



Special Annual Meeting

City of Los Angeles Commission on Disability

Thursday, August 21, 2025

1:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.

California Community Foundation
Joan Palevsky Center for the Future of Los Angeles
717 W. Temple St., Los Angeles 90012
Room 226

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, Vice President
Myrna Cabanban, Commissioner
Alisa Schlesinger, Commissioner
Iran Hopkins, Commissioner
Jorge E. Acevedo, Commissioner
Robert Bitonte, Commissioner
Robert Williams, Commissioner
Vacant, 9th Commission Position

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 all other matters within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission will be heard during the "Multiple Agenda Item 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) - Request for Remote Participation Option Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e)(2)(a)

Item is for **Action**.

Item Two (2) - Multiple Agenda Item Public Comment

Item is for **Information**.

Item Three (3) - Approval of the July 17, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes

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

Item Four (4) - Review and Approval of the Commission on Disability FY 2024-2025 Report of Accomplishments

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

Item Five (5) - Presentation by the Department on Disability (DOD) about its Divisions, Services, and Annual Work Plan

Item is for **Information**.

**Item Six (6) - Review and Approval of the Commission on Disability
FY 2025-26 Meeting Calendar**

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

**Item Seven (7) - Establish the Commission on Disability FY
2025-2026 Work Plan**

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

Item Eight (8) - Department on Disability Executive Director's Report

Item is for **Information**.

Item Nine (9) - Announcements

Item is for **Discussion**.

Item Ten (10) - Adjournment

Item is for **Action**.



Regular Meeting Minutes

City of Los Angeles Commission on Disability

Thursday, July 17, 2025

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

Zoom Video Conference

Commissioners Present

Akiko Tagawa, President
Mary Grace A. Barrios, Vice President
Myrna Cabanban, Commissioner
Jorge E. Acevedo, Commissioner
Iran Hopkins, Commissioner
Robert Williams, Commissioner
Vacant, 9th Commission Position

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

Heather Aubry, Assistant City Attorney, City Attorney's Office
Kayvon Wroten, Department on Disability
Peter Soto, Department on Disability

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

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: 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

Comments by the public on agenda items and on all other matters within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission will be heard during the "Multiple Agenda Item 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.

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

- The public commenter addressed the Altadena and Palisades Fires noting the need for affordable housing in addition to accessible housing during the rebuilding process.

Executive Director Stephen Simon highlighted that the Altadena fire falls under the County's jurisdiction. He added that the Department would inform the Mayor's Office to consider affordability and accessibility during the rebuilding process.

No action taken, information purposes only.

Item Three (3) - Approval of the Special Meeting Minutes

The Commission will review the minutes of the May 2025 special meeting minutes and vote to approve.

The Commission reviewed the minutes of the May 2025 special meeting.

Action Taken: Commissioner Barrios moved, and Commissioner Williams seconded, to approve the minutes of the May 2025 special meeting. The motion passed..

Item Four (4) - Special Acknowledgement of Former Commissioner Candace Cable

Former Commissioner Candace Cable will be presented with a certificate in recognition of her years of dedicated service to the City of Los Angeles's Commission on Disability.

Former Commissioner Cable received a Mayoral certificate from Deputy Mayor Shockley.

No action taken, information purposes only.

Item Five (5) - Presentation by the State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD)

Sofia Cervantes, Defense Advocate, SCDD, will present a comprehensive overview of the Council's services, including any updates or anticipated impacts stemming from recent federal policy or funding alterations that may influence its operations or the broader Disability communities.

Sophia Cervantes from the State Council on Developmental Disabilities, a state advocacy agency established 55 years ago through federal and state legislation, delivered a comprehensive presentation on the Council's services. She provided updates on anticipated impacts from recent federal policy or funding alterations related to Medicaid changes. The SCDD's vision is to foster full and equal opportunities for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, promoting self-determination, independence, productivity, and inclusion. The agency is spearheaded by individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families, with 31 council members appointed by the governor. In 2024, SCDD provided technical assistance to 5,200 individuals, trained 19,900, engaged 84,000 community members, and participated in 1,900 activities to address disparities. These efforts ultimately impacted 5.9 million Californians through their work in technical assistance, capacity building, training, and systems change. Additionally, SCDD maintains 12 regional offices throughout California, including one in Los Angeles. SCDD's operations are guided by its state plan and encompass several key mandates: Technical Assistance, Resource and Information Sharing, Capacity Building, Systemic Change, Regional Advisory Committees, Quality Assurance Projects, and Program Support. The council endeavors to connect individuals with essential services, facilitate their integration into communities, and strive to enhance services and support. Ms. Cervantes offered the council's continued support to the Commission as a valuable source of information and resources, particularly concerning Medicaid updates and other developing priorities. She clarified that while direct budget cuts are not foreseen, policy changes, such as increased eligibility checks and new work or community engagement requirements, are anticipated. The timeline for the implementation of these changes remains uncertain, with significant impacts not expected for at least a year. Ms. Cervantes further stated that SCDD is actively monitoring the situation, collecting community narratives, and

