



Special Meeting

City of Los Angeles Commission on Disability

Thursday, April 17, 2025

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

City Controller Conference Room

Room 351

Los Angeles City Hall East

200 N. Spring Street

Los Angeles, California 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

Mary Grace A. Barrios, 1st Vice President

Myrna Cabanban, 2nd Vice President

Candace Cable, Secretary

Alisa Schlesinger, Commissioner

Iran Hopkins, Commissioner

Jorge E. Acevedo, Commissioner

Robert Bitonte, Commissioner

Robert Williams, Commissioner

Meeting Information

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

In-Person Attendance Information

Pedestrians can enter and exit, and vehicles can pick up and drop off at 200 North Main Street (between Temple Street and First Street). There is limited free parking at City Hall East on Los Angeles Street (the parking entrance is across the street from LAPD's Parker Center). To arrange free parking, contact the Commission at (213) 202- 2764 (dial 711 for CA relay) at least two business days in advance of the meeting.

When the Commission meeting starts, please silence or turn off all cell phones or other devices that make noise. If there are any written materials for distribution to the Commissioners, please submit it to the secretary.

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 will be heard only at the time the respective item is considered. Comments by the public on all other matters within the subject matter jurisdiction of the board will be heard during the "Public Comments" period of the meeting.

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. We request that each speaker announce their name before public comment. This is for the benefit of our 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. Comments by the public on all other matters within the subject matter

jurisdiction of the board will be heard during the “Public Comments” period of the meeting.

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.

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) services are provided at each meeting. Upon request, agenda material in alternative formats and other accommodations are available to the public for City-sponsored meetings and events. All requests must be made at least five business days prior to the scheduled meeting. For additional information, contact the Commission on Disability at (213) 202-2764 (voice) or (213) 202-3452 (TTY).

Meeting Agenda

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

In accordance with Government Code Section 54953(e)(2)(a) members may now notify the commission of their need to participate remotely for just cause or request the commission to allow them to participate in the meeting remotely due to emergency circumstances, 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 subdivision shall not be used by any member of the commission or more than two meetings per calendar year. The member shall publicly disclose at the meeting before any action is taken whether any other individuals 18 years of age or older are present in the room at the remote location with the member, and the general nature of the member's relationship with any such individuals. The member shall participate through both audio and visual technology.

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

Item Two (2) - Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes

The Commission will review the minutes of the March 2025 Regular meeting and vote to approve.

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

Item Three (3) - Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda

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.

Item is for **Information**.

Item Four (4) - Presentation from the Department of Cultural Affairs

The Department of Cultural Affairs will present information about the Department's programs and services, as well as the Cultural Affairs Commission. This presentation will provide documentation on the accommodations provided to participants and constituents, and will initiate discussion on opportunities and ideas to explore furthering accessibility and creating new collaborations.

Item is for **Information**.

Item Five (5) - Review and Action of the Updated Bylaws of the Commission on Disability

The Commission on Disability will review and consider approval of the updated Bylaws of the Commission on Disability

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

Item Six (6) - Ad Hoc Committee Updates

The current ad hoc committees - Commission Bylaws and Advocacy, Disability Culture and Legacy, Aviation and Transportation Network Companies (TNCs), Accessible Infrastructure and Communication, Housing Equity - will provide work plan updates and written recommendations, if any, which the Commission may choose to act upon. The Accessible Infrastructure and Communication Committee will also submit the General Services Department Preventative Maintenance Budget Packet Request Letter for review and action.

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

Item Seven (7) - Executive Director's Report

The Department on Disability **Executive Director, Stephen David Simon**, and/or other department staff will provide an update on items relating to Department activities, metrics, budget, planning, and/or other relevant issues.

Item is for **Discussion**.

Item Eight (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.

Item is for **Discussion**.

Item Nine (9) - Adjournment

Adjournment

Item is for **Action**.



Regular Meeting Minutes

City of Los Angeles Commission on Disability

Thursday, March 20, 2025

2:00 P.M.

Edward R. Roybal Board of Public Works Session Room

Room 350

Los Angeles City Hall

200 N. Spring Street

Los Angeles, California 90012

Zoom Video Conference

Commissioners Present:

Akiko Tagawa, President

Mary Grace A. Barrios, 1st Vice President

Candace Cable, Secretary

Robert Bitonte, Commissioner

Jorge E. Acevedo, Commissioner

Iran Hopkins, Commissioner

Alisa Schlesinger, Commissioner

Robert Williams, Commissioner

Commissioners Absent:

Myrna Cabanban, 2nd Vice President

City Staff Present:

Stephen David Simon, Executive Director, Department on Disability
Alison Everett, Assistant Executive Director, Department on Disability
Ricky Rosales, AIDS Coordinator
Ian Thompson, Director of Administrative Services Division
Chris Lee, City Attorney's Office
Kayvon Wroten, DOD Staff
Salina Goytia, DOD Staff
Peter Soto, DOD Staff
Gail Delgado-Huezo, Staff

Other City Departments:

Guests:

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

In accordance with Government Code Section 54953(e)(2)(a) members may now notify the commission of their need to participate remotely for just cause or request the commission to allow them to participate in the meeting remotely due to emergency circumstances, 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 subdivision shall not be used by any member of the commission or more than two meetings per calendar year. The member shall publicly disclose at the meeting before any action is taken whether any other individuals 18 years of age or older are present in the room at the remote location with the member, and the general nature of the member's relationship with any such individuals. The member shall participate through both audio and visual technology.

