



# COMMISSION ON DISABILITY

## MINUTES

Wednesday, October 10, 2018, 10:00 A.M.

Department on Disability

The Braille Institute, The North Weingart Room 741 North Vermont Avenue,  
Los Angeles, CA 90029

### COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Theresa de Vera  
David Wolf  
Myrna Cabanban  
Richard Rothenberg  
Dr. Robert Bitonte  
Iran Hopkins

### COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

Betty Wilson (excused)  
Alisa Schlesinger (excused)  
Robert Williams (excused)

### DEPARTMENT ON DISABILITY:

Stephen David Simon, Executive Director, Department on Disability  
Lourdes Sinibaldi, Community Outreach Referrals and Education (CORE)  
Carey Stone, Disability Access and Services (DASD)  
Ricki Rosales, AIDS Coordinators Office (ACO)  
Sergio Samyoa, Administration Team

### OTHER CITY DEPARTMENTS:

Chris Lee, City Attorney Office

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

**GUESTS:**

**ITEM NO. (1): APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

President de Vera called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. The Commission had a quorum when roll call was conducted.

Action Taken: The Commission approved the September 12, 2018, meeting minutes.

**ITEM NO. (2): PUBLIC COMMENT**

No Action Taken, Information Purposes Only.

**ITEM NO. (3): PRESENTATION FROM DEPARTMENT ON DISABILITY DIVISIONS**

- I. Presentation from the Community Outreach Referrals and Education (CORE), the Disability Access and Services (DASD), the AIDS Coordinators Office (ACO), and the Administration team of the Department on Disability. Brief updates, introductions to new staff, and key accomplishments will be presented by Lourdes Sinibaldi, Carey Stone, Ricki Rosales, and Sergio Samayoa.

The CORE division has served 900 clients on information and referrals, 2,100 blue curve inquiries and enter 955 applications, 419 Video Remote Interpreting services, attended close to 96 events, remediated 1800 pages, and 195 City employees have been trained on 508 compliance. They also have informational sessions to engage community partners with different topics provide input on specific policy issues, such as placard reform policy, banning straws, and the usage of scooters within the City. They have continued to work with over 80 organizations through LA County, especially in the homeless the community and with the Mayor's Office Unified Homeless Respond

Center to offer linkage with community partners and resources for the community. They are also working on expanding the 508 compliance program on social media and emergency notification by training their communication people on how to create accessible communication. For the Census 2020, they are creating a plan that would include people with disabilities on key locations for the kiosks and making sure communications will be accessible.

The DADS division monitors the City's compliance with the ADA and works closely with all City departments to ensure they are in compliance. They provide reasonable accommodation assistance in the workplace for City employees with disabilities, provide information about people with support animals to landlords and tenants. Some highlights from the last year include providing sight evaluations and design, and different scopes of works to combat the City's homeless. They also provided support to ensure accessibility for 6th street, provided Title III support to a number of restaurants and other privately owned businesses, collaborate with City departments to have access to sidewalks program and processing over 15 hundred access applications. They are currently working on the LA Mayor's 2020 Census program and continue to process ADA Title II complaints where people filed formal grievance against the City. Their goals include training with other City programs, providing technical support and outreach for cases small business, partnering with the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment to provide public education workshops on sidewalk access programs for council districts, and achieve one-week turnaround from intake to processing sidewalk access request.

The ACO 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 through community based programs, HIV prevention programs, research programs, summits, workshops, and technical assistance for community providers. Some highlights in the last fiscal year include 19,000 clients were served through the education and

# COMMISSION ON DISABILITY

Minutes October 10, 2018

Page 4 of 6

prevention programs, having 16 providers and program range from homeless young people, collected over a 1 million syringes from the HIV prevention programs and provided 14 thousand tests, have funded the first study on trans masculine health in Los Angeles, collaborated on an HIV ageing study, provided TAs to more than 12 agencies and to community based organization to help them increase their internal capacity, and hosted a stigma in HIV event. Currently, the ACO is working on a project on adherence for young gay men for African American and looking at how to get them engaged in their care and treatment to keep them in treatment to make sure that they are healthy and expanding the syringe exchange sites to other areas within the City. They are funding 17 new projects, such as a new program for individuals who are 50 plus living with HIV and another programs on youth competency training for providers. ACO is also attending International AIDS Conference, the U.S. Conference on AIDS and AIDS Watch to engage in the conversation about that is working, not working, and things that can be done to better the community.

The Administration Division is a link between the department all the programs, the bureaucratic layers of the City, and deal with a lot of extra regulations, rules, and to facilitate all of events, deal with the purchasing, ensure the contractors are paid, and everything that it takes to run a department. They supervise the accounting section, oversee the annual budget request, the routine and special event purchasing, tracking funds coming in and expenditures going out, year-end reporting for federal state and local jurisdictions, contract procurement support, support for contract develop and execution, contract monitoring procedures, and developing standard operating procedures. Currently, the Administration Division is working on the annual budget request for the Mayor's office.

No Action Taken, Information Purposes Only.

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**ITEM NO. (4): PRESENTATION FROM CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE**

Chris Lee from the City Attorney's Office presented on public comment procedure; specifically, to address attendees' frustration about some of the public comments made and how to address those issues. Commission discussed the importance for the COD to protect free speech while accommodate the public by not allowing for disruption.

No Action Taken, Information Purposes Only.

**ITEM NO. (5): EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Discussion of items relating to Department activities, metrics, budget, planning, and/or other relevant issues. Presentation is by Stephen David Simon, Executive Director, Department on Disability. Please refer to the presentations from DOD at the beginning of the COD.

No Action Taken, Information Purposes Only.

**ITEM NO. (6): COMMISSION CALENDAR**

The Commission discussed and vote on topics and recesses for the Commission Calendar from November 2018 through July 2019. Some of the recommendation from the COD are to have legal services in March. Mental health with focus on depression and suicide in November, muscle beach in December, disability and immigration in April, people with disabilities and law enforcement on June, and personal finances and assistance in January or May.

Action Taken: DOD will take the recommendations and crate a finalized list to present to the COD.

**ITEM NO. (7): COMMISSION GOALS AND PRIORITIES**

The Commission discussed its goals for the coming year and what methods and tools should be employed to achieve them. One recommendation by the COD is for commissioners to attend Neighborhood Council meetings and to compile a report on the locations of the regional City Hall. One announcement is the ReelAbilities film festival opening night is Thursday and please check out the website for more information on the different locations and show times.

No Action Taken, Information Purposes Only.

**ITEM NO. (8): ADJOURNMENT. ACTION.**

The meeting was adjourned

MEETING ADJOURNED AT APPROXIMATELY 1:23 P.M.