intends to launch a "Medicaid Watch" initiative to track challenges and disseminate updates. SCDD encouraged individuals and commission members to subscribe to their mailing lists for ongoing information.

No action taken, information purposes only.

Item Six (6) - Commission on Disability FY 2024-25 Report of Accomplishments Review and Approval

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 review and discuss, and may approve, the draft Fiscal Year 2025-26 Report of Accomplishments.

The Commission reviewed and discussed its draft FY 2024-25 Report of Accomplishments, including recommended edits.

Action Taken: Commissioner Tagawa moved, and Commissioner Williams seconded, to review the FY 2024-25 Report of Accomplishments with recommended edits at the following meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Item Seven (7) - Commission on Disability FY 2024-25 Attendance Report Review and Approval

The Commission will review and approve the FY 2024-25 Attendance Report.

The Commission reviewed and discussed its FY 2024-25 Attendance Report.

Action Taken: President Tagawa moved, and Commissioner Williams seconded, to approve the FY 2024-25 Attendance Report. The motion passed unanimously.

Item Eight (8) - 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:

- He noted the Department on Disability investigated concerns about the naming of the Cultural Olympiad, particularly the lack of direct reference to the Paralympics. It was clarified that the Department of Cultural Affairs does not control the naming, which is handled by the International Olympic Committee (IOC), International Paralympic Committee (IPC), and LA28. The Cultural Olympiad program includes both Olympic and Paralympic games. The Department on Disability is working with the Department of Cultural Affairs to support the Paralympic aspects of the Cultural Olympiad and will keep the Commission updated. He added there isn't a simple opportunity to change the name, so efforts will focus on ensuring strong references to the Paralympics within the existing framework.
- He noted the DOD has a new, strategic work plan that will be presented in August, outlining services, responsibilities, and resource allocation.
- He noted major initiatives of the Durable Medical Equipment (DME) program are intact, though staffing for self-evaluation work, often done by contractors, remains a challenge due to internal staff reductions.
- He noted the DOD celebrated the 35th anniversary of the ADA with an art show featuring six artists displayed online and at the department's office, with stipends from the Department of Cultural Affairs. An interview with photographer Tom Olin, who captured moments leading to the ADA, is available online.
- He noted Mayor Karen Bass will acknowledge the ADA's 35th anniversary on July 25th, with a press conference and new initiatives.
- He noted the DOD participated in a conference with the Quao Center for Disability Law, Policy, and Innovation at Loyola Marymount University, strengthening academic and policy partnerships. Also adding that there was a possibility of inviting them to speak to the commission.
- He confirmed that the City prioritizes language access planning, including ASL and other accessible communications, and will investigate the availability of audio files for City documents, reporting back to the Commission. He also noted that while the Department's budget for remediation and accessible communications was cut this year, they are committed to dedicating resources and working towards a multi-year plan for other departments to take ownership of creating accessible documents from the outset and receive funding for their own

remediation efforts.

- He noted that the DOD will participate in the following events:
 - The Angel City Games, which will occur on July 28th.
 - Disability and Immigration Conference 2025: The department participated in a conference on June 26 and the 27th hosted by the Coelho Center for Disability Law, Policy, and Innovation at Loyola Marymount University, where they discussed strengthening academic and policy partnerships. There's a possibility of inviting them to speak to the Commission.
 - Camp Ready LA Career Fair: The Department is participating in this career fair hosted by the Emergency Management Department on July 24th, emphasizing the importance of community involvement in emergency preparedness.
 - Fifth Annual Deaf Latinos Expo: The department is co-sponsoring this event on September 13th, recognizing it as a vital cultural intersectional space.