Action Taken: Commissioner Barrios requested to attend the Commission on Disability meeting remotely. The Commission on Disability voted to accept their remote participation through both audio and visual technology.

The Commission on Disability voted to approve unanimously.

Item Two (2) - Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes

The Commission will review the minutes of the February 2025 regular meeting and vote to approve the February 2025 regular meeting minutes.

Action Taken: Commissioner Williams moved to approve, and Commissioner Cable seconded the motion approve the February 2025 regular meeting minutes.

The Commission approved the minutes for the February 2025 regular meeting, with Commissioner Bitonte abstaining.

Item Three (3) - Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda

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.

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

- Public right of way accessibility along W. Sunset Blvd.
- Complaint regarding lack of enforcement around ADA rights from the COD.
- Perceived lack of enforcement on ADA rights from COD.
- Multiple constituents praised the COD and its staff for its efforts in accessibility in Los Angeles along with the attention to detail during the public meetings and minutes.

- Appreciation for accessibility of Commission on Disability meetings for people with Disabilities.

No action taken, for informational purposes only.

Item Four (4) - Rescheduling of the June Commission on Disability Meeting

The Commission will discuss and approve the rescheduling of the June Commission on Disability Meeting. Options of rescheduling are 1. Cancel the June Meeting and have elections in May. 2. Cancel the June meeting and have elections in July. 3. Reschedule the June meeting to Thursday, June 12th.

Executive Director Simon provided background information regarding the June meeting falling on the Juneteenth Holiday and how the City will be largely closed. Executive Director Simon also provided context that May will be the Public Hearing Meeting, so continuing with a rescheduled June meeting is useful. Commissioner Hopkins moved to reschedule the June Commission on Disability Meeting to Thursday June 12th, 2025. Same time and location. Commissioner Bitonte seconded the motion. Commissioner Williams noted he had a prior commitment and will not be available for attendance. Commissioner Bitonte asked that any Commissioners not able to attend on the rescheduled day be excused and not counted as absent. Commissioner Schlesinger noted that she had a prior commitment and will not be available to attend the June meeting. Commissioner Bitonte noted he may have a prior commitment and will not be available to attend the June meeting. All other Commissioners present indicate they are available. Yes from the Commission with exceptions: Schlesinger, Bitonte, and Williams, abstain. MOTION PASSED.

No action taken, for informational purposes only.

Item Five (5) - Ad Hoc Committee Updates

The current ad hoc committees - Commission Bylaws and Advocacy, Disability Culture and Legacy, Aviation and Transportation Network Companies (TNCs), Accessible Infrastructure and Communication, Housing Equity - provided work plan updates and written recommendations, if any, which the Commission may choose to act upon.

Ad Hoc Committee #1, Commission Bylaws and Advocacy reported that they completed the draft of their proposed revisions to the Commission Bylaws. Ad Hoc Committee #2, Disability Culture and Legacy, #3, Aviation and Transportation Network Companies (TNCs), #4, Accessible Infrastructure and Communication and Ad Hoc Committee #5, Housing Equity, had no updates for their Ad Hoc Committees for the month of March.

Commissioner Barrios spoke to the Commissions' support at the Abilities Expo event and the need to always share and conduct outreach to support this event, stating it was more organized and accessible.

Item Six (6) - Executive Director's Report

The Department on Disability Executive Director, Stephen David Simon, and/or other department staff will provide an update on items relating to Department activities, metrics, budget, planning, and/or other relevant issues.

Executive Director Simon provided the following information as part of his Executive Director's Report:

- Noted that Abilities Expo was well attended, and that the event will likely move to Long Beach in 2026 due to scheduling needs. Executive Director Simon also attended the Aging and Disability Council Meeting, and how the Department on Disability is pursuing having a representative speak to the Commission on Disability (COD) in the coming months.
- Highlighted the Disability and Aging Collaborative happening on Tuesday, April 1st, where a discussion will be had regarding various facets of the January 2025 Fire Emergency event, response, and recovery. The event will also be a space for taking information. COD Liaison, Kayvon Wroten shared comments and thanks from Blanca Haldek for attending the Abilities Expo, March 7th, 8th, and 9th. She also provided a notice of the incoming survey regarding their Abilities Expo experience, via email.

- Asked Ricky Rosales, AIDS Coordinator, to provide information and updates on the AIDS Coordinators Office.
 - Ricky Rosales provided an update on federal issues likely to impact LA County and LA City. The Federal Government plans to eliminate all HIV funding nationwide, which will severely impact the work this office and others have pursued for the last 40 years. Impacted services include HIV testing, STI testing and treatment, pre-exposure and post-exposure prophylactics, as well as many non profits which are funded via the Federal Government. Details have not been released as of yet, the reported proposal is that the Centers for Disease Control and Health and Human Services will be merged, but HHS does not have the historical purview or knowledge to provide relevant services.
- Noted the AIDS program for the City of LA, usually funded at 1-1.8mil, faced the prospect of being cut an additional 300k. Fortunately a measure was introduced by council to prevent that, and passed.
- Asked Ian Thompson, Director of Administrative Services Division to provide information about the Departments Budget.
 - Ian Thomson shared a brief overview of the status of the projected Department's budget. He noted the reported \$1 billion budget gap and stated he'd received no formal information on how that will impact the Department of Disability, but it will likely have some impact. He also noted that on February 24th, 2025, there was an initial preliminary budget meeting with the Office of the City Administrative Officer (CAO) to review an initial proposal of the budget, where he stressed changes are likely to happen. The base budget, which is the general operating cost of the department, was tentatively approved. The student worker program, DME program, ADA web and mobile accessibility budgets were approved as positions as well. Ian then goes on to explain, if these positions were cut, this would tentatively reduce expense accounts significantly, noting that similar cuts happened previously. The Department was directed to put in requests regarding the 2026 World Cup and LA28 Games, which may not be funded directly at this time. The total proposed budget would be over about 3-5% over what the DOD budget was last year. Ian noted that April 21st, 2025 the publication from the Mayor's Office Budget will be

available, followed by a 1-2 week period for the Council Committee discussion and testimony. A public letter will be submitted prior to that outlining department priorities, and it will be shared with Council Offices as well. By the end of May, we should have a budget for the next fiscal year (July 2025 - June 2026).

