



COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES

MINUTES – 09/25/2025

Commission on Disabilities (CoD) General Meeting

Meeting Date: Thursday, September 25, 2025, 3:00 – 5:00 PM

Item No.	Item Description
1.	<u>Review and Approval of Minutes and Agenda:</u> • Roll Call ○ Members present: Matthew Cadigan-Hearn, Michael Donovan, Evan Milburn, Maya Ong Escudero, Gurpreet Padam, Angela Piazza, Timothy Ponti, Alexandra Seeber, Lisa Weiner, Florence Wong, Michelle Yoshimine ○ Members excused; Tryn Miller, Kathryn Murdock ○ Public present: Connie Franco, Brae Hunter, Douglas Kunze, Benjamin McMullan ○ Public present (Zoom): Helen Lo, Jonathan • Approval of Minutes from August General Meeting ○ Motion to approve by Commissioner Cadigan Hearn, seconded by Commissioner Seeber. Motion passed. • Approval of Agenda ○ Motion to approve by Commissioner Donovan, seconded by Commissioner Milburn. Motion passed.
2.	<u>Meeting Etiquette Reminders</u>
3.	<u>Public Comments:</u> • None
4.	<u>President's Report</u> – President Wong • Nothing to report
5.	<u>Staff Report</u> – Anna Sawamura, Health Services Manager I, Aging and Disability Services • The State Council on Developmental Disabilities has their state plan survey that closes on October 15, 2025. Would appreciate the participation as they develop their new state plan for 2027 to 2031. • The Resource Guide for People with Disabilities is available and completed for 2025 to 2026. She will provide the guide to Staff Liaison to email to the Commissioners. • Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC) update; ARDC has hired new staff, Matthew Odizuko, Sonia Quintero, Kelly Hansen, and Timothy Ponti. ADS will have a welcome meeting with CID ADRC staff on October 8th. • The 2025 Federal Budget Reconciliation Bill is not approved yet. There is still time for people to share their feelings regarding the bill. The goal is for it to be passed by September to avoid shutdown. The County will continue working with

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	those contracts that do have federal dollars included and will help with funding through November 21st.
6.	<u>Annual Update to Board of Supervisors:</u> • Presentation will be on October 7th at the Board of Supervisors meeting. • Staff Liaison will share the Board of Supervisors meeting agenda to commissioners as soon as it is posted. • Review final draft of slides – no changes or edits suggested. • ACTION ITEM: Approval of Annual Update presentation to the Board of Supervisors. ○ Motion to approve the Annual Update presentation by Commissioner Cadigan Hearn, seconded by Commissioner Seeber. Motion passed.
7.	<u>Guest Speaker</u> – County of San Mateo Title II ADA Coordinator, Brae Hunter • The Title II ADA Coordinator position involves talking about policies and how to request accommodation for employees and for members of the public. • Each County department has an ADA coordinator and those positions are overseen by Ms. Hunter. • If there are accessibility issues, there is a grievance procedure posted on the county website, individuals can also contact Ms. Hunter directly. • Ms. Hunter is a member of the CoD's ADA Compliance Committee. Her role is to facilitate the process of getting input from the committee on which projects from the transition plan to apply for funding through the county's Capital Improvement Projects Budget (CIP). The committee goes through all the buildings that are identified and determines what are the most important improvement projects to put forth on the Capital Improvement Project list. The last update of the transition plan is from 2018. • October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month. Ms. Hunter is working with Human Resources Equity Manager to develop internal media that they can use to push out the celebration for county employees. She is also working with the County ADA Coordinators Committee, the Human Resources Equity Manager, and the Office of Racial and Social Justice to develop ADA and Disability Awareness Training opportunities for county employees.
8.	<u>CoD Committee Reports:</u> • Executive Committee – Florence Wong, President ○ Approved Annual Update slides to be put before whole commission for final approval. • Special Events Committee – Angela Piazza, Chair ○ The Disabilities Arts Showcase is going to be open from noon to six for the month of October. Volunteers are needed for Wednesday, October 1st, from noon to six for the drop off of the art. Take down will be November 3rd because of the weekend. ○ The Disabilities Arts Reception is on October 18th from 1-3 PM. ○ The Workshop will be on October 25th from 1-3 PM. Instructor can teach 15 up to 20 or 25 participants if she has volunteers to help. • ADA Compliance Committee – Matthew Cadigan Hearn, Chair ○ Finalized ADA contribution to Annual Update presentation. • Legislation, Advocacy and Outreach Committee – Evan Milburn, Chair

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	○ American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD) “Disability Power Day on the Hill,” (Commissioners Weiner and Piazza) ▪ Commissioner Piazza focused on SSI Savings Penalty Elimination Act to allow more savings and assets. Currently it is \$2000 for a single person and \$3000 for married couples. The bill is to allow assets up to \$10,000 for a single person and \$20,000 for married couples. ▪ Commissioner Weiner shared about the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). There is an increase in special education needs in schools. More funding is needed to make it equitable and inclusive in schools. ▪ Commissioner Weiner and Piazza also highlighted the Competitive Integrative Employment (CIE) Act. It aims to end below minimum wage employment for people with disabilities. Each state does things differently and some states are paying people with disabilities less than minimum wage. • Accessible Transportation Committee – Timothy Ponti and Matthew Cadigan Hearn, Chairs ○ Finalized contribution to Annual Update slides. ○ Got confirmation from SamTrans that they hired an ADA Coordinator who can participate in future committee meetings.
9.	<u>Ex-Officio Member Report Outs</u> • This agenda item will allow for any ex-officio members of the Commission on Disabilities to provide an agency update: ○ Center for Independence of Individuals with Disabilities ○ State Council on Developmental Disabilities ○ Red Cross of the Bay Area -Doug Kunze, ▪ In October, many fire departments have open houses and the Red Cross will be participating in at least three open houses. Everyone is encouraged to attend these family friendly events. ▪ Recently presented emergency preparedness presentation specifically for caregivers through the Caregiver Collaborative. ▪ Red Cross is installing free smoke alarms, bed shakers, and strobe lights. Interested individuals should contact Douglas Kunze for more information.
11.	<u>Final Comments</u> • Agenda items for next Commission General Meeting ○ Invitation to present sent to GGRC for Oct or Nov
12.	<u>Adjournment:</u> • Next Meeting Date: ○ October 23rd, 3:00pm – 5:00pm ○ Location: 500 County Center, Manzanita Hall, Redwood City, CA • Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Piazza, seconded by Commissioner Milburn. Meeting adjourned.