



COMMISSION ON DISABILITY

MINUTES

Wednesday, February 10, 2021, 1:00P.M.

Department on Disability

Zoom Video Conference

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Myrna Cabanban
David Wolf
Dr. Robert Bitonte
Robert Williams
Candace Cable
Iran Hopkins
Richard Rothenberg
Alisa Schlesinger
Betty Wilson

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

DEPARTMENT ON DISABILITY:

Jaime Pacheco-Orozco, Assistant Executive Director

OTHER CITY DEPARTMENTS:

Chris Lee, City Attorney III, City Attorney's Office

GUESTS:

Seyed “Amir” Torabzadeh’s, Los Angeles World Airports

Jeff Klein, Los Angeles County Register-Recorder/County Clerk

Julia Kay, Los Angeles County Register-Recorder/County Clerk

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

The Commission will review the minutes of the January 2020 meeting and vote to approve them.

Action Taken: The Commission approved the minutes for January 13, 2020.

ITEM NO. (2): PUBLIC COMMENT

No Action Taken, Information Purposes Only.

ITEM NO. (3): CONFIRMATION OF LAWA ACCESSIBILITY COMMITTEE MEMBER

The Commission will discuss and vote on the ratification of Seyed “Amir” Torabzadeh’s placement to the LAWA Advisory committee.

- I. The Commission on Disability ratifies members to the LAWA Accessibility Committee and will vote to place Seyed “Amir” Torabzadeh on the LAWA Advisory committee. Seyed “Amir” Torabzadeh has been an advocate of the disability community for over 40 years and is committed to making a positive difference with the appointment to the LAWA Accessibility Committee member. With the coming Olympic and Paralympics games to Los Angeles in 2028, the Advisory Committee can be very influential in making the L.A.X. one of the most accessible airports in the world and provide the best accessibility for people with all disabilities.

Action Taken: Seyed “Amir” Torabzadeh’s placement to the LAWA advisory committee was approved by the Commission on Disability.

ITEM NO. (4): MY VOTE LA - REVISIT/ POST ELECTION

Presentation speakers provided the Commission with the information regarding the accessibility of the November 2020 Election for the Greater Los Angeles Area. Presented by Jeff Klein, Los Angeles County Register-Recorder/County Clerk and Julia Kay, Los Angeles County Register-Recorder/County Clerk.

- I. Speakers from the Los Angeles County Register-Recorder/County Clerk discussed the accessibility of the November 2020 Election for the Greater Los Angeles Area. The Los Angeles County Register-Recorder/County Clerk reported over 4.3 million people cast ballots equating to about 76% turn out with about 3.4% were cast by mail, 52% used the vote by mail drop-boxes, about 2,700 voters cast their ballot at a flex vote center, about 2,400 cast their ballot at the mobile vote centers. Since the November 2020 election was going to take place during the COVID-19 pandemic, they sent out about 6 million vote-by-mail ballots to all eligible voters in Los Angeles County with the option to submit their vote by mail ballot at about 400 drop-boxes, mail it back with postage paid, or take it directly to any of the voting centers. They had about 650 in-person voting centers that opened for five days before the election and 111 voting day sites open on the election day for a total of about 750 voting centers around L.A. County. They also took precautions with the in-person voting centers by having social distancing in lines, how the ballot marking devices were set up, posted public health guidelines, reminded the public of wearing a mask, provided gloves and hand sanitizer, and sanitized all voting equipment. The voters who could not wear a mask were asked to stay around the curbside voting area to be processed. To provide a good the flow through the voting center, Los Angeles County Register-Recorder/County Clerk created a quick check-in code on the bottom of the voter postcard and the sample ballot, focused more on customer service and assisting voters, and staffing changes. To make the voting center more accessible, an interactive sample ballot was used to make selections from a mobile device or a home computer to transfer selections to the ballot marking device, the voting system had touch screen, and people could plug in their headset into the device. In order to build more confidence and maintain the integrity of the elections process, the Los Angeles County Register-Recorder/County Clerk promoted the state-run tracking system for vote by mail ballots called *Where's my ballot* to ensure the ballot was received and took greater measures to verify a voter's signature. If there are any issues with the signature, such as not getting a match based on what they have on file or a person forgot to sign their ballot, they send a letter

to the voter and allow them to correct their signature. They also stated that the in-person voting device had a touch screen that did not have internet or network connection.

No Action Taken, Information Purposes Only.

ITEM NO. (5): METRO RAIL PROJECTS

Presentation speakers will provide the Commission with updates on the accessibility of METRO's Rail system and planned projects through 2028.

- I. This presentation has been rescheduled to the Commission on Disability's March meeting date.

No Action Taken, Information Purposes Only

ITEM NO. (6): EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ongoing update on items relating to Department activities, metrics, budget, planning, and/or other relevant issues. Presentation is by Jaime Pacheco-Orozco, Assistant Executive Director, Department on Disability.

The Department on Disability updated the Commission on Disability on the budget process with the Mayor's office and the City Administrative Office. They are having a preliminary meeting to discuss the department's budget scheduled for next week. The department does not anticipate any significant changes this year and is currently looking to fill a few positions that have been vacant some time. The department released an RFP on AIDS/HIV prevention services on January 29th and will be doing everything virtually and taking questions electronically. The questions can be submitted through March 1st of 2021 through WWW.LACAVM.ORG and will be posted on the website. The department is also having an PPE distribution event on February 27th in the San Fernando Valley in collaboration with disability organizations to distribute protective equipment for about 500 families who have individuals who have developmental disability. The department's ADA compliance officer reviewed Dodger stadium and the Lincoln Park drive and walk-up vaccination sites for any potential accessibility issues. The department found that some people who administering the injections will step into the vehicle to provide the injection to increases the accessibility of the vaccination sites. Lastly, Stephen David Simon attended a virtual town hall to speak about accessibility concerns and the

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importance of the vaccination for individuals with disabilities and will be joining a listening session on public health regarding vaccinations and how we may improve the communication and importance of vaccinations.

No Action Taken, Information Purposes Only.

ITEM NO. (7): NEW BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

No suggested items for the next regular meeting's agenda and 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.

No Action Taken, Information Purposes Only.

ITEM NO. (8): ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned in honor of Ruby De Vera, who passed away from complications of COVID-19.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT APPROXIMATELY 3:20 P.M.