- Mentioned the CAO presented the mid-year financial status report to the full City Council, and noted significant gaps in the budget. The starting gap was \$61 million, an additional revenue gap now with \$315 million, and increase in liabilities claims of an additional \$100 million than what was expected.
- Stressed the need to restore our reserve funds which is a low number of \$275 million to get close to what our minimum was. Including \$80 million in solid waste subsidy. Solid waste and trash pickup which has been without increase in a number of years, creating an additional \$80 million gap. Additional pension costs, due to the renegotiated employee contracts this past year, and an additional \$100 million, which comes to approximately \$1 billion. Additionally, the City is planning for anticipated and unanticipated changes in federal funding. The CAO received a letter from the Mayor's Office with directives to reduce liability cost, to change the number, structure, and responsibilities of the departments to focus on the City's work and critical services to reduce contract expenses, realize payroll, and benefit savings, preserve the reserve fund and make structural reforms. Our Department is awaiting the new blue book that will list projected budget and recommendations.
- Speculated the possibility that the conversation about consolidating City departments comes up again, for example the merging of departments such as the Department on Disability and the Department of Aging, and/or possibly LA Civil Rights. Commissioner Bitonte requested metrics in regards to services, accessibility issues, met or not met, the need of which being that it is not feasible to do with the budget as it stands. Commissioner Hopkins stated the budget discussion appears to not focus on revenue, such as citations which should be enforced. She then noted commercial (illegal) cannabis operations, and that landlords are responsible for a \$10 daily fee if providing space to non-compliant vendors. She encouraged the Department to collaborate with other departments to meet enforcement obligations. Also noting the Parking Placard abuse, as another example. Commissioner Bitonte noted

enforcement agencies, such as the City Attorney's office, are also likely to be impacted by budget cuts, and will likely be short staffed and have difficulty meeting the needs.

Item Seven (7) - 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.

Executive Director Simon reported on the ongoing reports of issues at the intersection of Soto and Marengo Streets. The Bureau of Street Services and CalTrans are partner organizations, and they're planning to install curb ramps at the intersections. Construction will commence in the Winter of 25-26.

Commissioner Hopkins asks that the Mobile SSI documents regarding Mobile SSI clinics be recirculated with Commissioner Bitonte's updates. Commissioner Schlesinger stated she'd received complaints from constituents regarding realtors placing open house signage on sidewalks creating barriers. She noted the budget constraints and is open to novel approaches. Commissioner Hopkins offered paths of contacting the various licensing or associations regarding the need for access requirements/good neighbor best practices. Assistant Executive Director Everett shared that sidewalk access issues can be reported through MyLA311 under a public right of way investigation for illegal sign removal. She noted the system will be transitioning to a new platform next week. Service requests will include a question to constituents asking whether the issue is a disability barrier that is being submitted by or on behalf of an individual with a disability, which will also provide the City with greater context for metrics.

Commissioner Hopkins suggested a generating PSA for the realtor sidewalk barriers. Commissioner Barrios requested City Attorney Chris Lee to communicate with Hydee Feldstein Soto on the issues that have been brought to the Commission - the access issues around the Scientology building, and the Soto and Marengo intersection, and provide guidance to the Ad Hoc Committee, Infrastructure and Accessibility on how to resolve these issues. Commissioner Schelsinger requested a comprehensive way to send out a public reminder or way to broadly remind the industry of the need to stop creating sidewalk barriers. Commissioner Bitonte asked if it is conceivable that the City assign a City

Attorney to the Department for enforcement and explore the funds that might be associated with enforcement. Commissioner Cable noted that several months ago, the 4th Street corners did not have curb ramps, but in collaboration with Natalie Sparrow, Bureau of Engineering, complaints were filed with the Bureau of Street Services. The ramps were included in the original design so Willett's settlement funds couldn't be utilized but she'd recently received an email from the Principal City Engineer with Streets LA, that said the curb ramp will be added to the curtain design and construction list, and noted the general atmosphere seems positive and progressive to remedying the obstruction. President Tagawa shared that she will be walking with County Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell to focus on Mobility Justice. Info available at website. Commissioner Williams thanked Commissioner Cable for her work around bringing attention to language best practices for The Games, and hopes the DOD continues to do so.

No action taken, for informational purposes only.

Item Eight (8) - Adjournment

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:43 P.M.

Commissioner Williams moved to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Bitonte seconded the motion.



City of Los Angeles Commission on Disability

Work Plan for Fiscal Year 2024-2025

The Commission shall provide a forum for the identification and discussion of difficulties encountered by disabled persons in our society, and shall make 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 any hindrance in the life of our community.

