



City of Fresno

2600 Fresno Street
Fresno, CA 93721
www.fresno.gov

Meeting Minutes - Final Disability Advisory Commission

Chair – Chenier Derrick
Vice Chair – Frances Reyes Acosta
Board Member – Birdevinder Rickie Dhillon
Board Member – Reynaldo Villarreal
Board Member – Susan Coulter
Board Member – Vacant
Board Member – Vacant
ADA Coordinator – Joe Hinojosa
DAC Secretary – Diane Longoria

Tuesday, May 13, 2025

10:30 AM

In Person and/or Electronic,
Fresno City Hall, Room
2165N

Regular Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Derrick called the meeting the order at 10:35 a.m. All five members were in attendance.

Present 5 - Susan Coulter, Vice Chair Frances Reyes Acosta, Chair Chenier Derrick, Birdevinder Rickie Dhillon, and Board Member Reynaldo Villarreal

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

There was a brief discussion regarding the selection of a new chair and vice chair for FY25/26 for the DAC Commission. This will be voted on at the next meeting and to allow for public comment.

On motion of Villarreal, seconded by Chair Derrick, the above Agenda was APPROVED AS AMENDED to defer the DAC Mission Statement/Goals update and to add the selection of a Chair and Vice Chair to the next DAC Commission meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Coulter, Vice Chair Reyes Acosta, Chair Derrick, Dhillon and Board Member Villarreal

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[ID 25-682](#)

Approval of the Disability Advisory Commission Minutes from April 8, 2025

On motion of Villarreal, seconded by Vice Chair Reyes Acosta, the above Minutes were APPROVED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Coulter, Vice Chair Reyes Acosta, Chair Derrick, Dhillon and Board Member Villarreal

4. MEMBER REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Board Member Villarreal stated employees at the agency that were initially impacted by budget cuts were not displaced. These employees were able to retain employment in another department. Also, the agency was able to get additional funding for one of their programs.

Next week he will be visiting the Capital to discuss funding opportunities. They recently had an open house for one of their facilities in Bakersfield. This makes two additional Valley Center for the Blind facilities in Tulare and Kern County.

There is an upcoming event on September 11 at 6pm at 10272 N. Millbrook Ave in Fresno called "Dining in the Dark" this event will feature a blind wine-tasting, a four-course meal, excellent entertainment. Guests will enjoy four courses (two under blindfold) as they experience a meal using non-sighted techniques. Alongside friends, family, and colleagues, they will share a remarkable journey relying on only taste, touch, smell, and sound and learn about what it means to be blind in Fresno County. Proceeds from "Dining in the Dark" in Fresno will ensure that anyone who is blind or has low vision in Fresno County has a professional team of caring people who can help overcome vision-loss related barriers.

Vice Chair Reyes Acosta asked if there have been any discussions at the local level regarding recent changes impacting the federal government. Board Member Villarreal stated there was some discussion from staff

regarding Medicaid concerns. Vice Chair Reyes Acosta is concerned how these changes will impact those agencies in support of the disabled community.

Board Member Dhillon announced that she will be resigning from the DAC Commission effective today 5/13/25. She thanked everyone for their support and enjoyed serving on the DAC Commission.

5. DAC SECRETARY AND ADA COORDINATOR REPORT

DAC Secretary Diane Longoria thanked Board Member Coulter and Board Member Dhillon for their support on the DAC Commission. We wish them well in their next endeavor.

ADA Coordinator Joe Hinojosa received some names of potential candidates to serve on the DAC Commission.

6. UNSCHEDULED COMMUNICATION / PUBLIC COMMENTS

This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons desiring to address the committee on matters not on this agenda. Your presentations are limited to three minutes per person. Please be aware that the committee is generally legally prohibited from taking any action on information presented in unscheduled communication until subsequent meetings.

Upon call 1 public comment was received. Kelly Griner who is new to Fresno has applied to be on the DAC Commission. She is the new director for Disability Services at Clovis Community College.

7. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEM

[ID 25-683](#) DAC Mission Statement/Goals Update

This item will be deferred to the July DAC Commission meeting.

[ID 25-684](#) DAC Awards Update

ADA Coordinator Joe Hinojosa prepared a Survey Monkey for the DAC Awards. He briefly reviewed a sample of the Survey Monkey. The survey will include three categories along with a description of the qualifications. The Taskforce will review the survey for fine tuning.

[ID 25-685](#)

Farewell Wishes

ADA Coordinator Joe Hinojosa shared his thoughts and farewell wishes to Board Member Coulter. We all wish her the best in her endeavors.

Board Member Dhillon will be resigning from the DAC Commission. She will be missed by all. We appreciate the time she has spent with the commission. We all wish her well.

Each of the DAC Commission members shared their thoughts and wished both board members all the best.

8. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

a. TRANSPORTATION SUBCOMMITTEE

DAC Coordinator Joe Hinojosa reported out on the Transportation subcommittee meeting from April. The subcommittee had a lengthy discussion regarding Microtransit. Microtransit is becoming increasingly popular in California, with many transit agencies implementing or expanding these services. Agencies are also exploring ways to integrate microtransit with other modes of transportation, such as paratransit and fixed-route buses. Some cities are also launching microtransit programs using electric vehicles to promote sustainability.

The following announcements were made at the meeting:

- 1. Sarah Harris who served on the Transportation Subcommittee has resigned. She will be leaving Fresno. She has accepted a position in Sacramento.*
- 2. Kristopher Grey has resigned from the subcommittee. He will not be working for the City of Fresno, he has accepted a position elsewhere.*

Sarah Harris and Kris Grey will be missed. We appreciated their contributions to the subcommittee.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

The above minutes were approved by unanimous vote of the Disability Advisory Commission during the September 9, 2025 regular meeting.