No action taken, information purposes only.

Item Nine (9) - Commission on Disability Officer Elections for FY 2025-26

Election of Commission on Disability President and Vice President for the 2025-26 Fiscal Year.

The Commission conducted its officer elections for President and Vice President for FY 2025-26.

Action Taken: Commissioner Hopkins moved, and Commissioner Williams seconded, to elect Commissioner Tagawa as Commission President for Fiscal Year 2025-2026. The motion passed.

Action Taken: Commissioner Tagawa moved, and Commissioner Williams seconded, to elect Commissioner Cabanban as Commission Vice-President for Fiscal Year 2025-2026. The motion passed.

Item Ten (10) - New Business and Announcements

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

- President Tagawa announced she and DOD Executive staff attended the 4th National Access and Functional Needs Symposium of 2025, hosted by the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (CalOES), International Association of Emergency Management and Colorado division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, and New York University. She stated the collective opinion regarding Registries was contradicting the opinion of the City and County. She added she had taken notes and would give them to the liaison for distribution to the Commission.
- Commission Liaison, Kayvon Wroten announced that Union Station's Courtesy Mobility Services Program has now begun. The program escorts individuals to ticketing areas, offers wayfinding directions, and assists travelers with the use of mobility devices. She also noted that the Government and Disability summit registration is now open. The summit will be held on September 23rd through the 26th in Ventura, California. During the summit the disability community and government facilities will collaborate and debate disability accessibility across one's life span. Ms. Wroten added flyers with more information were located at the front table.

No action taken, information purposes only.

Item Eleven (11) - Adjournment

Action Taken: Commissioner Tagawa moved, and Commissioner William seconded, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:34 P.M.



City of Los Angeles Commission on Disability

Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Report of Accomplishments

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 services 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 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
 - **Status:** Complete. The revised Commission Bylaws were adopted by the Commission on Disability on May 15, 2025.
2. Recommend inclusive language for use by the Commission on Disability and Citywide use
 - Help compile language to recommend for use in the guidelines
 - Drafted recommendations for consideration by the Commission
 - **Status:** Complete. Letter sent March 27th, 2025.
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
 - **Status:** Complete. Letter sent to the Budget and Finance Committee regarding DOD's FY 25-26 proposed budget in May 2025
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
 - **Status:** Complete. DREDF presented November 2024.

Work Plan Updates

October

- President Tagawa and Commissioner Cabanban were appointed 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 a draft of proposed revisions to the Commission Bylaws was in process
- Standardized Phrasing Referring to Disabilities and Persons with Disabilities Letter sent to Deputy Mayor Shockley on March 27th, 2025.

April

- The ad hoc committee presented its proposed revisions of the Commission Bylaws during the April meeting. After discussion, the Commission referred the bylaws back to the ad hoc committee for additional changes.

May

- The Commission's revised Bylaws were approved with amendments during the May 15th Commission meeting.
- President Tagawa sent a letter via email to the Budget and Finance Committee regarding DOD's FY 25-26 proposed budget.

June

- June Meeting Cancelled

July

- Commissioner Cabanban stated she had no changes to the FY 24/25 Report of Accomplishments, Ad Hoc committees Work Plan Updates.
- Commissioners reviewed the FY 24/25 Report of Accomplishments and moved to review and approve amendments at the following meeting.

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
 - **Status:** Complete. The Commission informally made the recommendation and the Office of Major Events has indicated they are planning to pursue it.
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 to give/organize awards through the City as collaboration.
 - Establish criteria for award
 - **Status:** In Progress. Consider for inclusion in FY 2025-2026 Work Plan
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
 - **Status:** In Progress. Consider for inclusion in FY 2025-2026

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

- The ad hoc committee reported that it has been researching the process for naming a street, office, or building after former Commissioner Betty Wilson.
- The commission received a presentation from the Department of Cultural Affairs about its programs and efforts to advance accessibility and inclusion in collaboration with the disability community.

May

- Commissioner Cable discussed with staff from the Department of Cultural Affairs the possibility of creating a mural celebrating disability culture and informed the Commission that DCA is interested in working with the Commission on the mural.

June

- June Meeting Cancelled

July

- Commissioners reviewed the FY 24/25 Report of Accomplishments and moved to review and approve amendments at the following Commission Meeting.
- Commissioner Hopkins submitted formatting suggestions to the FY 24/25 Report of Accomplishments.