Powers and Duties

1. Advise the Mayor, the City Council and the Department on Disability of the needs and problems of persons with disabilities in the City of Los Angeles.
2. 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.
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 disabled 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 on grant proposals.
5. Maintain active liaison with citizen groups interested in the problems facing persons with disabilities.
6. Promote greater awareness of the changing life patterns, opportunities and responsibilities of persons with disabilities.
7. Investigate and report to the Mayor and the City Council instances of discrimination based on disability, as well as attitudinal barriers in the areas of housing, transportation, employment and training, recreation, media of mass

communications, health and social services, and legislation; and special problems of disabled persons living alone, as well as their safety and access to support services.

8. Perform specific studies and surveys on the needs of disabled persons 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 2024-2025 Ad Hoc Committees

[Ad Hoc Committee #1 - Commission Bylaws and Advocacy](#)

[Ad Hoc Committee #2 - Disability Culture and Legacy](#)

[Ad Hoc Committee #3 - Aviation and Transportation Network Companies \(TNCs\)](#)

[Ad Hoc Committee #4 - Accessible Infrastructure and Communication](#)

[Ad Hoc Committee #5 - Housing Equity](#)

Ad Hoc Committee #1 - Commission Bylaws and Advocacy

Ad Hoc Committee Members

- President Tagawa
- Commissioner Cabanban

Objectives and Action Items

1. Recommend revisions to the Commission Bylaws
2. Recommend inclusive language for use by the Commission on Disability and Citywide use
 - Help compile language to recommend for use in the guidelines
 - Draft recommendations for consideration by the Commission
3. Draft a letter to the Mayor expressing concerns regarding the previous fiscal year budget cuts to the Department on Disability and recommend increasing the budget
 - Meet with the Department on Disability to understand critical needs
 - Draft the letter to the Mayor
4. Presentation by Disability Rights California and Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund (DREDF) on what they are working on and how COD can contribute

Work Plan Updates

October

- President Tagawa appointed herself and Commissioner Cabanban to the Commission Bylaws and Advocacy ad hoc committee
- The ad hoc committee finalized its objectives and action items

November

- The Commission received a presentation from DREDF about DREDF's work where it intersects municipal policy, legal advocacy and support, and the Parent Training and Information Center (PTI), as well as additional resources and news from DREDF

December

- December Meeting Cancelled

January

- No update provided

February

- The Committee drafted a letter to Deputy Mayor Shockley requesting that City Officials, Offices, and department used standardized disability inclusive language and provided three options for disability inclusive language for the Commission to select to attach to the letter.
- The Commission approved the Ad Hoc Committee's recommendation to send a letter to Deputy Mayor Shockley requesting that City Officials, Offices, and departments use standardized disability inclusive language, with the United Nations Inclusive Language Guidelines attached, and asked that the Department to transmit it on their behalf.

March

- The ad hoc committee reported that they completed the draft of their proposed revisions to the Commission Bylaws.

April

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May

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June

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Ad Hoc Committee #2 - Disability Culture and Legacy

Ad Hoc Committee Members

- Commissioner Cable (Chair)
- Commissioner Hopkins (Co-Chair)
- Commissioner Cabanban
- Commissioner Williams

Purpose

Create systemic change that builds the visibility and lasting legacy of persons with Disabilities and the Paralympic Games in the City of Los Angeles.

Objectives and Action Items

1. Recommend that a City street be named after the Paralympics
 - Research the process of naming a street in Los Angeles
 - Choose a name
2. Explore opportunities to recognize Betty Wilson, including possibly establishing an annual award for Disability advocacy in her name.
 - Permanent Structure Naming and Award (What kind of award will it be? Trophy, Plaque, Funds?)
 - Establish how and who will give the award
 - Have the Department give/organize awards through the City as collaborative
 - Establish criteria for award
3. Collaborate with the Department of Cultural Affairs to recommend creating a mural celebrating Disability culture.
 - Request a presentation from the Department of Cultural Affairs to discuss where the COD can collaborate.
 - Suggest mural be made celebrating Disability culture

Work Plan Updates

October

- President Tagawa appointed Commissioners Cable, Hopkins, Cabanban, and Williams to the Disability Culture and Legacy ad hoc committee
- The ad hoc committee finalized its objectives and action items

November

- No update provided

December

- December Meeting Cancelled

January

- No update provided

February

- No update provided

March

- No update provided

April

-

May

-

June

-

Ad Hoc Committee #3 - Aviation and Transportation Network Companies (TNCs)

Ad Hoc Committee Members

- Commissioner Barrios
- Commissioner Cabanban
- Commissioner Acevedo

Objectives and Action Items

1. Request a presentation from LAWA and/or Metro on transportation services into LAWA including but not limited to:
 - Plan for persons with mobility issues from home to the airport and back
 - Plan for World Cup and LA28 Games and routes
 - Plan for the future LAWA/METRO joint project and each facility
2. Conduct one or more site visits of various locations associated with the joint LAWA METRO project, the Automated People Mover (APM) and recent Downtown Los Angeles renovations and new stations
3. Collaborate with the Disability Access and Accommodation Advisory Committee (DAAAC) to address access issues at the airport
4. Request that Waymo present to the Commission about the accessibility of their services in follow up to preliminary information gathered at a prior meeting.
5. Request a presentation by LA DOT on accessible transportation options

Work Plan Updates

October

- President Tagawa appointed Commissioners Barrios, Cabanban, and Acevedo to the Aviation and Transportation Network Companies (TNCs) ad hoc committee

November

- The ad hoc committee reported that it requested a presentation from Waymo, however Waymo stated that they are only able to present to committee, not the full commission in a public meeting

December

- December Meeting Cancelled

January

- No update provided

February

- The Commission received a presentation from Metro about accessible transportation for the 2026 World Cup and 2028 Olympics and Paralympics, and the plan for the LAX/Metro Transit Center and how it connects to the LAX Automated People Mover Train System

March

- No update provided

April

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May

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June

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Ad Hoc Committee #4 - Accessible Infrastructure and Communication

Ad Hoc Committee Members

- Commissioner Barrios
- Commissioner Cable

Purpose

To advise and contribute to the City of Los Angeles infrastructure and communication initiatives on the embracement of access and opportunities for everyone.

