



Commission on Disability
AGENDA
Regular Meeting

Commission on Disability

Wednesday

City of Berkeley Corporation Yard

4/03/2019

1326 Allston Way

6:30 PM

Willow Room

Berkeley, CA 94702

A. PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

- 1) Call to Order by Chair Ghenis
- 2) Roll Call by Secretary
- 3) Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda. (Up to 3 minutes per speaker)
- 4) Note: Minutes from March 6, 2018 Regular Meeting were not sent by Secretary in time – Commission will review & approve March minutes in upcoming May meeting.
- 5) Approval and Order of Agenda

B. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

The public may speak at the beginning of any item.
(Comments may be limited to 3 minutes per speaker)

Commission will take a 5 minute break around 8pm

1. Secretary issues and accessibility concerns.

(5 minutes / Ghenis)

2. IKE Smart City Kiosks. Review update and related Information Calendar item to be sent to Council. (10 minutes / Ghenis)**

3. Approve finalized annual work plan for 2019.

Review updated work plan (attached); discuss responsible Commissioners, timelines, etc. (30 minutes / Ghenis)*

4. Discussion on access to electric charging facilities for wheelchairs. (10 minutes / Ghenis)

5. RV Parking. Report on discussions with Golden Gate Fields regarding use of their parking lots, etc. (10 minutes / Smith)

6. Discussion on Zero Waste Commission. Discuss how to collaborate with ZWC on any future efforts that may affect people with disabilities. A Zero Waste Commission member may attend, or Ghenis will communicate with ZWC and report back. (10 minutes / Ghenis)

7. San Pablo Avenue Plan. An update on the planning process, and report on Feb 13 stakeholder meeting. (10

minutes / Walsh)

8. Navigable Cities. Discuss main items to be addressed in this effort. (15 minutes / COD)*

9. Announcements

C. INFORMATION ITEMS AND SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Peace and Justice Commission Subcommittee on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities- Update on activity or projects of this subcommittee since last meeting. (5 minutes / Walsh & Weiss)

D. COMMUNICATIONS

1. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (from adopted work plan, referrals, etc.)

E. ADJOURNMENT: no later than 9:30pm

Agenda Posted: March 21, 2019

- * Indicates written material included in packet.
- ** Indicates material to be delivered at meeting.
- *** Indicates material previously mailed.

A complete agenda packet is available for public review on the web at:

<https://www.cityofberkeley.info/Clerk/Commissions/Commissions Commission on Disability Homepage.aspx>

Available also at the main library, and Public Works, Engineering Division, 1947 Center Street, 4th Floor.

ADA Disclaimer



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Commission on Disability - 2019 Annual Workplan

1. Improved Transportation and Mobility

Pursue “Navigable Cities” for all pathways used by people with disabilities (sidewalks, ramps, curb cuts, crosswalks, bike lanes, etc.), addressing topics including smooth construction and eliminating barriers (e.g. business signs, parked vehicles and scooters/bicycles). Research safety concerns, especially at intersections and other crosswalks, and propose relevant adjustments to City policies and infrastructure. Pursue policies to guarantee equal access to all transportation options and/or appropriate alternatives, including but not limited to paratransit, transportation network companies (TNCs), bicycle and scooter rentals (e.g. Ford GoBike, Lime, etc.), and taxis. Keep up-to-date on roadway/neighborhood redesigns that may affect pathways and/or parking; provide input to ensure full access for people with disabilities. Explore parking options and access, especially in city-owned or regulated garages and parking lots.

2. Public Input and Public Outreach for COD

Implement communication channels with other city Commissions; pursue “cross-membership” with other commissions, where COD members request to be appointed to other commissions with vacancies; prioritize commissions whose coverage affects people with disabilities (e.g. peace & justice, zero waste, planning, homelessness, etc.). Raise awareness of COD within the disability community and relevant stakeholders (e.g. neighborhood and business associations) and invite community members and stakeholders to attend COD meetings. Host one “town hall” event in mid-late 2019, either in place of or in addition to the regularly-scheduled monthly COD meeting.

3. Disability Access in all Berkeley Policies and Processes

Ensure that City of Berkeley processes fully serve people with disabilities and that accessibility is considered in all policies. Develop templates for full City Council consent and action items to include impacts on accessibility and community members with disabilities. Address the recent extended staff vacancy for Berkeley’s ADA coordinator and collaborate with city staff to avoid such extended vacancies in the future. Improve accessibility of city websites, meeting spaces, and buildings (including directions/signage to accessible entrances).