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
 - **Status:** Not Complete
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
 - **Status:** Not Complete. Consider for inclusion in FY 2025-2026
3. Collaborate with the Disability Access and Accommodation Advisory Committee (DAAAC) to address access issues at the airport
 - **Status:** Not Complete. Consider for inclusion in FY 2025-2026
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.
 - **Status:** Complete. Waymo presented to the ad hoc committee, (not the full Commission)
5. Request a presentation by LA DOT on accessible transportation options
 - **Status:** Complete.

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

- The ad hoc committee reported that the LAX airport arrivals and departures now have well marked accessible parking areas and commended the members of the LAWA Airport Access Advisory Committee for their work on this issue.

May

- No update provided

June

- June Meeting Cancelled

July

- Commissioners reviewed the FY 24/25 Report of Accomplishments and moved to review and approve amendments at the following Commission Meeting.

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 HyperLegible 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 Hyperlegible font for the entire City of Los Angeles
 - **Status:** Not Complete. Consider for inclusion in FY 2025-2026 Work Plan.
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
 - **Status:** In-Progress. Consider for inclusion in FY 2025-2026 Work Plan.
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
 - **Status:** Not Complete. Consider for inclusion in FY 2025-2026 Work Plan.
- 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.
 - **Status:** Not Complete. Consider for inclusion in FY 2025-2026 Work Plan.
- 5. Request a presentation from Throne Labs about their services and accessibility
 - **Status:** Complete

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 Commissioners received a presentation during the Commission meeting 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

- No update provided

May

- No update provided

June

- June Meeting Cancelled

July

- The Commission reviewed the FY 24/25 Report of Accomplishments and moved to review and approve amendments at the following Commission Meeting.

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
 - **Status:** Not Complete. Consider for inclusion in FY 2025-2026 Work Plan.
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.
 - **Status:** Not Complete. Consider for inclusion in FY 2025-2026 Work Plan.
3. Recommend the Federal government establish a mobile SSI pilot program
 - Draft a recommendation to the City for awareness and support of the project.
 - **Status:** Not Complete. Consider for inclusion in FY 2025-2026 Work Plan.

Work Plan Updates

October

- President Tagawa and Commissioner Bitonte were appointed 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

- Commissioner Bitonte reported that he provided Department staff with copies of prior Commission documents about the mobile SSI program. President Tagawa requested that the ad hoc committee draft a recommendation about the mobile SSI program for Commission consideration at an upcoming meeting and noted that the documents should be included in the agenda packet for that meeting.

May

- No update provided

June

- June Meeting Cancelled

July

- President Tagawa stated she had no changes to the FY 24/25 Report of Accomplishments, Ad Hoc committees Work Plan Updates.
- The Commission reviewed the FY 24/25 Report of Accomplishments and moved to review and approve amendments at the following Commission Meeting.

Presentation Schedule

FY 2024-2025

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

- Presentation by Disability Disaster Access & Resources (DDAR) about the services and information they provide to constituents with disabilities
 - Micheal Martinez, DDAR Coordinator (Central Los Angeles/Santa Clarita Valley) Disability Disaster Access & Resources (DDAR) CALIF-ILC (Communities Actively Living Independent & Free)
- Presentation by Independent Living Center about the services and information they provide to constituents with disabilities.
 - Lilly Sanchez, Program Director, Communities Actively Living Independent & Free (CALIF)

June

- June Meeting Cancelled

July

- Presentation by the State Council on Developmental Disabilities (in lieu of a Regional Center) about the Council's services and impacts of recent funding and legislative changes.



City of Los Angeles
Commission on Disability

Commission on Disability Meeting Calendar

FY 2025-2026

July 17, 2025	Regular Meeting	Officer Elections
August 21, 2025	Special Meeting	Annual Meeting
September 18, 2025	Regular Meeting	
October 16, 2025	Regular Meeting	
November 20, 2025	Regular Meeting	
December 18, 2025	Regular Meeting	Cancelled
January 15, 2026	Regular Meeting	
February 19, 2026	Regular Meeting	
March 19, 2026	Regular Meeting	Public Hearing
April 16, 2026	Regular Meeting	
May 21, 2026	Regular Meeting	
June 18, 2026	Regular Meeting	Officer Nominations
<hr/>		
July 16, 2026	Regular Meeting	Officer Elections
August 20, 2026	Special Meeting	Annual Meeting