Objectives and Action Items

1. Recommend the City adopt Atkinson HyperEligible font as the City's standard business font used for all public information
 - Request presentation from the Braille Institute on history and background of accessible fonts for implementation to City of Los Angeles
 - Draft a letter to the Mayor's office and council requesting the use of Atkinson HyperEligible font for the entire City of Los Angeles
2. Make recommendations to improve physical accessibility at City Hall
 - Obtain a list of accessibility barriers at City Hall from Commissioner Barrios and request necessary changes
 - Research the process for requesting and funding accessibility improvements at City Hall
 - Request a copy of the accessibility evaluation of City Hall performed as part of the Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan
 - Determine applicability of CROWN Act to City facilities
 - Meet with a representative from the Board of Public Works to discuss the Board's work related to accessibility of City facilities
3. Recommend Spanish translation for Commission meeting items and materials
 - Research if Spanish translation of Commission materials is feasible and technically possible, including but not limited to:
 - Spanish captions during meetings
 - Whether Spanish translation and captions are provided at City Council meetings

4. Research the feasibility of creating a media campaign promoting the need for sidewalk infrastructure improvements in advance of the LA28 Games, then make recommendations as appropriate.
 - Request a presentation about updates to the LA28 Games infrastructure accessibility plan, then make recommendations as appropriate
 - Research what is necessary for the City of LA to make a public service announcement
 - Determine which City department is the lead on public/pedestrian paths of travel for the LA28 Games, FIFA World Cup, and other major events
 - Determine how the Commission can amplify the reopening of Willits Case for the need of accessibility infrastructure in the City of LA during the LA28 Games.
5. Request a presentation from Throne Labs about their services and accessibility

Work Plan Updates

October

- President Tagawa appointed Commissioners Barrios and Cable to the Accessible Infrastructure and Communication ad hoc committee
- The ad hoc committee finalized its purpose, objectives and action items
- The Commissioner received a presentation from Throne Labs explaining their services in smart accessible bathrooms

November

- No update provided

December

- December Meeting Cancelled

January

- The ad hoc committee reported that the accessibility barriers they reported at City Hall have been addressed by the General Services Department, with the exception of making the door on the accessible stalls self-closing because the necessary part is on backorder.
- President Tagawa informed the Commission and the ad hoc committee that the General Services Department has submitted a FY 25-26 budget request that will support the Department's capacity to address disability access and that they

would appreciate support from the Commission. President Tagawa asked the ad hoc committee to meet with staff prior to the next meeting for more information so the Commission can submit a letter of support as part of the budget process.

February

- The Ad Hoc Committee drafted a letter of support for the General Services Department's Preventative Maintenance Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget Package Request.
- The Commission approved the Ad Hoc Committee's draft letter and asked that the Department transmit it to the Budget and Finance Committee on their behalf.

March

- No update provided

April

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May

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June

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Ad Hoc Committee #5 - Housing Equity

Ad Hoc Committee Members

- President Tagawa
- Commissioner Bitonte

Objectives and Action Items

1. Establish a partnership with the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) to prioritize individuals with disabilities on housing lists
2. Draft a recommendation to the City for awareness, inclusion, and advocacy to support individuals with disabilities who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness.
 - Request a presentation on the status of the Inside Safe program as it relates to accessibility and services to individuals with disabilities.
 - Request presentation from LA Housing Dept. regarding Accessible Housing Program (AHP) Requirements
 - Request a presentation by LAHSA or other LA City entity that can provide data about the number of individuals with disabilities experiencing or at risk of homelessness in Los Angeles.
 - Request a presentation by LAHSA or other LA City entity that can provide data about the amount of funding allocated towards individuals with disabilities experiencing or at risk of homelessness in Los Angeles.
3. Recommend the Federal government establish a mobile SSI pilot program
 - Draft a recommendation to the City for awareness and support of the project.

Work Plan Updates

October

- President Tagawa appointed herself and Commissioner Bitonte to the Housing Equity Committee

November

- No update provided

December

- December Meeting Cancelled

January

- Commissioner Bitonte reported that he researched and compiled his past records related to the mobile SSI program and will share that information with the ad hoc committee for review.

