



CITY OF OAKLAND
Mayor's Commission on Persons with Disabilities (MCPD)
January 25, 2016

Minutes

- I. Called to order at 5:40 p.m.
- II. Roll Call:
 - Quorum: Yes
 - See Exhibit A1
- III. Public Comments
 - Hayward Blake, retired private investigator, and a long-time volunteer at Dimond Park, commented on the park's lack of ADA accessibility at Dimond Park. Mr. Blake issued an open invitation for commissioners to visit the park to access the situation.
 - Lori Umeh, citizen and active swimmer at the Lions Pool (located at Dimond Park) talked about the renovations to Sausal Creek and the need for additional disabled parking for the Lions Pool.
 - Motion: Dimond Park accessibility barriers to be put on the February 2016 agenda.
 - Motion/Second: Commissioner Zisser/Commissioner Bernstein
 - Motion passed without objection.
- IV. Commissioner Announcements
 - Commissioner Harrington discussed the work which he and Commissioner Van Docto are doing to assist in the development of a proposal to the Start Ups in Residence program which pairs start-ups with government entities to develop solutions to civic challenges. Their specific proposal is to develop a universal wayfinding app that will complement the recent Uptown Wayfinding Project but be scalable to other parts of the City.
 - Commissioner Zisser shared information about his participation in a recent San Francisco Board of Supervisors meeting regarding police training and interactions with persons with disabilities in

which Oakland was mentioned as a model for its training practices. Commissioner Zisser suggested that the MCPD engage in a more detailed review of Oakland's police training initiatives.

V. Interim Chair Report

- Chair Gregory commented on the City Administrator's report that detailed a new department of transportation which would reorganize the divisions within Public Works, including the ADA Programs Division.
 - Chair Gregory expressed concern that the reorganization might negatively impact the ADA Programs Division if it is not strategically placed to enable it to continue its citywide accessibility oversight responsibilities.
 - He also expressed concern that the new Department clearly includes ADA compliance in its mission and activities.
 - He invited commissioners to attend the Oakland Public Works committee meeting on Tuesday, January 26, 2016 if they wished to comment on the proposal and its potential impact on the City's ongoing implementation of ADA requirements.
 - Motion: That the MCPD continue to monitor the development of the new Department of Transportation, to ensure that any reorganization does not adversely impact ongoing ADA compliance activities and the effectiveness of the ADA Programs Division.
 - Motion/Second: Commissioner Zisser/Commissioner Van Docto
 - Motion passed without objection.

VI. ADA Programs Report, Sherri Rita, ADA Programmatic Access Coordinator reported that the City's ADA's Self-Evaluation update project has commenced. Under this project each city department is to critically evaluate their policies and practices for ensuring that persons with disabilities are not denied access to City services, programs, and activities. This project will result in a report of recommendations for supporting departmental ADA compliance and an updated Citywide Access Policy, which are scheduled to be presented to Council in the summer of 2016.

- Each city department is to appoint a Departmental Access Coordinator who will be responsible for completing a self-

evaluation survey on behalf of their departments and serve on an ongoing basis as a point person for departmental ADA compliance.

- The MCPD will be presented with the draft findings and recommendations from the surveys at its March meeting. Staff will use the meeting to receive and incorporate into the final report community feedback on their experiences accessing City services.

VII. Approval of Minutes

- Motion/Second: Commissioner Bernstein/Commissioner Harrington
- Minutes approved, with no corrections.

VIII. Agenda approval and/or modification

- Motion/Second: Commissioner Harrington/Commissioner Zissor
- Agenda approved without modification

IX. Chair and Vice Chair Elections

- Call for Nominations - Chairperson
 - Thomas Gregory nominated himself for Chair
 - Jian Hong nominated Elise Bernstein for Chair. Ms. Bernstein accepted.
 - Votes: Thomas Gregory (4). Elise Bernstein (2). Thomas Gregory is Chairperson for 2016.
- Call for Nominations – Vice Chairperson
 - Brian Harrington nominated Elise Bernstein for Vice Chair. Ms. Bernstein accepted.
 - Aaron Zisser nominated himself for Vice Chair.
 - Votes: Elise Bernstein (3). Aaron Zisser (3).
Commissioners Bernstein and Zisser will serve as Co-Vice Chairs for 2016.