City of Los Angeles Commission on Disability

Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Work Plan **Template**

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 2024-2025 Ad Hoc Committees

[Ad Hoc Committee #1](#) - TBD

[Ad Hoc Committee #2](#) - TBD

[Ad Hoc Committee #3](#) - TBD

[Ad Hoc Committee #4](#) - TBD

Ad Hoc Committee #1 - TBD

Ad Hoc Committee Members

- Member Name (Chair)
- Member Name

Objectives and Action Items

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Presentations requested related to Ad Hoc Committee #1

- Presentation #1:
 - Month requested:
- Presentation #2:
 - Month requested:
- Presentation #3:
 - Month requested:
- Presentation #4:
 - Month requested:

Ad Hoc Committee #2 - TBD

Ad Hoc Committee Members

- Member Name (Chair)
- Member Name

Objectives and Action Items

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Presentations requested related to Ad Hoc Committee #2

- Presentation #1:
 - Month requested:
- Presentation #2:
 - Month requested:
- Presentation #3:
 - Month requested:
- Presentation #4:
 - Month requested:

Ad Hoc Committee #3 - TBD

Ad Hoc Committee Members

- Member Name (Chair)
- Member Name

Objectives and Action Items

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Presentations requested related to Ad Hoc Committee #3

- Presentation #1:
 - Month requested:
- Presentation #2:
 - Month requested:
- Presentation #3:
 - Month requested:
- Presentation #4:
 - Month requested:

Ad Hoc Committee #4 - TBD

Ad Hoc Committee Members

- Member Name (Chair)
- Member Name

Objectives and Action Items

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Presentations requested related to Ad Hoc Committee #4

- Presentation #1:
 - Month requested:
- Presentation #2:
 - Month requested:
- Presentation #3:
 - Month requested:
- Presentation #4:
 - Month requested:



City of Los Angeles Commission on Disability

COD Meeting Presentation Coordination Instructions

Please follow the instructions below for scheduling a COD meeting presentation by an agency or individual that is **not** a City of LA department, staff, vendor/partner, or other governmental agency (COD staff will coordinate these presentations).

Action Items

The commissioner requesting the presentation is responsible for the following, except where otherwise noted:

1. Obtain approval from the COD President to schedule the presentation
2. Contact the presenter to request the presentation ([sample presentation request email](#))
3. Confirm the following information with the presenter, then send it to the COD President and COD Liaison **no later than 3 weeks prior to the meeting where the presentation will occur:** ([sample presentation confirmation email](#))
 - a. Presentation date
 - b. Presenter name, title, and entity
 - c. Presenter email address
4. Inform the presenter that presentation materials are due to DOD staff **2 weeks prior to the meeting date** and that COD staff will email the presenter with the specific due date. Late materials will not be accepted because they must be remediated for accessibility.
5. Upon receipt of the information under #2, DOD staff will send the presenter:
 - a. Meeting date, time, and location
 - b. Parking instructions
 - c. Presenter's Guide
 - d. Specific due date for presentation materials
6. Remind presenter of presentation material due date and meeting date, as needed
7. **No later than the day prior to the meeting where the presentation will occur**, provide COD President with the presenter's brief bio to assist the COD president with introducing the presenter
8. No later than two weeks after the presentation, send the presenter an email thanking them for the presentation ([sample presenter thank you email](#))

**The sample emails below may be edited as needed.
The red text must be updated before sending.**

Sample Presentation Request Email

Dear _____,

I am a member of the City of Los Angeles Commission on Disability. A key purpose of the Commission is to 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 have equitable access to the community. We would like to invite you to present to the Commission at an upcoming meeting on the topic of **[insert requested presentation topic]**.

Presentations are typically 10 minutes, followed by questions from Commissioners. Commission meetings are held at Los Angeles City Hall, although arrangements can be made for you to present virtually, if needed.

If you are interested in presenting to the Commission, please let me know which of the following dates work for you to present:

- Thursday, **Month Date**, 2:00 PM
- Thursday, **Month Date**, 2:00 PM
- Thursday, **Month Date**, 2:00 PM

Let me know if you have any questions.