February

- No update provided

March

- No update provided

April

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May

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June

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Presentation Schedule

FY 2025-2025

September

- Meeting cancelled

October

- Presentation from the Los Angeles Disabilities & Aging Collaborative
 - Hector Ochoa, Director of College Transitions, Southern California Regional Services for Independent Living (SCRS - IL)
 - Zenay Hayward, Housing and Homelessness Coordinator, DOD
- Presentation from Throne Labs about their services and accessibility
 - Jessica Henzelman, Co-founder and COO
 - Daniel Brumbaugh, Account Executive

November

- Presentation from the Civil + Human Rights and Equity Department
 - Kim Kasreliovich, Assistant General Manager
- Presentation from Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund (DREDF)
 - Nicole Bohn, Executive Director

December

- December Meeting cancelled

January

- Presentation from California Mentor East Los Angeles Family Home Agency (FHA) about their services
 - Danika Rosales, Program Recruiter
- Presentation from the Department on Disability about the Durable Medical Equipment (DME) Program
 - Lourdes Sinibaldi, CORE Division Director

February

- Presentation from Metro about accessible transportation for the 2026 World Cup and 2028 Olympics and Paralympics, and the plan for the LAX/Metro Transit Center and how it connects to the LAX Automated People Mover Train System (*confirmed*)

- Benjamin Alcazar, Office of Civil Rights / Racial Equity / Diversity & Inclusion, Office of Chief of Staff
- Hector Gutierrez, Senior Manager, Office of Strategic Innovation, LA Metro

March

- Presentation from LAWA on the Plan for the LAX Automated People Mover Train System and its connection to the LAX/Metro Transit Center, with an emphasis on accessibility for people with disabilities (*confirmed*)
 - Cassandra Heredia, LAWA ADA Coordinator
 - Presentation Rescheduled - Date (TBD)

April

- Presentation by the Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) regarding how the Department and Commission on Disability can collaborate
 - Juan Garcia, DCA's Acting Director of Marketing and Development as well as Public Information Director

May

-

June

-

To be scheduled:

- [Ad Hoc Committee #3 - Aviation and Transportation Network Companies \(TNCs\)](#)
 - Presentation by LADOT on accessible transportation options **(DOD)**
 - Presentation by WAYMO about their service and its accessibility **(COD)**
- [Ad Hoc Committee #4 - Accessible Infrastructure and Communication](#)
 - Presentation by the Braille Institute about the history and background of accessible fonts **(COD)**
 - Presentation about updates to the LA28 Games infrastructure accessibility plan, then make recommendations as appropriate **(DOD)**
- [Ad Hoc Committee #5 - Housing Equity](#)
 - Presentation on the status of the Inside Safe program **(DOD)**
 - Presentation from LA Housing Dept. regarding Accessible Housing Program (AcHP) Requirements **(DOD)**

- Presentation by LAHSA or other entity that can provide data about the number of people with disabilities experiencing homelessness in Los Angeles **(DOD)**
- Other
 - Presentation by a Regional Center in order to learn how to amplify their objectives **(COD)**
 - Presentation by Independent Living Center about the services and information they provide to constituents with disabilities **(COD)**
 - Presentation by Disability Disaster Access & Resources (DDAR) about the services and information they provide to constituents with disabilities **(COD)**
 - Presentation about the Americans with Disabilities Act, barriers to enforcement, and recent case law **(COD)**
 - Presentation about mental health services available to Los Angeles residents **(COD)**



Presentation to the Los Angeles Commission on Disability

Juan Garcia

Acting Director of Marketing, Development, and Design Strategy; Public Information Director

Thursday, April 19, 2025



DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS
City of Los Angeles

DCA's Mission

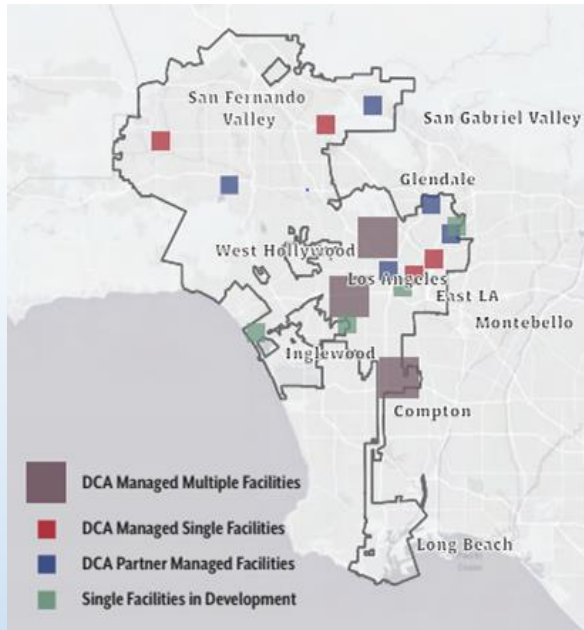
DCA aims to strengthen the quality of life in Los Angeles by stimulating and supporting arts and cultural activities, ensuring public access to the arts for residents and visitors alike.

DCA empowers Los Angeles's vibrant communities by supporting and providing access to quality visual, literary, musical, performing, and educational arts programming; managing vital cultural centers; preserving historic sites; creating public art; and funding services provided by arts organizations and individual artists.

DCA's Divisions

Community Arts Division Manages 26 facilities

- 9 Neighborhood arts and cultural centers
- 7 Galleries
- 2 Historic sites
- 4 Public-private partnership neighborhood arts centers
- 4 Proposition K facilities in development
- 8 Theaters



Cultural Affairs Commission

Robert Vinson
President

Natasha Case
Vice President

Tria Blu Wakpa

Tien Ho

Ray Jimenez

Asantewa Olatunji

Christina Tung



Programming Inclusive of Individuals with Disabilities

Center for the Arts Eagle Rock (CFTAER)

- Think in Pictures: A Neurodiverse Art Club

Henry P. Rios Bridge Gallery

- Artists with Disabilities Exhibition (October)

