



**COMMISSION ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 24, 2024, CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

The regular meeting of the Commission on Persons with Disabilities was called to order at 6:35 PM.

1. ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Mullings, Commissioner Bugge, Commissioner Schmitz, Commissioner Bonsmith, Commissioner Beehler, Commissioner Hall

Absent: Commissioner Roloff

Staff: Secretary Sarah Henry

2. NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

None

3. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS (labeled as on Meeting Agenda)

4-A Approve the City of Alameda Transportation Program Plan for Seniors and People with Disabilities for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 (ACTION ITEM)

- Presented by Kat Kaldis, Paratransit Coordinator, City of Alameda
- Presentation details the following four topics:
 - FY 2022/23 Status Summary: Over 900 participants taking over 209,000 rides under Free AC Transit Bus Pass Program; 72% of riders identify as Asian or Asian-American (informational materials have been translated to multiple languages); program users over 50 years old must register for Mastick Senior Center; recommendation to continue Free AC Transit Bus Pass Program for three (3) years with budget of \$278,064, an increase of \$42,064. AIM (Uber & Lyft) program pays (partially, or in full) for rides on ride-share services; slow and steady growth because of requirement to sign up for Paratransit first; recommendation to continue current three-year pilot program with \$125,000 budget.
 - FY 2024/25 Proposed Programs: Customer Support & Outreach, \$112,000 decrease of \$5,000; Capital Program, \$800,000, increase of \$225,000; Group Trips, \$27,000 budget, Program Management, \$97,091, increased budget of \$50,980.
 - Planning Process: community engagement surveys, Board and City Commissions, City Council
 - Budget: revenues \$1,391,184; expenditures \$1,350,613; reserves \$40,572

- Questions
 - Commissioner Bugge asked for end date of funding Measure BB
 - Commissioner Schmitz asked about bus stop improvements
 - Speaker Lisa Foster listed curb ramps, crosswalks, flashing lights
 - Chair Mullings asked if AIM program is cost-prohibitive
 - Commissioner Schmitz asked why Paratransit signup is required to use AIM program
 - Discussion about Paratransit program
 - Commissioner Bonsmith asked about language translation expansion
 - Commissioner Beehler asked about evaluating AIM program based on Commission's questions and feedback
- Vote: unanimous approval (5)

4-B Transit Supportive Design Guidelines

- Presented by Crystal Wang, Transportation Planner, AC Transit
- Currently developing standardized AC Transit Supportive Design Guidelines to address bus stop comfort, safety, and impact on persons with disabilities
 - Bus stop dimensions and roadway considerations
 - Preferred stop locations
 - Designs not compatible with transit
 - Layover space (size, location, access to bathroom, etc.)
 - Pedestrian access improvements to/from stops
 - Paratransit operations and needs
- Questions
 - Commissioner Bugge asked why Paratransit cannot stop at bus stops
 - Chair Mullings asked about minimum accessibility at all bus stops, and how design improvements are chosen
 - Chair Mullings asked how the Commission is to engage with the community to assist with AC Transit Outreach efforts
 - Commissioner Bonsmith mentioned the need for shaded bus stops due to certain medical conditions and sensitivities to sun exposure
 - Commissioner Beehler asked about bike signals for speed safety, well-lit bus stops, sheltered stops

4. COMMISSION COMMUNICATIONS

- Commissioner Bugge asked how members of the public would submit comments about AC Transit or other things that relate to accessibility
 - Secretary Henry stated that emails to her are possible, but SeeClickFix might be best channel because it is redirected to correct department; Commission would like report about SeeClickFix comments
- Chair Mullings asked about newsletter, landing page, or communication related to SeeClickFix

- Secretary Henry suggested a link on Commission webpage for reporting accessibility problems; could add problem categories to SeeClickFix
- Commissioner Bonsmith asked if there is communication between Commission and East Bay Regional Parks District or ARPD
 - Secretary Henry suggested Parks departments visit for annual presentation

5. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

- Ad hoc meeting scheduled in May as a Work Plan Meeting
- ADA Transition Plan update will be presented by Erin Smith, Public Works Director
- Commissioners attending city events and other board meetings to foster connections with community on accessibility

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM.