



**City of Oakland**

Mayor's Commission on Persons with Disabilities (MCPD)  
Monday, July 15, 2024 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.  
Hearing Room 1, First Floor  
One Frank H. Ogawa Plaza (City Hall), Oakland, CA 94612

**Minutes**

**Commissioners:** Anwar Baroudi (Chair), Benjamin Bartu (Vice Chair), Noah Smith, Marjorie Lynne, Fatimah Aure, Linda St. Julian, Thomas Cloyd, Linda Stevens, Raven Foote, Brittaney Creswell, Kaitlin Roh

**Commission staff:** Anh Nguyen-ADA Programs Division Manager, Mark Romoser-ADA Programs Division Program Analyst I

**Presenters:** Maria Henderson and David Berman, AC Transit  
Irene Farnsworth, Bay Area Housing Finance Authority  
Daniela Medina, Department of Violence Prevention

**Other attendees:** Sheela Gunn, Assata Olugbata

**Attendees on Zoom:** none

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Mark Romoser begins the meeting with a reminder of rules for in-person meetings:

- No food or open drink allowed in Hearing Room 1 to maintain a clean and professional environment.
- Drinks must be in a closed container to prevent any spills or accidents.
- When commissioners speak- please press the top red button that says "mic" and when you are finished, please press the button again.
- To ensure clarity and transparency, when commissioners speak, please state your name before speaking.
- When a member of the audience is speaking or commenting- please first state your name and any affiliations you may have.
- Restrooms are located outside Hearing Room 1, near the elevators.

## **Exhibit A**

Chair Baroudi called the meeting to order at 5:32.

### **Roll Call**

- At roll call, quorum was established with seven of eleven commissioners present.

<b>Commissioners</b>	<b>Present (x)</b>
Anwar Baroudi (Chair)	X
Benjamin Bartu (Vice Chair)	X
Noah Smith	X
Marjorie Lynne	X
Linda St. Julian	Absent
Fatimah Aure	X (arrived 5:45)
Thomas Cloyd	X
Linda Stevens	X
Raven Foote	Absent (excused)
Brittaney Creswell	Absent
Kaitlin Roh	X

**Open Forum:** Assata Olugbata expressed concern over the apparent lack of diversity. And those who are impacted the greatest, such as the homeless community, the youth community. Families for Equity representing issues with RCEB – lack of services, lack of vendor equity. Black vendors not getting clientele. She has a child with a disability who is successful because he was treated like everyone else.

### **Approval Of Minutes**

- Comm. Lynne made a motion to approve the May 2024 minutes. Comm. Smith seconded. Motion was approved 7-0.

### **Commissioner's Announcements**

- Comm. Roh introduced herself.
- Chair Baroudi mentioned the presentation to Life Enrichment Committee, including hybrid attendance for commissioners. On Wednesday, Embarcadero West is having a community meeting.

## ***Exhibit A***

- Comm. Lynne stated that there is diversity in MCPD, as some Commissioners have invisible disabilities. She welcomes suggestions how to improve in this area and encourage folks to apply to serve on the Commission.

### **Department of Violence Prevention Ceasefire Program**

- The presenters from DVP had not arrived.

Comm. Aure arrived at 5:45.

### **AC Transit ReAlign Project**

- Maria Henderson and David Berman from AC Transit began their presentation.
- The presentation was interrupted by a medical emergency. The meeting went into recess.

### **Bay Area Housing Finance Authority Housing Bond**

- Irene Farnsworth from BAHFA gave her presentation.
- Comm. Cloyd asked how BAHFA defines disability. Ms. Farnsworth replied that BAHFA followed state law.
- Comm. Stevens asked if BAHFA had a relationship with California Housing Finance Authority. Ms. Farnsworth replied that there was no formal relationship, but that BAHFA's director is in touch with them.
- Comm. Lynne pointed out that middle-class disabled people don't fall under the income guidelines but still need accessible housing. Are you going to make exceptions for them? There are few accessible units. Ms. Farnsworth replied that BAHFA follows statutory guidelines, but housing can be built up to 120% of area median income. She also noted that Doorway Housing Portal is a single search platform for the whole region. Comm. Lynne asked if people would be able to relocate, or have to stay in the same area. Ms. Farnsworth replied that BAHFA won't run applications.
- Comm. Smith asked if these plans would be in addition to regional initiatives. Ms. Farnsworth replied that 72,000 additional homes would be built, and that there is a pipeline of housing waiting to be built but needing financing.

## **Exhibit A**

- Comm. Stevens asked what relationship the bond had to Section 8, 811, etc. Ms. Farnsworth replied that those would be used as ongoing funding sources, and that bond and other funds would be used for construction.
- Comm. Roh mentioned that the presentation included various types of units, but asked if they were near transit. Ms. Farnsworth replied that BAHFA's equity framework included transit-oriented development, that BAHFA is part of MTC, and that there are already programs to build housing near transit.
- Comm. Lynne asked if climate considerations included air conditioning and air filtration. Ms. Farnsworth replied that they mainly focused on greenhouse gas emissions and vehicle miles traveled, but that there may be metrics around building materials. She added that lowering construction costs was key. Comm. Lynne replied that cheap flooring contains formaldehyde.
- Chair Baroudi asked if the distribution of funds was equitable. Ms. Farnsworth replied that it was not, due to statutory guidelines. Chair Baroudi asked if the flex funds from the bond could be used for equity. Ms. Farnsworth replied that funds would be returned to counties based on their tax contributions, but that counties may allocate their funds as they wish. Chair Baroudi asked if Oakland had its own allocation. Ms. Farnsworth replied that it did, and that cities receiving funds are required to build with them. Chair Baroudi asked what metrics were used. Ms. Farnsworth replied that the metrics used include how many units meet ADA requirements. Chair Baroudi asked about public participation. Ms. Farnsworth replied that BAHFA holds public meetings that are noticed, three meetings each month.
- Sheela Gunn stated that there is a need to tip the scales towards housing for those with extremely low income, and that they can't afford to live in many places in the region. They asked if the places where housing would be built have transportation, and if the presentation was accessible, because they want to share it.
- Assata Olugbata asked if the housing would be built in places with homeowner's associations, and stated that places that pay more property tax get more money, including 410 million for Oakland. She then asked if there was a formula to distinguish between groups such as seniors, disabled, and homeless. Ms. Farnsworth replied that funds were distributed by county, and that BAHFA publishes accessible materials.

