreach to High School or Secondary Education for volunteer opportunities related to assistance to persons with disabilities at major events (1)
- Plain Language usage (1)
- Request for Post-Games accountability framework (1)
- Safety (Mass Transit) (1)
- Sufficient housing/hospitality of Greater Los Angeles Area for major events (1)
- Suggests COD requests Accessibility Impact Report by Q4 of 2026 on monitoring of emerging and paratransit technology adjustments for equity (1)
- The Paralympics as a fully realized event which deserves accommodations and planning to match any other major event (1)
- UC ME visibility company (1)

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CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA



KAREN BASS
MAYOR

DEPARTMENT ON DISABILITY

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STEPHEN DAVID SIMON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
ALI EVERETT
ASST. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

April 17, 2026

The Honorable Karen Bass, Mayor
The Honorable Marquese Harris-Dawson, Council President
200 North Spring St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Paralympic Representation in Los Angeles

Greetings Mayor Bass and Council President Harris-Dawson:

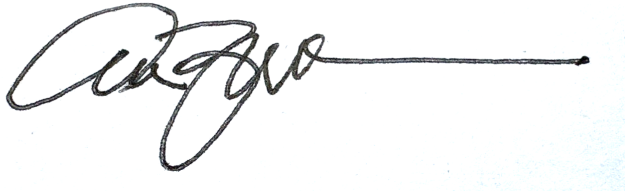
On behalf of the Commission on Disability, I write in strong support of the City's pursuit of a powerful and formal recognition of its first Paralympic Games: the motion of renaming 39th street to "Paralympic Street" in honor of the Paralympics and in recognition of past, present, and future Paralympians. This would be of international significance akin to the naming of Olympic Boulevard when our City hosted the Olympic Games for the first time in 1932.

We also write to commend the City's designation of "Wheelchair Basketball Square" at Victory Boulevard and Balboa Boulevard as a tribute to para-athletes (CF26-0123). It is our hope that both proposals succeed as a reflection of your commitment to an accessible and inclusive Games for All.

Letter of Support for the City Council motion (CF26-0123) to designate "Wheelchair Basketball Square" and the City Council motion (26-0428) to rename a street "Paralympics Street"

If the Commission on Disability can be of any assistance in supporting either process, or should you have any questions, please reach out to me at any time via Kayvon Wroten of the Department on Disability by phone at (213) 202-2765 or by email at kayvon.wroten@lacity.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Akiko Tagawa', followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Akiko Tagawa
President, Commission on Disability

AT:kw

cc: Brenda Shockley, Deputy Mayor, Economic Empowerment
Stephen David Simon, General Manager, Department on Disability

PUBLIC WORKS

MOTION

In 2028, the City will host the Paralympic Games for the first time in its history. While the City served as host to the Olympic Games in both 1932 and 1984, the Paralympic Games were not held in coordination with the Olympic Games in those years. In fact, the Paralympic Games weren't held until 1960 and weren't organized in conjunction with the Olympic Games until 1988.

The City's inaugural hosting of the Paralympics will coincide with its third hosting of the Olympics, making the 2028 Games a historic event in the athletic history of the City. In addition to hosting the Paralympic Games at venues throughout the City and wider region, the City will also be welcoming athletes, residents, and visitors alike at celebrations of the Paralympic Games throughout the City.

In 1932, when the City hosted its first Olympic Games, the City renamed 10th Street as Olympic Boulevard as part of its celebration of the Games and as a long-lasting memorial of the event. As the City builds on this legacy, now hosting both the Paralympic and Olympic Games in 2028, it is appropriate that the City rename 39th Street, which leads into Exposition Park which will serve as an important venue in the upcoming Games, as "Paralympic Street."

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Engineer be directed to initiate the process of changing the name of 39th Street from Main Street to Figueroa Street to "Paralympic Street."

PRESENTED BY: *Curren D. Price, Jr.*
CURREN D. PRICE, JR.
Councilmember, 9th District

