**City of Oakland**

# Mayor's Commission on Persons with Disabilities (MCPD)

# Monday, March 18, 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

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

**Presenters**: Crystal Wang, AC Transit

Ajah Burts, Transport Oakland

**Other attendees**: Kaitlin Roh, Raven Foote, Lenore Gunst, Jun Whang

**Attendees on Zoom**: Sheela Gunn, Brittaney Creswell, Tracy Wei, Emilie Tham, Larry Harden

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.

Chair Baroudi called the meeting to order at 5:43.

**Roll Call**

* At roll call, quorum was not established with five of nine commissioners present (X).

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| **Commissioners** | **Present (x)** |
| Anwar Baroudi (Chair) | X |
|  Benjamin Bartu (Vice Chair) | X |
| Noah Smith | X (arrived 5:49) |
| Marjorie Lynne | Absent (excused) |
| Linda St. Julian | X  |
| Fatimah Aure | X |
| Thomas Cloyd | Absent (excused) |
| Linda Stevens  | X |

**Open Forum:** Mayor’s Commission on Aging chair Lenore Gunst gave a brief report. MCOA is working with the senior coalition of Alameda County. Outreach to city council members is planned for May. 17% of the city’s population of seniors are living under the federal poverty level. 40% are food-insecure. Seniors are the fastest-growing population in the city. Older adults are disproportionately homeless. Many have disabilities. MCOA met with Oakland Public Library about help with communications. The April MCOA meeting will be held at East Oakland Senior Center Weds. 4/3 and broadcast on KTOP, Zoom, and Teams.

Comm. St. Julian asked where East Oakland Senior Center is located. Ms. Gunst replied that it is at 98th and Edes.

Jun Whang from Equal Tile expressed a desire to sell truncated domes to the city. They have a thinner mat to reduce tripping hazards, and no silica sand. They’re more cost-effective since there’s no middleman. They’re 30-50% less than competitors. It’s a small business, mostly in Florida and Southern California.

Comm. Smith arrived at 5:49. Roll call was taken again, and quorum was established.

**Approval Of Minutes**

* Comm. Smith made a motion to approve the December 2023 minutes. Vice Chair Bartu seconded. Motion was approved 6-0.
* Comm. Smith made a motion to approve the January 2024 minutes. Comm. Stevens seconded. Motion was approved 6-0.
* Comm. Smith made a motion to approve the February 2024 minutes. Vice Chair Bartu seconded. Motion was approved 6-0.

**Commissioner’s Announcements**

* Chair Baroudi mentioned that the project he’s been working on is on the agenda. He also recommended that the commissioners take a look at the material Ms. Gunst handed out.

**Transit Supportive Design Guidelines**

* Crystal Wang from AC Transit gave her presentation.
* Comm. St. Julian asked how many bike lanes will be installed. Ms. Wang replied that the city, not AC Transit, controls bike lanes. Comm. St. Julian asked about parking on the streets involved. Ms. Wang replied that the guidelines are for 90% of streets with AC Transit buses, but not major corridors like International.
* Comm. Smith asked why East Bay Paratransit can’t use bus stops. Ms. Wang replied that the vans take several minutes to load and unload, possibly blocking buses.
* Chair Baroudi asked about the sidewalk-level bike lanes and mentioned his displeasure with them. Baroudi asked about bus and bike lanes. Ms. Wang replied that they were bike lanes except when buses need to stop. Chair Baroudi asked about center island boarding, such as on International. Ms. Wang replied that that won’t happen on most streets. Chair Baroudi asked about shelters, lights, etc. on islands, and pointed out that people with low vision can’t tell it’s a stop if there’s nothing on it. He asked if there was a minimum size for islands. Ms. Wang replied that the example was a way to have a separated bike lane and a bus stop in the same area. The wheelchair ramp would have to be deployed into the bike lane.
* Comm. Smith restated concerns about sidewalk-level bike lanes and asked if there could be posts between the bike lane and the sidewalk.
* Chair Baroudi mentioned the raised ramps on Tempo along International and asked if islands could have them as well. Ms. Wang replied that that would make it easier to deploy the ramp. Chair Baroudi asked if the public would have an opportunity to review and provide inputs to the design guidelines. Ms. Wang replied that the guideline document is for city staff due to time constraints and that it will include city of Oakland ADA Programs Division.
* Ms. Wang asked if there were any other designs that could replace sidewalk-level bike lanes, and gave an example from Emeryville. Chair Baroudi mentioned that the pedestrian would have to step into bike traffic, and that those designs work best in the middle of the block. He asked if there were ways to slow down bikes. Ms. Wang replied that islands would be 5 feet along the curb and 8 perpendicular, and that the cities are responsible for shelters, and that the guidelines aren’t binding.

**Quick-Build Traffic Calming Pilot Projects**

* Ajah Burts from ousing and Community Development Transport Oakland gave her presentation. Chair Baroudi recused himself in order to support Ms. Burts’ presentation, leaving Vice Chair Bartu in charge of the meeting.
* Mr. Baroudi added that the enabling legislation is sponsored by Councilmember Carroll Fife, and that community members should submit plans using the toolkit. He stated that Transport Oakland’s asks are: feedback now, a letter of support to present to the public works committee, and that MCPD follow up with OakDOT around the toolkit.
* Comm. Aure asked about success metrics for the project. Mr. Baroudi replied that success means that cars slow down, and that vehicles tend to move too fast near schools.
* Comm. Stevens asked about Park Blvd. between Hwys. 580 and 13 being narrowed down to one lane. She noted that people are still speeding. Mr. Baroudi responded that that kind of project takes a long time to put into place, and that the agencies involved are short-staffed. He pointed out that the pilots can be changed faster, in weeks rather than years.
* Vice Chair Bartu asked who would be paying for the materials and about community members who can’t perform the labor. Mr. Baroudi replied that they’re still working on funding, that projects would cost $1,000-2,000 and that there is a state grant for traffic calming. They were concerned that senior centers, etc. do not have labor for the pilots, but noted that other CBOs could provide labor.

Chair Baroudi resumed his duties as chair.

**Strategic Planning**

* Anh Nguyen highlighted the strategic planning process and the five goal areas that resulted.
* Chair Baroudi asked for a motion to approve the strategic plan. Vice Chair Bartu so moved, and Comm. Smith seconded. Motion passed 6-0.

**Staff Updates and Announcements**

* Mr. Romoser read the staff announcements.

**Future Agenda Items**

* Chair Baroudi asked for future agenda items. Comm. Stevens asked what MCPD’s relationship is with OPRYD staff. Mr. Nguyen replied that ADA Programs Division can help coordinate and connect MCPD to staff from other city departments.
* Comm. St. Julian asked who commissioners should sign up with. Mr. Nguyen replied that staff will connect commissioners with one another.

Chair Baroudi asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Comm. Smith so moved, and Comm. Stevens seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 6:58.