Commissioner Name

Commissioner Title (Commissioner / President / Vice-President)

City of Los Angeles Commission on Disability

Sample Presentation Confirmation Email

Dear _____,

Thank you for agreeing to present at the City of Los Angeles Commission on Disability Meeting scheduled for _____. Please reply to this email with the following information:

- Your name, title, and entity as you would like it to appear on the agenda
- The email address where you would like the meeting details to be sent
- Whether you intend to use presentation materials
- A brief bio for yourself that the Commission President will use to introduce you

This information will be provided to the Department on Disability Commission liaison who will send you additional details about the meeting, including location, parking, and other logistics.

Please note that any presentation materials will be due two weeks prior to the meeting date and late materials will not be accepted because they will need to be remediated for accessibility.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Commissioner Name

Commissioner Title (Commissioner / President / Vice-President)

City of Los Angeles Commission on Disability

Sample Presenter Thank You Email

Dear _____,

Thank you for presenting to the Commission on Disability on the topic of _____. We appreciate your time and willingness to share [Option 1: important information that will inform the Commission's work] [Option 2: information about your agency and the services it provides to the disability community] [Option 3: insert other details].

Commissioner Name

Commissioner Title (Commissioner / President / Vice-President)

City of Los Angeles Commission on Disability



CITY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT ON DISABILITY
Equity Through Access

Commission on Disability Annual Meeting

August 21, 2025



CITY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT ON DISABILITY
EQUITY THROUGH ACCESS

Department Update

Mission



The Department on Disability, on behalf of the City of Los Angeles, is committed to ensuring full access to employment, programs, facilities, and services.

Through strategic management, partnerships, advocacy, training, research, and improved service delivery, we aim to benefit individuals with disabilities, providers of essential resources, and policymakers.



Vision

Equity Through Access



Guiding Principles - Department (1 of 2)

Efficiency

- All resources must be utilized in the most efficient manner possible, consistent with staffing levels and budget allocations.

Cooperation

- Staff must work together to problem solve and positively support each other when needed to effectively perform the department's work.

Initiative

- All staff must take initiative to understand the City policies and procedures that affect their work.



Guiding Principles - Department (2 of 2)

Sustainability

- DOD will only provide services that it has the capacity to provide.
- To support long term department sustainability, DOD will perform work in a way that ensures incoming staff have easy access to existing resources and knowledge.

Curiosity

- DOD staff should consistently maintain a mindset of curiosity to learn and remain up to date on existing, new, and emerging issues and trends impacting their work.

Diversity

- The department's work will recognize the many cultures and diversity of Los Angeles' disability communities; respecting the participation and representation of people from different backgrounds in its staff and community work.



Guiding Principles - City

Empowerment & Collaboration

- To support the provision of City services and programs that are accessible to people with disabilities, DOD staff must empower their colleagues to perform their work in alignment with access compliance requirements and best practices, and will do so in a collaborative manner.

Integration

- DOD's guidance to other City departments will be based on integration of accessibility requirements and best practices into departmental policies and procedures.



Guiding Principles - Community

Equity

- People with disabilities must have equitable access to City programs, services, activities, facilities, and information.

Engagement

- DOD will engage the disability community to understand barriers to equitable access and remain apprised of new and emerging accessibility issues and trends.

Amplification

- DOD will amplify the voice of the disability community in all of its Citywide work.



FY 2025-26 Work Plan

Purpose

- Align workflow with staff and funding resources
- Streamline services and processes for greater efficiency
- Provide clarity of department, division, and staff responsibilities

Work Plan Areas

- Executive Team
- Public Information Officer
- Operations and Finance
- AIDS Coordinator's Office
- Community Outreach, Referrals and Education
- Disability Access Compliance Division



CITY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT ON DISABILITY
EQUITY THROUGH ACCESS

Work Plan / Division Presentations



Exec

Executive Team



Exec Overview

Mission

Provide structured and effectively managed department policy and operations leadership so that DOD has sufficient staff, financial, political, policy, and other resources to meet its goals and objectives.