Grants Administration Division

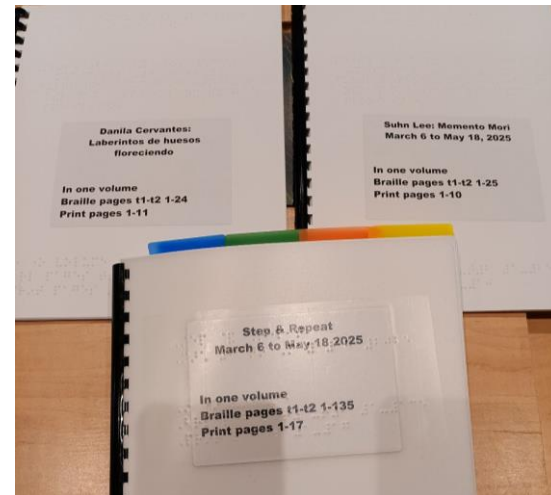
- Center for Non Profit Management Renew 2025: LA Cultural Forum on Disability Community Empowerment (Part 1)
- Arts Workers Evening Webinar Series 2025—Leadership Cohort for Artists with Disabilities

Marketing

- Reel Abilities Film Festival Los Angeles
- Abilities Expo Los Angeles

Accommodations

- American Sign Language (ASL) Interpreters
- Braille Transcribed Exhibition Guides
- Close Captioning for all video in exhibitions



DCA's Grantees

- **Therapeutic Culture and Arts Programming**

- Viver Brasil Dance (CD4 with grant support services in CD9)
- Unusual Suspects Theatre Co. (Pasadena, grant support service in CD7)
- Contra Tiempo (Council District (CD) 8)
- Tia Chucha's Centro Cultural Bookstore (CD7)
- Esperanza Community Housing (CD9)

- **Skills Learning and Training for Employment Opportunities**

- Los Angeles Poverty Department (LAPD) (CD14)
- Street Symphony (CD14)
- Urban Voices Project (CD14)
- Mark-N-Sparks (CD14)
- Strindberg Laboratory (CD13)



DCA's Grantees continued...

- **Serving the Unhoused Population**

- Piece By Piece (CD9)
- Venice Arts (CD11)
- Community Partners for benefit of Justice for My Sister (CD14, with grant funded services in CD7)

- **Serving People with Disabilities**

- CRE Outreach doing business as ArtsUP! Los Angeles (CD11)
- Deaf West Theatre (CD12 with grant funded services in CD8)
- Invertigo Dance (CD11 with grant funded services in CD3)
- Imagination Workshop (CD5 with grant funded servives in CD11)
- Able Arts Work (Long Beach, with grant funded services in CDs 3,6,7, and 9)



Beyond Limits: Art for All

Furthering Accessibility and Creating Collaborations

- Increase programming to that is inclusive, tailored for (and by) community members and artists with disabilities
- Transportation services to shuttle residents to DCA Community Arts Centers and Theatre Arts Centers
- Train current and future staff to support and oversee workers with disabilities through certification programs
- Employ more individuals with disabilities across DCA's Divisions
- Refine DCA's outreach to place job and artists opportunities before the disabilities community
- Standardized ADA accommodations across DCA Community Arts Centers and Theatre Arts Centers
- Increase partnership with local organization that serve residents and artists with disabilities
- Standardize ADA accommodations on digital media platforms

**Thank
you!**



The following Bylaws were adopted by the Commission on Disability on _____, 2025
for the conduct of the Commission's business.

BYLAWS OF THE COMMISSION ON DISABILITY

ARTICLE I - GENERAL

The name of this commission is the Commission on Disability, hereafter referred to as the Commission. The Commission is created within the government of the City of Los Angeles (the City).

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE AND POWERS

Section 2.01 General Purpose

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

Section 2.02 Enumerated Powers and Duties:

The Commission is empowered to and shall:

1. Advise the Mayor, the City Council and the Department on Disability of the needs and problems 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 its 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, 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.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

Section 3.01 General

The members of the Commission shall have no liability for dues or assessments. The rights and privileges of all members shall be equal.

Section 3.02 Number of Members

The Commission is composed of nine (9) members in accordance with Charter Section 8.242 (a).

Section 3.03 Appointment of Members

The Commission members shall be appointed, and may be removed in accordance with Charter Section 8.242 (b).

Section 3.04 Term of Office

Each Commissioner's term of office is five years, beginning with the first day of July following the expiration of the prior term in accordance with Charter Section 8.242 (c).

Each member, including a member appointed to fill a vacancy, shall hold office until expiration of the term for which they are appointed and until a successor has been appointed.

Section 3.05 Attendance

Commission members are expected to attend Commission meetings and other committee meetings to which they have been assigned.

Commission members will be counted as absent if they are not present at Commission meetings. A Commission member who is distracted from participating in the Commission meeting due to using mobile devices for business unrelated to the Commission may also be considered absent.

Commission members who have unexcused absences for two (2) consecutive meetings or three total meetings within a calendar year, may be considered inactive and subject to removal pursuant to Section 3.08.

The Commission President is responsible for determining whether an absence is excused. Except in extenuating circumstances, Commissioners must notify the Commission President and/or Commission Liaison of the absence prior to the meeting for the absence to be eligible to be considered as excused.

The Commission Liaison is responsible for recording Commission member attendance.

Section 3.06 Commissioner Representation

No Commissioner shall purport to represent or speak on behalf of the Commission without prior approval by the Commission President or the majority of the Commission.

Section 3.07 Resignation

Any member of the Commission may resign by notifying the Commission President or the Secretary in writing.

ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS

Section 4.01 General

The officers of the Commission shall be a President and Vice President.

The Commission may, from time to time, appoint such other officers with titles, authority and duties as the Commission may designate by amendment to these bylaws.