4. Accessible and Affordable Housing

Explore the expansion and improved availability of accessible housing for people with disabilities, including going beyond baseline ADA access requirements in new construction (e.g. adding automatic door openers, units with roll-in showers and other universal access features, etc.). Also consider retrofits of existing buildings, whether single-family homes or multi-unit apartments/condominiums. Address affordability as a key factor for housing.

5. Homeless people with Disabilities

Support Berkeley’s population of homeless residents with disabilities. Collaborate with local service providers to address disability-related needs, such as access to healthcare or repairs of medical equipment (wheelchairs, scooters, walkers, etc.). Improve quality

and range of housing alternatives; provide input on recreational vehicle (RV) ordinances and availability of permanent or semi-permanent RV parking areas.

6. Emergency/Disaster Preparedness

Receive information and ongoing updates, participate and make recommendations as appropriate about Berkeley's BEACON and CERT programs.

7. Student Life and Disability Awareness

Improve communication and collaboration with Berkeley's many students with disabilities, providing community engagement and leadership opportunities and supports for independent living. Address all populations including students with disabilities in elementary through high school, Berkeley City College, UC Berkeley, and private entities.

8. Service Animals Welcome in Berkeley

Educate, advocate and advise Council/staff on full implementation including Business Improvement District (BID) training, production and distribution of Service Animals Welcome signs and annual distribution of informational materials to all Business License Holders.

Commission on Disability - 2019 Navigable Cities Action Plan

As part of its 2019 Annual Workplan, the Commission on Disability (COD) has committed to supporting “Navigable Cities” in Berkeley. This document outlines the basic principles of Navigable Cities and lays out some specific actions that COD will pursue through 2019.

Principles of Navigable Cities:

- 1. All people residing in and/or visiting the City of Berkeley have the right to efficient, convenient and barrier-free movement.** This includes movement on all pathways including sidewalks, crosswalks, bike lanes, recreational pathways and streets (using appropriate methods of travel, e.g. cars in streets and pedestrians/wheelchair-users on sidewalks).
- 2. People with disabilities (PWDs) often have distinct transportation-related needs and may be less able to navigate around items obstructing pathways.** As we address Berkeley’s navigability, we must specifically consider these and other transportation-related needs and abilities of PWDs.
- 3. Changes to commercial activities and government policies (whether in Berkeley, the Bay Area, the State of California, or the United States as a whole) can have notable impacts on navigability.** COD, the City Council, city staff and other stakeholders should stay up-to-date on impactful changes and address relevant concerns in a timely fashion. Any actions should support navigability in general and for PWDs specifically.

The Commission on Disability will pursue the following initiatives to support Navigable Cities during 2019:

- 1. Support smooth, barrier-free pathways frequently used by PWDs.** When they are not using motorized vehicles (cars/buses/rail/etc.), PWDs navigate using a mix of sidewalks, bike lanes, crosswalks, and other “pedestrian” pathways (e.g. Berkeley’s creek-side trails). The personal situations, abilities, devices used, etc. by PWDs often mean that smooth, barrier-free pathways are paramount: for example, it may be very difficult for an individual using a manual wheelchair to navigate an especially bumpy pathway, while somebody who is blind may have a hard time if signage appears in the middle of a sidewalk. COD will research any problematic conditions impeding smooth, barrier-free pathways in Berkeley and develop appropriate recommendations for City Council to improve navigability.
- 2. Ensure that new transportation services provide appropriate access to PWDs and do not negatively impact navigability.** The City of Berkeley is encountering many potentially-transformative transportation systems and services, such as shareable motorized scooters and bicycles, transportation network companies (TNCs), and possibly automated vehicles (AVs) in the coming years. COD will work to ensure that these services are accessible and/or give access to alternatives that are fully accessible, affordable, and provide an equivalent service in ways that meet PWDs’ needs. COD will also address

concerns that some transportation options may impede the navigability of pathways (e.g. shareable scooters and/or bicycles being ridden or parked on sidewalks).

- 3. Provide appropriate input on plans to adjust the layout of neighborhoods, urban centers, streets, pathways, etc.** The City is pursuing several “updates” to the layouts of some Berkeley neighborhoods – both through encouraging specific development opportunities and physically changing the layout of streets and pathways (e.g. the San Pablo Ave. revamp project). COD will stay up-to-date on these City activities and advocate for the concerns and needs of PWDs, under a “navigable cities” framework.
- 4. Address the availability and accessibility of appropriate parking options, especially in city-owned and/or city-managed parking lots/garages.** The City has a responsibility to guarantee that there is sufficient and well-placed accessible parking, especially in areas owned or managed by the city itself (e.g. street-side parking and some downtown garages). COD will research areas in need of improved parking and advise the City Council on best ways to address any shortcomings. COD will also provide input as needed to any activities that may affect parking (e.g. neighborhood redesigns or changes to parking lot management).