



CITY OF OAKLAND
Mayor's Commission on Persons with Disabilities (MCPD)

September 21, 2015

Minutes

- I. Call to order at 1:20 p.m.
- II. Roll Call
 - Quorum: Yes
 - Please review Exhibit A1
- III. Agenda Review and Approval
 - Motion/Second:
 - Commissioner Gregory/Commissioner Zisser
- III. Welcome and Introductions: Christine Calabrese, Project Manager II/
ADA Programs Division Manager.
 - All commissioners and staff introduced themselves and provided brief synopsis of their resumes and personal history.
 - Ms. Calabrese provided a detailed overview of the MCPD and ADA Programs Division history in the context of the Bay Area's role in the Disability Civil Rights Movement and as it remains home to many of the nation's leading disability rights organizations.
 - MCPD was established in 1980 and it remains one of the only permanent appointed local disability advisory bodies in the nation.
 - Since 1990, the Commission has been charged with the following primary duties:
 - Advising the Mayor and City Council on matters affecting the disability community
 - Reviewing and commenting on City policies, programs and actions
 - Providing advice and assistance to other City boards and commissions
 - Participating at the local, state and national levels for the advancement of disability rights

- Ms. Calabrese noted that this is an exciting time for this body with new opportunities to make further strides towards making Oakland a world class City for people with disabilities.
- Ms. Calabrese read the Mayor’s priorities as a starting point for helping the Commission identify opportunities for partnership with the new Administration:
 - **Holistic Community Safety:** We must improve public safety using a holistic approach, including more police, better community policing, intervention and prevention programs, as well as addressing the root causes of crime starting with better jobs and education. Oakland will not grow unless people are confident it is getting safer.
 - **Vibrant Sustainable Infrastructure:** We must improve the city’s physical infrastructure, starting with our roads, so they look better, cost less to maintain and create more vibrant, attractive and healthy neighborhoods – making Oakland a great place to come live, play and bring your business.
 - **Equitable Jobs and Housing:** We must create more housing and jobs, but do so in an equitable way that keeps Oakland affordable for residents at every income level and provides employment opportunities for Oaklanders with every skill and education level.
 - **Responsive Trustworthy Government:** We must be more responsive to requests for city services so things in every neighborhood get cleaned and fixed right away and police and firefighters are there when we need them. This will show that government is trustworthy and transparent, and making the city look attractive so people feel good about living and working in Oakland.
 - **Strategic Initiatives:**
 - Oakland Promise: Help all Oakland Public School grads fund college with private grants
 - Kiva Zip: Zero-interest micro-loans for small businesses
 - Cadet Program: Private funding for a police academy class drawn from Oakland youth

IV. Interim Chair and Interim Vice Chair Election. Ms. Calabrese moderated.

A. Election of Interim Chair

- First Call: Commissioner Bernstein nominated Commissioner Thompson. Commissioner Thompson accepts

- Second Call: Commissioner Gregory nominated himself.
- Third Call: None.
- By show of hands, Commissioner Thompson was elected Interim Chair, serving until the Commission chooses to elect a permanent Chair, or January 2015, whichever occurs first.

B. Election of Vice-Chair

- First Call: Commissioner van Docto nominated Commissioner Gregory. Commissioner Gregory accepted.
- Second Call: Commissioner Zisser nominated himself.
- Third Call: None.
- By show of hands, Commissioner Gregory was elected Interim Vice Chair, serving until the Commission chooses to elect a permanent Vice Chair, or January 2015, whichever occurs first.

V. Interim Chair Comments

- Chairperson Thompson expressed her appreciation at being nominated and selected. Pledged to continue the great work of the MCPD.

VI. Commissioner Announcements

- Commissioner Rosenblatt commented on her time at the Healthy Living Festival at the Oakland Zoo and announced that a Disability Unity Festival was taking place in San Francisco.
- Commissioner Zisser announced the upcoming public meetings to review the City's analysis of impediments to fair housing choice as an opportunity to comment on the lack of housing for people with disabilities. He noted that contributing to the lack of appropriate housing for persons with disabilities is an apparent failure to modify the application of zoning regulations to allow for the development of more supportive housing opportunities.

VII. Approval of Minutes

- July 13, 2015
- Motion/Second: Commissioner Rosenblatt/Commissioner Bernstein

III. Staff Reports

A. ADA Programs Division Staff Report; Sherri Rita, Acting ADA Projects Coordinator

1. MCPD Facebook Page Maintenance

- Denise Jacobson, a former commissioner, was administering the MCPD Facebook page, and the Commission will now have to appoint a new administrator should it wish to continue using the page for not just MCPD announcements but other announcements relevant to the disability community.
- The Commission chose to defer assignment of a new administrator to a future discussion.