Staff

- **Stephen David Simon**, Executive Director
- **Ali Everett**, Assistant Executive Director



Exec Service Summary

- Executive Management
- Strategic Relationship Building
- High Profile Events and Initiative Support
- Disability Access Compliance Division (DAC) Supplemental Support
- Professional Development & Networking



Exec Accomplishments & Highlights

FY 25 Accomplishments

- Established and implemented DOD's inaugural Annual Work Plan
- Restructured and realigned division responsibilities and personnel to more efficiently and effectively align workflow with staff and funding resources
- Filled vacant positions

FY 26 Goals / Highlights

- Implement updated and refined version of the Work Plan, based on lessons learned from FY 25
- Improve qualitative and quantitative reporting
- Build a strong foundation to enhance Citywide ADA compliance in advance of upcoming Major Events

PIO



**Public
Information
Officer**



PIO Overview

Mission

To provide timely, accurate, and accessible public information that increases awareness of DOD services, builds community trust, and ensures inclusive engagement across all platforms—supporting full access and participation for people with disabilities.

Staff

- **Ashley Rodriguez**, Principal Public Relations Representative

Eliminated Positions

- Student Professional Worker (funding eliminated)



PIO Service Summary

- Deliver accessible communications across web, social media, print, and event promotion
- Manage media relations, proactive messaging, and crisis communication
- Oversee digital assets, branding, and development of key publications
- Maintain the public-facing website and DOD events/marketing calendars
- Provide accessible communications training and guidance
- Serve as contract manager for Sign Language Interpreting (SLI), Communication Access Realtime Translation (CART), and Video Remote Interpreting (VRI) services
- Professional development and networking



PIO Accomplishments & Highlights

FY 25 Accomplishments

- Developed and implemented new public information and accessibility policies
- Delivered Citywide trainings on accessible communications and social media best practices
- Led inclusive digital campaigns and supported emergency communications
- Finalized contracts for key accessibility services (SLI, CART, VRI)
- Promoted public engagement through accessible events, outreach, and content

FY 26 Goals / Highlights

- Finalize and implement department-wide communication policies, tools, and templates
- Ensure full ADA compliance for DOD-managed web and mobile content by April 2026
- Launch and promote the DOD Disability Access Resource & Service Library
- Coordinate timely media relations, public inquiries, and auxiliary aid requests (SLI, CART, VRI)
- Strengthen department-wide tracking of digital assets, accessibility services, and performance metrics



OPS

Operations and Finance Division



Ops Overview

Mission

Provide support, services, and tools necessary to help DOD improve operational capability, while establishing Departmental processes designed for stability and growth.

Staff

- **Division Lead: Ian Thompson**, Director
- **Kathy De La Paz**, Management Analyst
- **Ling Kaufman**, Senior Accountant
- **Salina Goytia**, Administrative Clerk
- **Kayvon Wroten**, Administrative Clerk, COD Liaison

Eliminated Position

- Sr. Administrative Clerk



Ops Service Summary

- Department Operations
- Budget
- Accounting
- Purchasing
- Contracts
- Personnel
- Payroll/Timekeeping
- Office Management
- Technology Management
- Records Management
- Reporting/Legal Compliance
- Commission on Disability
- Customer Service



Ops Accomplishments & Highlights

FY 25 Accomplishments

- Found creative solutions to prevent more than \$300K reduction in Department's contractual services budget mid-year.
- Completed more than 50 financial and other mandated reports timely and accurately.
- Managed the successful transition from the City's former payroll system to the new Human Resources and Payroll system.
- Accurately tracked Department budget allocations and spending across all programs, ensuring vendor payments and continued service delivery.

FY 26 Goals / Highlights

- Implement Department spending plan and prepare a meaningful budget proposal to maintain services and expand where needed.
- Centralize and streamline the Department's procurement process and contract management functions.
- Implement all-digital records management program.
- Initiate personnel programs to better evaluate employee work, support growth and recognize workplace contributions.

ACO

AIDS Coordinator's Office





ACO Overview

Mission

The AIDS Coordinator's Office is committed to developing and supporting programs and policies that prevent the transmission and acquisition of HIV and improve the quality of life for people living with HIV/AIDS in the City of Los Angeles.

Staff

- **Division Lead: Ricki Rosales**, AIDS Coordinator
- **Dahlia Ferlito**, Management Analyst
- **Gina Lombardo**, Management Analyst, Department Contract Coordinator
- **Juliana Soto**, Administrative Clerk
- **Peter Soto**, Policy Analyst



ACO Service Summary

- Harm Reduction and Opioid Abatement
- HIV Prevention
- Technical Assistance Grants and Capacity Building
- Policy Planning (Department-wide)
- Professional Development and Networking



ACO Accomplishments & Highlights

Accomplishments

- Reversed nearly 1,800 overdoses
- Collected over 600,000 syringes
- Distributed over 32,000 fentanyl testing strips
- Conducted over 3,500 trainings on overdose prevention
- Engaged over 27,000 unhoused individuals and referred them to services and other referrals.