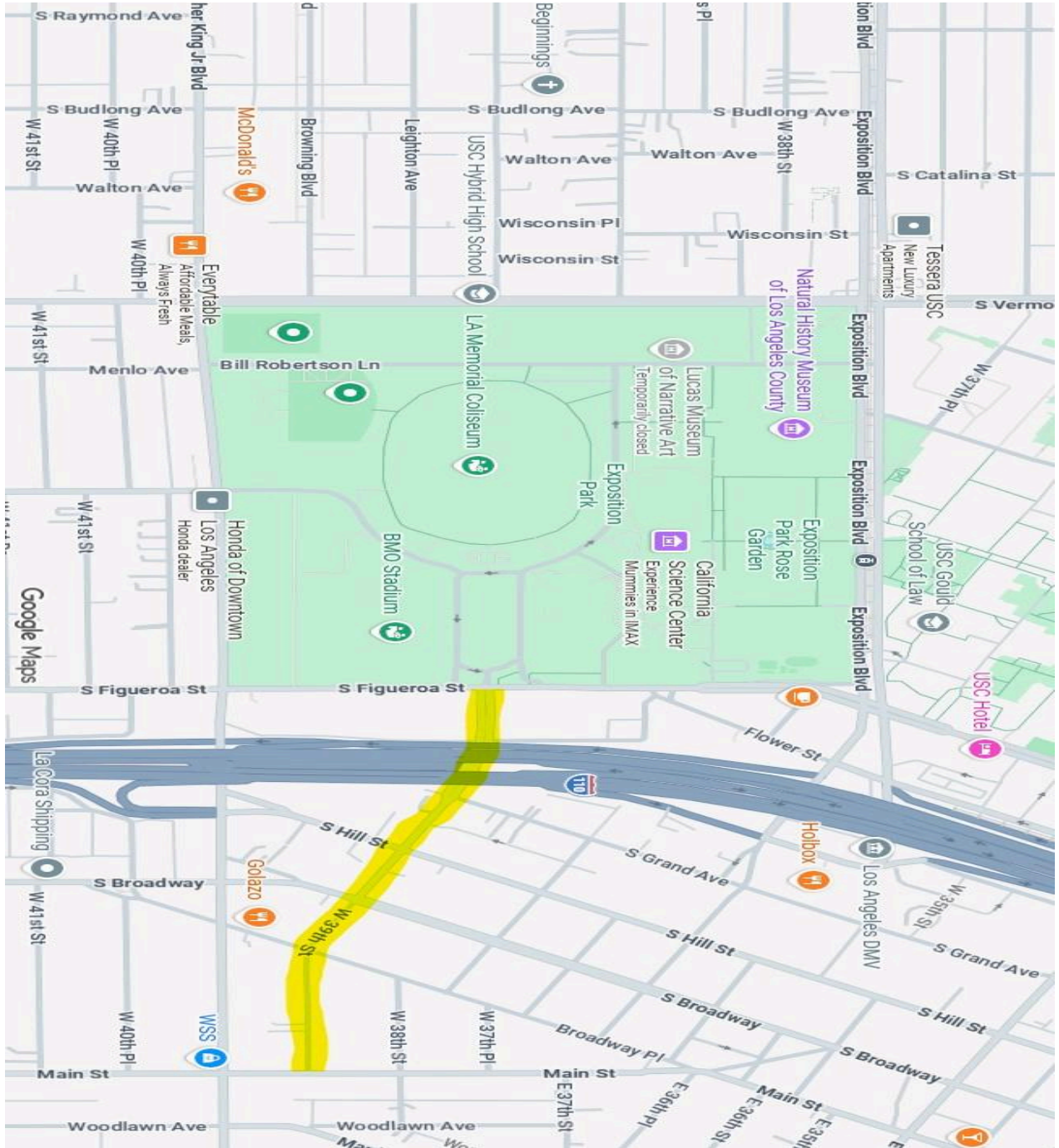
SECONDED BY: *Arnoldo Pacheco*

ORIGINAL

JP

MAK 4 2026

Paralympic Street Map



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STEPHEN DAVID SIMON
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ASST. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

April 17, 2026

The Honorable Karen Bass, Mayor
The Honorable Marqueese Harris-Dawson, Council President
200 North Spring St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Recommendation to Adopt Atkinson Hyperlegible Font as the Official Font of City of Los Angeles

Greetings Mayor Bass and Council President Harris-Dawson:

This letter is delivered on behalf of the Commission on Disability to recommend and respectfully request that the City of Los Angeles adopt the Atkinson Hyperlegible font as its official font for all future digital and print communications and publications.

Vision loss is one of the fastest growing disabilities around the world today, with millions of seniors expected to develop life changing vision loss each year as they grow older. Featuring unmistakably unique letters and numbers, the Atkinson Hyperlegible is a freely available font that is specifically designed to maximize legibility and readability for low vision and vision impaired readers.

Maximizing readability means optimizing user comprehension, which is critical to empowering constituents and the visiting public when engaging with the City,

Letter of Support for the City to Adopt the Atkinson Hyperlegible Font

particularly in the context of navigating public physical and digital spaces like: public transportation systems, traffic and street signs, wayfinding and directional signage at public venues, sporting arenas, large events and gatherings, and City websites and Brown Act notices and publications.

Moreover, Atkinson Hyperlegible font is proudly "home grown" in the City of Los Angeles, having been developed by the Braille Institute (in collaboration with Applied Design Works), and is named after the Braille Institute's Angeleno founder, Mr. J. Robert Atkinson.