2. Meeting Schedule for Remainder of 2015

- Ms. Rita reminded commissioners that the remainder of the 2015 meetings will be in the evening starting at 5:30 p.m. and in Hearing Room 4.

3. Staff Reports Schedule

- Ms. Rita pointed out the staff reports schedule that was included in the agenda packet is subject to change if more pressing agenda priorities require rescheduling or staff request an extension.

4. Auxiliary Aids and Services Program Expansion

- Ms. Rita noted that the Auxiliary Aids and Services Program will begin offering Video Remote Interpreting services as an additional means for communicating effectively with persons who are Deaf and for whom on-site interpretation cannot be timely arranged. The ADA Programs is working with the Information Technology Department to obtain the correct hardware and assess the viability of the sites identified for the initial launch of these new services.

B. Digital Front Door Project Staff Report; Karen Boyd, Citywide Communications Director and Mai-Ling Garcia, City Administrator Analyst reported on the status of the redesign of the City Of Oakland's website. Staff's goal is to create a website which will allow the community to easily interface with City

government. The goal is to improve the trust between the community and City departments.

- The initial pilot phase recently concluded, and the second phase, will involve selection of 8-10 city services to redesign.
- Looking to the MCPD for its partnership and assistance to determine the effectiveness the redesign through user testing.
- Motion: That MCPD will partner with the City Administrator's office to assist with the user testing for the Digital Front Door Project
- Motion/Second: Commissioner Gregory/Commissioner Harrington

C. Bus Rapid Transit Project Staff Report; Christine Calabrese, Project Manager II/ADA Programs Division Manager reported that this project will transform International Boulevard.

- Ms. Calabrese described the various components that will comprise this large project that will bring a variety of pedestrian accessibility improvements to the corridor.
- The 100% plans for construction will be presented to MCPD before the end of the year as required by the City's Conditions of Approval.

D. Public Works Staff Reports:

1. Curb Ramp and Sidewalk Repair Annual Report; Kevin Kashi, Supervising Civil Engineer, Right of Way Management Division, Oakland Public Works, OPW presented the report.

- Mr. Kashi presented a map illustrating curb ramp locations, conditions, and status since the original 2002 curb ramp survey, and responded to questions regarding costs and engineering of curb ramp and sidewalk repair improvements.
- Mr. Kashi explained also how the City addresses sidewalk repairs, including administration of the Notice to Repair Program which provides an incentive to private property owners to fund repairs at a discount by using the City's contractors.
- Ms. Calabrese and Ms. Rita explained the programs and policies under which curb ramp and sidewalk repair improvements are delivered by Right of Way Management Division and as part of other City capital projects, including

the prioritization of locations, the on-call programs for making improvements pursuant to requests from individuals with disabilities, and the requirement that all projects include right of way improvements.

- Commissioner Harrington asked whether funding is available to private property owners for sidewalk improvements. Staff explained that other than the Notice to Repair program which provides a discount to property owners who choose to use City contractors to make repairs due to private tree damage, there are no loan or other financial programs for helping private citizens address sidewalk damage. Staff suggested that while the Access Improvement Program administered by Housing and Community Development, currently only funds home modifications for persons with disabilities, that the MCPD may wish to suggest its expansion to also include right of way accessibility improvements.
- The Commission declined to accept the report and deferred discussion on the report to the next meeting.

2. Disabled Parking Zone Program, DPZ, Annual Report; Patrick Taylor, Engineering Technician II, presented.

- Ms. Calabrese provided an overview of the Residential and Non-Residential Disabled Parking Zone Program policies.
- The Commission declined to accept the report and deferred discussion on the report to the next meeting.

IX. Old Business

- MCPD Ordinance Update.
 - Tabled.

X. New Business

- Ms. Rita announced that this year's Great California Shakeout on October 15th will also be an Americans with Disabilities Act 25th Anniversary Event on Frank Ogawa Plaza in partnership with FEMA, Cal-OES, and other community partners. The event will feature speakers, demonstrations of drop, cover, and hold by persons with disabilities, and a "flash mob" on the Plaza of participants in the 10:15 a.m. earthquake drill.

XI. Agenda Items for Next Meeting:

- To be determined.

XII. Public Comments

- Ms. Eva Aguillard reported on the sidewalk conditions in her neighborhood.

XIII. Adjourned at 3:45 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 15 minutes and each individual speaker is limited to 5 minutes. If more than 3 public speakers register, however, then each speaker will be limited to 3 minutes. If more than 5 public speakers register, then each speaker will be limited to 2 minutes. 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.