



City of Oakland
Mayor's Commission on Persons with Disabilities (MCPD)
Monday, April 19, 2021

MINUTES

NOTE: Approved minutes and video recordings are posted at <https://www.oaklandca.gov/boards-commissions/mayors-commission-on-persons-with-disabilities/meetings>.

Commissioners: Noah Smith (Chair), Thomas Gregory (Vice Chair), Marjorie Lynne (Vice Chair), Reid Davenport, Cathy Eberhardt, Karen Nakamura, Karina Ryan, Frank Sperling, and Howard Tevelson

Commission staff: Anh Nguyen, ADA Programs Division Manager; Karen Denicore, Program Analyst I; Jennifer Stanley (interim), Bicycle & Pedestrian Facilities Coordinator

Presenters: Hank Phan

Other attendees (from webinar Attendee list): Christine DiBella, Maire Lanigan, Carla West, Anders Pers, Arianna Miralles, Audrey Fisher, Helen Walsh, Laura Lane, Lonnie Siu, Sheela Gunn-Cushman

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- 1 Teleconference Protocol, Roll Call/Determination of Quorum
Meeting called to order by Commissioner Smith at 5:31pm. At roll call, quorum was established with 7 of nine commissioners present (X); 1 (x) arrived later in the meeting; and 1 (-) was excused.

Commissioners	Present (x)
Reid Davenport	X
Cathy Eberhardt	X
Thomas Gregory	X
Marjorie Lynne	X
Karen Nakamura	x
Karina Ryan	-
Noah Smith	X
Frank Sperling	X
Howard Tevelson	X

2. Open Forum

- Christine DiBella, East Oakland, High Street paving project doesn't appear to be addressing accessibility for wheelchair users except at the intersections. Would like support from MCPD for improvements to the plan and wants to take someone on a walk through. Anh could meet w/ Christine to discuss her concerns. High St. is potentially on the agenda for next month.
- Maire Lanigan, one of 600 people who signed a petition to fund the pedestrian element of Caldecott Project #2, a component that was dropped, but hasn't been funded in the new draft CIP. Asking for support to fund project. It was recommended that BPAC be informed of this request. Carla West also spoke to advocate for this project.

3. Agenda Modification

- None.

4. Approval of March 2021 Minutes

- A motion to approve the minutes was made (Commissioner Gregory), seconded (Commissioner Davenport), and passed with all voting in favor.

5. Commissioner's Announcements

- Smith: San Antonio Park Master Plan update is in process. Final community outreach meetings are on April 29th. Contractor is seeking input from the disability community.
- Smith: City of Berkeley elevator ordinance update is inspiring a similar effort here in Oakland, with a presentation by the City Attorney's Office providing an opportunity for input by MCPD in the next couple of months.
- Gregory: free Lyft rides (70 of them) available to give rides to people to access vaccines. Mayor's Office is reaching out to Uber to see if they can also offer rides.
- Eberhardt: Is having some bandwidth problems.
- Smith: Introducing Karen Denicore, new Program Analyst w/ the ADA Program.
- Nakamura: Welcome to Karen. There are supposed to be four FTE, now we are half staffed. Understaffed ADA Programs Division is a challenge.

6. Grand Avenue Mobility Plan (Exhibit B)

Hank Phan, Transportation Planner from OakDOT, described progress on the study. The planning study of the area between Mandela Pkwy and MacArthur Blvd, was started in Fall 2019, partnered w/ AC Transit, and funded by Caltrans. Grand Ave is a key corridor regionally. For the study, the corridor was split into three sections, each distinct area with different roadway cross sections, land use, density, and other characteristics. Existing conditions memo is available on the website. West Grand Ave is being paved this year and some of the sidewalk gaps will be improved and curb ramps will be upgraded. City partnered with West Oakland-based organizations to help under-represented communities be engaged in the plan. Design alternatives presented show extremes and are meant to show the emphasis on certain design scenarios.

Highlights of the discussion:

- Sperling: MCPD has been critical of the Telegraph Ave project because of the hardship it creates for people with disabilities. What problem is the City trying to solve on Grand Ave? The same solution may not be required along the whole corridor.
- Nakamura: Concern that scooters and bicycles compete/conflict with disabled accommodations. Could there be a greater focus on sidewalks in West Oakland, which would also improve public safety to have more people on the streets? Area needs more retail.
- Smith: Wheelchair/ADA access shouldn't be included in micro-mobility due to the legal framework that applies.
- Nakamura: ADA access is the baseline, but it would be great to exceed the minimum requirements.
- Phan: Planning Study is trying to be visionary.
- Helen Walsh: Look at ways to incorporate the ideas of people with disabilities, and different solutions for all sorts of mobility modalities.
- Audrey Fisher: Consider free shuttle buses along corridor.

7. 2021 MCPD Strategic Plan (Exhibit C)

ADA Staff presented the targeted 2021 strategic plan goals identified by the Commission during the planning process begun at the January 2021 meeting and facilitated by Yvonna Cazares from the Mayor's Office.

Karen reviewed the revised plan document and explained changes to the format. Information in the Progress/Latest Update column has been updated and refined to reflect the variety of ways that MCPD has been expressing their interest/involvement. The group reviewed the plan goals and action steps identified and fleshed out and clarified their plans and ideas.

8. Staff Updates and Announcements
 - Karen Denicore is the new staff liaison to the MCPD.
9. Future Agenda Items
 - See MCPD scheduler [at tinyurl.com/MCPD-AgendaPlanner](https://tinyurl.com/MCPD-AgendaPlanner).
 - High St paving project on the agenda in May. Sidewalks are not part of the project. Looking for input on intersection improvements.
 - Commission Chair Smith to follow up with the Oakland City Attorney regarding her support for an elevator ordinance and interest in making a presentation to the MCPD regarding city ordinances.
10. Motion to adjourn, made, seconded, and approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:24 pm.