



COMMISSION ON DISABILITY

MINUTES

Wednesday, September 7, 2016 1:00 P.M.
Los Angeles City Hall Board of Public Works
200 North Spring Street, Room 350, Los Angeles, California 90012

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Dr. Robert Bitonte
Theresa de Vera
Alisa Schlesinger
Betty Wilson
David Wolf
Iran Hopkins
Norma Lopez
Robert Williams

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

Richard Rothenberg (excused)

DEPARTMENT ON DISABILITY:

Stephen Simon, Executive Director

OTHER CITY DEPARTMENTS:

Scott Bacsikin, Bureau of Engineering
Celeste Rodriguez, Homelessness Policy Analyst, Office of the Mayor

GUESTS:

Steve Zimmer, President of the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD)
Board of Education.

Whitney Engeran, Senior Director, AIDS Healthcare Foundation

*AUDIO TAPE(S) and CAPTIONING NOTES ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

ITEM NO. (1): Approval of the Regular Commission Meeting Minutes.

President Bitonte called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm. Roll call was conducted, and a quorum of the commissioners was present.

Action Taken: Commission approved the August meeting minutes.

ITEM NO. (2) Public Comment.

Public Commentary Received – For Announcement Purpose Only*

No Action Taken, Information Purposes Only.

ITEM NO. (3): LAUSD Special Education Update.

The Commission will discuss LAUSD's special educational programs and services. Presentation is by Steve Zimmer, President of the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) Board of Education. One of their missions is to tear down the walls and fences of the special education centers to provide a fully inclusion environment. LAUSD will be working on getting more funding for more resources, programs, and advocacy for the disabled students within their school system.

No Action Taken, Information Purposes Only.

ITEM NO. (4): Los Angeles County Meningitis Outbreak

Update on the meningitis outbreak in Los Angeles County. Whitney Engeran, Senior Director, AIDS Healthcare Foundation presented. Meningitis is a bacteria that spreads mainly through saliva. The Los County of Public Health has issued a vaccine recommendation for gay men and those who are HIV Positive. People can get the vaccine from the Federal Government. For more information and where one could get the vaccine, please visit the L.A. County website or call the Los Angeles County informational line 2-1-1.

*AUDIO TAPE(S) and CAPTIONING NOTES ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

No Action Taken, Information Purposes Only.

ITEM NO. (5) City's Homelessness Policy.

Update on the City's homelessness reduction program(s).

Presentation is by the Celeste Rodriguez, Homelessness Policy Analyst, Office of the Mayor. Homelessness is one of the leading priorities for the Mayor's Office. The vision is to mitigate the homelessness crisis through housing resources, leveraging LA County services to mainstream health systems, and promoting healthy streets to increase well-being.

No Action Taken, Information Purposes Only.

ITEM NO. (6): Sidewalk Repair Program.

Update on the status of the Access Request Program (ARP). The Bureau of Engineering presented. There are various programs to take repair requests: the Access Program will be addressing the complaints and request received through the Department on Disability, Incentive Program that allows residents and property owners to participate in cost sharing program, Curb Program that installs ADS compliant ramps and receive average request. They have complete 188 sites and request and have replaced/repared about 720,000 square feet.

ITEM NO. (7): Coordinated Care Initiative.

Update presentation by President Dr. Robert Bitonte. The Commission is still requesting the information from their FOIA request.

No Action Taken, Information Purposes Only.

ITEM NO. (8): Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Stephen David Simon provided background information and highlights for the Department. The Department is focused on expanding programs, reinforcing existing programs, and making documents accessible to all Angelinos. DOD is collaborating with HCID to ensure their website is accessible and making sure the City funds accessible projects. The Disability Art Exhibit runs from October 1st through 21st and DEAFestival will be taking place on October 1st. The Department has been asked to participate in L.A. 24 team to bring the Olympics to Los Angeles in 2014. The department is collaborating with MTA to make sure their new construction is accessible.

Action Taken: Will present their metrics for next meeting date.

ITEM NO. (10): New Business and Announcements

New business suggested for the next regular meeting's agenda are MTA's accessibility on their buses, stations and the assistance of the drivers and a speaker from LAUSD regarding the types of services they provided to people with disabilities.

No Action Taken, Information Purposes Only.

ITEM NO. (11): Adjournment

MEETING ADJOURNED AT APPROXIMATELY 3:06 P.M.