## ***Exhibit A***

Motion made by Comm. Cloyd, seconded by Comm. Smith, to reorder the agenda. Passed with no opposition.

### **Department of Violence Prevention Ceasefire Program**

- Daniela Medina gave her presentation.
- Comm. Smith asked if Ms. Medina was looking for specific feedback from MCPD. Ms. Medina replied that the direct service providers that DVP uses don't have much knowledge of disability, even though some people become disabled through gun violence. Comm. Smith asked what would be the best way to get involved. Ms. Medina invited Comm. Smith to reach out to her.
- Comm. Stevens asked if DVP had a relationship with the Crisis Response Project of East Bay Regional Center. Ms. Medina replied that they did not, and clarified an earlier comment, stating that CPSC is California Partnership for Safe Communities.
- Vice Chair Bartu asked if material assistance was available. Ms. Medina replied that DVP works with agencies that provide mental health services and housing for their participant.
- Chair Baroudi asked how staffing was proceeding. Ms. Medina replied that the new budget gives DVP 4 more life coaches.
- Sheela Gunn mentioned that CRIL is the independent living center serving southern Alameda County and TheCIL is the one serving northern Alameda County, that both centers are also aging and disability resource centers that work with older adults, and that there might be synergy there.

### **Staff Updates and Announcements**

- Netflix has announced the launch of a fellowship program dedicated to supporting writers and filmmakers with disabilities. [Applications](#) for this transformative opportunity are open until July 31.
- StaceyFest, a project of the Disability Justice Culture Club, will be the first disability culture festival in recent memory. The festival will be held July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024 from 12 to 5 at Frank Ogawa Plaza in Oakland/unceded Ohlone land, during July because it is Disability Pride Month.

## Exhibit A

- The Oakland Public Art Program, Cultural Affairs Division, Economic and Workforce Development Department invites emerging and experienced California artists to submit applications through **SlideRoom** for inclusion in a Public Art Prequalified Artist Roster. Selected artists will be considered for public art commissions from the City of Oakland to create new work for various city improvement projects. **The deadline to apply is August 16th, 2024, 11:59 pm PST.** Please join us for our Application Workshop webinar on July 17, 4:30-5:30 pm PST. No registration needed. More information can be found at the RFQ link below. Read the full RFQ here: <https://www.oaklandca.gov/publicartroster>
- **The Center for Independent Living (CIL) is delighted to invite you to our special event, "Celebrating Disability Pride Month: Legacy, Togetherness, and Resilience," on July 31st, 2024.** This event will take place at the Ed Roberts Campus and promises to be an inspiring and engaging celebration of the incredible contributions and enduring spirit of the disability community.

We are not only honoring Disability Pride and the legacy of the CIL and the disability rights movement, but also celebrating the new leadership of CIL with Dr. Victor Pineda.

The main event will feature:

- A reception from 4:00 - 4:45 PM in the Rotunda, food & drink provided. There will be tabling and activities by other ERC organizations.
- A panel discussion on *Disability Rights and Justice: Intergenerational Solidarity.*
- A screening of the Oscar-nominated film "Crip Camp," introduced by its co-director, James LeBrecht.
- Only one week until a free public workshop hosted by the City of Oakland's Department of Transportation (OakDOT) to learn about the upcoming streetscape and transportation improvements on **Embarcadero West** in the Jack London District.

We look forward to welcoming you at the workshop and working together to enhance the Jack London District.

## **Exhibit A**

BLOC15 Event Venue  
252 2nd St, Oakland, CA 94607  
**[View on map](#)**

Jul 17, 2024 05:00pm - Jul 17, 2024 07:30pm

- Last week the City of Alameda shared [this press release](#) about Woodstock, the Oakland Alameda Water Shuttle that will start operating next Wednesday, July 17! We are very excited to offer folks a new way across the Estuary and hope you will help us share this good news with your businesses and residents. Here are some key points:

The [Oakland Alameda Water Shuttle](#) is a free service connecting Jack London Square and Alameda Landing

The water shuttle runs Wednesday-Sunday, is ADA accessible, and bikes are welcome.

- The public is invited to share their thoughts on the draft of the 2024 update the [Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan](#). [\(link is external, opens in a new window\)](#) The plan focuses on the transportation needs of older adults, people with disabilities and people with low incomes, and coordinates transit agencies and other transportation providers so that all Bay Area residents can get to where they need to go.

### **Future Agenda Items**

- Chair Baroudi called for future agenda items. Anh Nguyen said to send ideas to [adaprograms@oaklandca.gov](mailto:adaprograms@oaklandca.gov) .

Chair Baroudi asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Comm. Lynne so moved, and Comm. Cloyd seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:28.