X. Strategic Planning Retreat Follow-Up

A. Committee Structure and Mandates

- Chair Thomas presented a proposed plan setting forth the MCPD's committee and subcommittee structure, membership

requirements, guiding principles, and process for presentation of potential action items to the full commission (review page 12 in the January 25, 2016 agenda packet).

- The MCPD Plan, including its committee and subcommittee structure, assignments, and schedule will be finalized at the February meeting.

X. New Business:

A. Special Education Services at Oakland Unified School District (OUSD); Maggie Roberts, Associate Managing Attorney, Disability Rights California (DRC) reported on DRC's representation of students with disabilities in a California Department of Education (CDE) compliance complaint:

- DRC filed the complaint in March 2015.
- CDE ordered OUSD to establish a corrective action plan but to date details regarding how OUSD is complying have not been made available to DRC or the public.
- Ms. Roberts appealed to the MCPD to assist with monitoring OUSD and its compliance with federal mandates concerning education for special needs students.
- Chair Gregory requested that Ms. Roberts send a copy of the initial CDE complaint and OUSD's response for commissioner review in considering possible MCPD action.

XI. Old Business

A. Murphy Bill; Thomas Gregory, MCPD and Maggie Roberts, Disability Rights California briefed the MCPD on the issues that are being raised by this bill, particularly its potential negative impact on the federal Protection and Advocacy for the Mentally Ill (PAIMI) program, which conducts investigations of abuse and neglect of persons with mental health disabilities, enforces the rights of persons with mental health disabilities in institutions and in the community, and educates mental health consumers regarding their rights and responsibilities.

- Chair Gregory and Vice-Chair Zisser agreed to develop a draft letter to federal legislators on behalf of the MCPD for its consideration and to investigate local stakeholders who may be interested in assisting in defeating this bill.

B. Bus Stop Elimination at 2969 Broadway; Elise Bernstein and Thomas Gregory facilitated a discussion with representatives of ACCE Riders for Transit Justice who provided background on the removal of a bus stop at a local bank's request without receipt of public input into the process, and to the detriment of transit riders with disabilities, at the commission's December 2015 meeting.

- ACCE Riders for Transit Justice will provide draft letter language for MCPD to use in drafting its own letter condemning the process by which this bus stop was removed and pressing the City to avoid taking further actions that compromise the mobility of persons with disabilities in Oakland who rely on public transportation.
- Commissioners Jian Hong, Brian Harrington, and Vice-Chair Bernstein to collaborate in drafting MCPD's letter.

XII. Items for Next Full Commission Agenda

- Emergency Alert System
- Status of Uber's Community Benefit Agreement
- MCPD final Plan approval; committee/subcommittee assignments and schedule

XI. Adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

NOTE: THE COMMISSION MAY TAKE ACTION ON ANY ITEM
ON THE AGENDA

Public Comments: To offer public comments at the MCPD meeting, please register with Adriana Mitchell, ADA Programs Assistant, before the start of the meeting. Please note that the MCPD will not provide a detailed response to your comments but may schedule your issue for a future MCPD or committee meeting. The Public Comment period is limited to 10 minutes and each individual speaker is limited to 5 minutes. If more than 2 public speakers register, however, then each speaker will be limited accordingly. Exceptions to these rules may be granted at the discretion of the Chairperson.

 This meeting is wheelchair accessible. To request materials in alternative formats, or to request an ASL interpreter, captioning or assistive listening device, please call Adriana Mitchell 238-5219 (V) or 238-2007

(TTY) at least three, 3, business days before the meeting. Please refrain from wearing scented products to this meeting so persons who may experience chemical sensitivities can attend. Thank you.