Section 4.02 President

The Commission President shall supervise and control all business affairs of the Commission. The Commission President shall preside at all meetings of the Commission and advise the officers and the Commission on matters of general policy, and perform such other duties as may be assigned to him/her from time to time by the Commission.

Section 4.03 Vice President

The Commission Vice President shall assume the role of the Commission President in the event of his/her absence.

In the event the Vice President is not available to assume the role of the Commission President in the event of his/her absence, the Commission President, or the Commission Vice President if the Commission President is not available, may appoint another Commissioner to act on the Commission President's behalf. Such appointments shall be specific and limited only to temporary duties necessary to continue the work of the Commission in the absence of the Commission President and Vice-President.

Section 4.04 Secretary

Duties of the Commission Secretary shall be performed by City staff appointed to serve as the Commission Liaison and is therefore not an elected position. The Commission Liaison shall certify and keep these original bylaws as amended or otherwise altered to date; keep the minutes of all meetings of the Commission including authorization of special meetings, attendance, number of members present, and the official proceedings of the Commission; see that all advance notices are duly given in accordance with the bylaws and as required by law; be custodian of the official Commission records; and in general, perform all the duties of the office of Secretary and such other duties as from time to time may be assigned to the Commission Liaison by the Commission President.

Section 4.05 Elections of Officers

The Commission shall elect one of its members President and one Vice-President. Officers shall hold office for one year and until their successors are elected, unless their membership on the board expires sooner. Elections shall be held during the Commission's June meeting each year, unless the meeting is rescheduled, but the Commission may fill the unexpired term of any vacancy occurring in the office of President or Vice-President at any meeting. Newly elected officers shall begin their term at the conclusion of the meeting at which they are elected.

Section 4.06 Terms of Office

Each officer shall serve for a period of one year subject to removal pursuant to Section 4.08, or until a successor is elected and qualified. Officers are eligible for re-election.

Section 4.07 Resignation of Officers

Any officer may resign his/her office at any time by giving written notice to the Commission President or Commission Liaison. Any resignation shall take effect on the date specified in the notice, or the date the notice is received if a date is not specified in the notice. Acceptance of the resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.

Section 4.08 Removal of Officers

Commission members at any regular meeting or special meetings of the Commission may remove any officer, with or without cause, upon a majority vote of the quorum then present.

Section 4.09 Compensation and Expenses

Officers shall serve without salary and, by resolution of the Commission, may be paid or reimbursed for expenses arising out of their services as officers.

ARTICLE V - COMMITTEES

Section 5.01 General Powers and Limitations

The Commission President shall have the power at any time to create, appoint members to, determine the scope of work of, and discharge any ad hoc committee. No ad hoc committee shall consist of more than a quorum of sitting members. All ad hoc committees are authorized only to make recommendations for final decision or action by the Commission.

ARTICLE VI - VOTING

Section 6.01 General

Each Commission member shall be entitled to one (1) vote. All voting is by roll-call, except adjournment. Commissioners who are absent from a meeting may not vote by proxy.

If any Commissioner is participating via teleconference or otherwise participating while not in person, roll call voting must be utilized per [Brown Act 54953, Sec. B 2](#).

Section 6.02 Quorum

For the conduct of all business, a quorum of the Commission shall consist of a majority of its sitting members in accordance with Charter Section 8.242.

Section 6.03 Conflict of Interest

No Commission member shall vote on, participate directly or indirectly in the consideration of, or in any way attempt to influence other members on any matter directly bearing on services to be provided by that member or any organization which the member directly represents, or on any matter which would financially benefit the member, or any organization the member represents. In the event such a potential conflict of interest does arise, the member shall be required to disclose such interest, which shall be recorded in the official records (minutes) prior to the vote.

ARTICLE VII - MEETINGS

Section 7.01 General

The Commission shall meet once each month. All meetings shall be open to the public pursuant to the Ralph M. Brown Act. The commission may from time to time cancel or reschedule meetings.

Section 7.02 Regular Meetings

Regular meetings of the Commission will be held once per month at :2:00 PM on the Third Thursday of the month at the meeting room of the Board of Public Works, or as the Commission President designates. Regular meeting notice must be provided at least 72

hours prior to the meeting in accordance with the Brown Act. The Commission may amend the regular meeting time and/or location pursuant to Article VIII of these bylaws.

Section 7.03 Special Meetings

Special meetings of the Commission may be called by the Commission President or any three (3) members of the Commission. Special meeting notice must be provided at least 24 hours prior to the meeting in accordance with the Brown Act.

Section 7.04 Annual Meeting

The meeting of the Commission in July of each year shall be known as the Annual Meeting and held for the purpose of establishing the Commission's annual workplan, determining the scope, number, and membership of ad hoc committees, receiving Department updates and for the transaction of such other business as may come before the meeting.

Section 7.06 Adjournment

Five members of the Commission must be present at any meeting to constitute a quorum but a smaller number may adjourn from time to time until a quorum is present.

ARTICLE VIII - AMENDMENTS

These bylaws of the Commission may be altered, amended or repealed and new bylaws adopted by the vote of a majority of Commissioners.

ARTICLE IX - GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 9.01 Parliamentary Procedures

When parliamentary procedures are not covered by the bylaws, Robert's Rules of Order Revised, shall prevail.

Section 9.02 Precedence

Nothing in these bylaws shall be construed to take precedence over federal laws or regulations, California laws or regulations, or local laws or regulations.

COMMITTEE DRAFT