



COMMISSION ON DISABILITY

MINUTES

Wednesday, December 14, 2022 1:00 P.M.

Department on Disability

Zoom Video Conference

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Myrna Cabanban

David Wolf

Dr. Robert Bitonte

Iran Hopkins

Richard Rothenberg

Alisa Schlesinger

Betty Wilson

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

Candace Cable

Robert Williams

DEPARTMENT ON DISABILITY:

Ricki Rosales, Acting Executive Director, Department on Disability

Peter Soto, Management Analyst, Department on Disability

OTHER CITY DEPARTMENTS:

Chris Lee, City Attorney Office

GUESTS:

Kyle Kulmann, Transportation Associate, SWD, METRO

Benjamin Alcazar, Director OCRREI Accessibility / Title VI, METRO

Alexander Jauregui, Administrative Intern, SWD, METRO

Adam Light, Sr Director, SWD, METRO

Anne Flores, Sr Manager and Adam Stephenson Sr. Director, Grants Management & Oversight, METRO

Cynde Soto, Chair of LA Metro Accessibility Advisory Committee, Office of Civil Rights & Inclusion

ITEM NO. (1): FINDINGS TO CONTINUE TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS PURSUANT TO AB 361

Determination in accordance with AB 361 Section 3(e)(3) that, while the state of emergency due to the Covid-19 pandemic, as originally proclaimed by the Governor on March 4, 2020, remains active and/or state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing, this commission has reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency and that the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person and/or state or local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing.

Action Taken: The Commission on Disability approved the teleconference meetings pursuant to AB361.

ITEM NO. (2): APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR AND SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

The Commission reviewed the minutes of the November 2022 regular meeting and November 2022 special meeting and the Commission on Disability voted to approve them.

Action Taken: The Commission approved the minutes for the November regular and special meetings.

ITEM NO. (3): PUBLIC COMMENT

No Action Taken, Information Purposes Only.

ITEM NO. (4): METRO MULTI-DIVISION PRESENTATION

The Commission heard from Representatives of METRO who provided a comprehensive overview of various divisions, projects, and items relevant to the Commission's purview.

Metro Countywide Planning and Development – Systemwide Design (SWD)

- I. Presentation is by Kyle Kulmann, Transportation Associate, SWD on the Overview – Metro expansions and major projects and Systemwide Design program and Integrated Station Design Standards (ISDS) Accessibility Elements. The projects that Metro is working on including the Purple extension, Crenshaw/LAX project, C Line extension to Torrance, and North San Fernando Valley Transit Corridor. The design principles for new and refurbished stations are to include opening lines of sight and the needs of all customers, contemporary designs to identify access and navigation, high performance materials, spacious plazas and platforms with integrated signage, and sustainable building materials and landscaping to improve customer experience. Approximately 80 stations are under review for compliance with SWSD standers and the Metro design standards. ISDS also tasked with research and recommendations for customer amenities and making recommendations to improve customer experience.
- II. Presentation is by Benjamin Alcazar, Director OCRREI Accessibility / Title VI on the Wayfinding Technologies - Tactile and Audio Guidance. The purpose of Wayfinding Technologies is to give people more independence to use the Metro services by connecting accessible elements, audio navigation mobile app, and audio guidance mobile app. For the tactile Wayfinding pilot, Metro installed 4 stations (2 in the E line and 2 on the L line) that use approved ADA/CBC compliant materials for profile texture and color and with a more human center design and configuration. For the WayMap pilot, Metro wanted to use a more personal navigation app. The purpose of WayMap is to use a smart

phone app to render the customer's location and provide live audio instructions and prompts videos on how to get around Metro platforms, stations, and city streets. The NaviLens pilot is another way for people to use a personal navigation app with Metro. The purpose of NaviLens is to use a smart app that utilizes a phone camera to read "digitage" posted at key points to inform riders about Metro stations and platforms. The "digitage" can be read from about 40 feet away and up to 160 degrees of an angle. Metro's goal is to take transportation to the next level of independent travel.

- III. Presentation is by Alexander Jauregui, Administrative Intern, SWD on the Tactile Wayfinding Pilot Update. The existing and proposed tactile Wayfinding materials is being streamlined. They are currently transitioning from the plastic tactile title and existing layout to more of a streamlined tactile layout and stainless-steel bars and domes to ensure durability and design consistency. They are working on a tactile Wayfinding User Survey to get feedback with any issues on any of the stations. They currently have funding secured and an on-call bench identified to do outreach into the community, are creating a taskforce and hope to see results from the surveys in the next year.
- IV. Presentation is by Adam Light, Sr Director, SWD on Metro Signage Updates. Metro is updating the stations signage bands located on the Metro rail to include higher contrast, easier to change signage. Their Measure R Projects are updating the canopies and the signage on the outside of the rail. The updated stations use a modified kit-of-parts, all new stations are accessible with redundant vertical circulation elements and tactile Wayfinding pathways.

Transportation Planning Grants Management & Oversight

- V. Presentation is by Anne Flores, Sr Manager and Adam Stephenson Sr. Director, Grants Management & Oversight on the Access for All (AFA) Program. Metro presented to the Commission on Disability last year and were in the develop stage of the program, that involved meeting with a working group that was comprised of stakeholders from Metro's Disability and Aging Transportation Network, Metro's Accessibility Advisory Committee, Access Services, and several cities that operate transit in LA County. On December 1, 2022, Metro board approved the fiscal year 2022-2023 Access for All solicitation and application packet. A notification of funding availability went out to all on an extensive email list to direct them to a website where they can apply.

No Action Taken, Information Purposes Only.

ITEM NO. (5): EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ongoing update on items relating to Department activities, metrics, budget, planning, and/or other relevant issues. Presentation is by Ricki Rosales, Acting Executive Director, Department on Disability and/or other department staff. On Monday, Mayor Bass announced a declaration of a state of emergency on homelessness during a press conference. She is also working with LA County Supervisor Hahn's office to announce a declaration of a state of emergency on homelessness to be able to work jointly on ending homelessness throughout all of Los Angeles. DOD's budget did get some questions from the CAO requesting clarification. The department is currently working on the answers to the questions. DOD is also preparing for the public hearing for the budget in January. DOD will also be conducting the 2nd round of interviews for the AGM on Thursday.

No Action Taken, Information Purposes Only.

ITEM NO. (6): NEW BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Items for the next regular meeting's agenda and announcements from Commissioners, DOD staff, and guests, as well as follow-up items from this or previous commission meetings to be presented at the next meeting. The Commission on Disability would like to say have a happy holiday.

No Action Taken, Information Purposes Only.

ITEM NO. (7): ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT APPROXIMATELY 2:50 P.M.