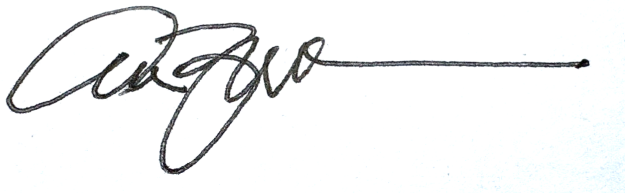
Transitioning to Atkinson Hyperlegible font is a simple, no to low cost way to improve the accessibility, impact, and reach of the City's communications.

In addition, the City's acknowledgment of Atkinson Hyperlegible font would be an easy way to increase awareness of vision loss as a growing public health concern, while also identifying a free tool the community can use to address its impact.

Atkinson Hyperlegible font is freely available to the public for unrestricted use, modification, and distribution under the SIL Open Font License, and can be downloaded at BrailleInstitute.org/FreeFont.

Please advise of questions and how the Commission on Disability can be helpful in moving forward this proposal to completion by contacting Kayvon Wroten at the Department on Disability at (213) 202-2765 or kayvon.wroten@lacity.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Akiko Tagawa', followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right. The signature is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Akiko Tagawa
President, Commission on Disability

AT:kw

cc: Stephen David Simon, General Manager, Department on Disability



**BETTY WILSON
HUMANITARIAN
AWARD OF EXCELLENCE**



The Betty Wilson Humanitarian Award of Excellence is presented to a person who has increased disability awareness and made significant contributions to accessibility and quality of life for people with disabilities and in the City of Los Angeles Disability communities.

Judging Criteria

The Betty Wilson Humanitarian Award of Excellence honoree will be selected based upon nominations submitted and approved by the City of Los Angeles Commission on Disability. Current commissioners are not eligible for nomination or selection.

Eligibility Criteria

The Betty Wilson Humanitarian Award of Excellence is awarded to an individual who has lived or worked in the City of Los Angeles that has had direct involvement in improving accessibility and quality of life for people with disabilities, or to an organization or agency based in the City of Los Angeles that has fostered community transformation as it relates to people with disabilities.

Awards Presentation

The Betty Wilson Humanitarian Award of Excellence will be presented and the awardee will be recognized at the Commission on Disability meeting in June of each year.

Timeline

January

- The Commission on Disability President creates the Betty Wilson Humanitarian Award of Excellence ad hoc committee.

February

- The ad hoc committee recommends updates to the nomination and selection process, if needed.
- The Commission on Disability announces the award nomination period during its February meeting.

March 1 - 30

- Nomination period. The Commission on Disability submits nominations to Commission liaison.

April - May

- The ad hoc committee will determine eligibility and recommend awardees for Commission approval. The Commission on Disability President dissolves the ad hoc committee after submission of the recommendation.
- The Commission on Disability approves the awardee.

June

- Awardee is awarded and recognized at the June Commission on Disability meeting. At BPW Hearing Room.

Nomination Form

(To be provided as a Google Form)

The Betty Wilson Humanitarian Award of Excellence is presented to a person who has increased disability awareness and made significant contributions to accessibility and quality of life for people with disabilities and in the City of Los Angeles Disability communities.

Nominee's Contact Information

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

Has the Nominee lived or worked in the City of Los Angeles? Yes / No

Nomination Submitted By

Commissioner Name:

Tell Us About The Nominee

Please detail your nominee's significant contributions to enhancing accessibility and quality of life for individuals with disabilities within the City of Los Angeles. Additionally, explain how your nominee exemplifies the core values, vision, and dedication necessary to support inclusion for the broader Disability Communities.

The Betty Wilson Humanitarian Award of Excellence Nominee:

Marcia Jean Gayle



Marcia Jean Gayle, aged 82, passed away on July 13, 2024, in Palmdale, CA. Born on May 25, 1942, in Albion, New York, Marcia was a beacon of resilience and positivity throughout her life.

Despite contracting polio at age 7, Marcia's spirit remained unbroken. She utilized crutches and later a wheelchair, yet her faith and optimism never wavered. Marcia's educational journey began in a one-room schoolhouse in West Barre and continued through Albion Central High School, followed by studies at Bryman College, Santa Monica College, and UCLA.

Marcia's professional life was as diverse as it was successful. She began her career as a dedicated teacher, then transitioned into public relations. Marcia made a significant impact as a talk show host and producer of her Emmy-nominated show "New Forces" and later ran her own business, Gayle & Assoc. Her work always reflected her deep commitment to community and communication. Here is a link to some of her TV show. <https://youtu.be/HxOviz0g6tw>

She was also a former Board member of Calif, an Independent Living Center located in downtown Los Angeles. This is where we met. Her advocacy was everywhere.

Her personal life was filled with love and joy from her family and friends.