FY 26 Goals / Highlights

- Refine focus TA grants
- Conduct more site visits during program implementation
- Revise metrics to more closely match updated priorities and funding
- Seek additional opioid funding
- Policy tracking and response for both ACO and DOD as a whole
- Rethink ACO name

CORE



Community Outreach, Referrals and Education



CORE Overview

Mission

- Builds collaborative relationships for social service referrals (housing, transportation, employment).
- Conducts outreach for people with disabilities, providing warm hand-off service referrals.
- Manages a DME program for individuals experiencing homelessness, non-qualification, and emergencies.
- Coordinates community events and education on disability resources and independent living.
- Plans, advises, and deploys for accessible accommodations in emergency response.

Staff

- **Division Lead: Lourdes Sinibaldi**, Director of Community Outreach, Referrals and Education
- **Deisy Gonzalez**, Emergency Management Coordinator
- **Zenay Hayward**, Community Program Assistant III
- **Blanca Hladek**, Community Program Assistant II
- **Claudia A. Natera**, Management Analyst
- **Rigo Solorio**, Program Aide
- **Anna Ter Grigoryan**, Program Aide

CORE Service Summary

- DOD Planned Events
- Information and Referrals
- Community Engagement
- Durable Medical Equipment Program
- Assistance Filling Out Forms
- Emergency Operations
- Professional Development & Networking



CORE Accomplishments & Highlights

FY 25 Accomplishments

- Handled 453 information and referral calls.
- Attended 22 community events to expand outreach.
- Streamlined the DME application process, distributing 428 items.
- Assisted 40 individuals with utility discount forms.
- Supported planning and coordination in Emergency Operations: Led 5 DAFN Coalition meetings, 3 DAFN Task Force meetings and participated in 4 EOC activations representing disability needs.

FY 26 Goals / Highlights

- Creating community-led working groups and input opportunities through the Major Events Accessibility Advisory Committee.
- Leading a new partnership with LAHD to revamp the Housing Guide for people with disabilities.
- Updating emergency plans for more efficient delivery of inclusive services during emergencies.
- Celebrated the ADA 35th Anniversary with the Mayor's Office, Department of Cultural Affairs, community partners, and artists with disabilities.



DAC

Disability Access Compliance Division



DAC Overview

Mission

Coordinate and monitor the City's compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504) and related laws; and provide technical assistance and guidance to ensure persons with disabilities have equitable access to City programs, services, activities, facilities, and information.

Staff

- **Division Lead: Matan Koch**, ADA Compliance Officer
- **Laura Valentine**, SE/TP and Contract Lead
- **Carey Stone**, ADA Coordinator
- **Kendra Cantrell**, Accessible Parking Specialist
- **Steven Banales**, Accessible Parking Specialist
- **Rosemarie Punzalan**, Digital Accessibility Specialist

Eliminated Positions

- **Project Coordinator (3)**



DAC Accomplishments & Highlights

FY 25 Accomplishments

- Reorganized and streamlined budgeting and service management of the SE/TP inspections to enable on budget completion by the end of the next fiscal year.
- Reorganized and categorized APZ program data, facilitating planning for a sustainable program on a modern platform.
- Improved City's services to people with disabilities through training, technical assistance, and grievance responses.
- Designed and implemented training on the Web and Mobile app standards coming in April 2026.

FY 26 Goals / Highlights

- Start developing departmental transition plans based on SE/TP inspection data.
- Collaborate with partner departments to establish a sustainable and effective APZ program.
- Streamline Technical Assistance requests and provision, aligning technology and resources to support all City Departments.
- Support all City Departments in their legal and regulatory compliance obligations, including those in the web and mobile app space.

COD



Commission on Disability



Commission 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 the Commission President from time to time by the Commission.



Commission Vice President

- The Commission Vice President shall assume the role of the Commission President in the event of the Commission President's absence.
- In the event the Vice President is not available to assume the role of the Commission President in the event of the Commission President's 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.



CITY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT ON DISABILITY
EQUITY THROUGH ACCESS

Questions?