

**CITY OF LONG BEACH  
CITIZENS' ADVISORY  
COMMISSION ON  
DISABILITIES MINUTES**

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2020  
TELECONFERENCE, 1:00 PM**

Nubia Flores Cedeno, Chair  
Stephen Adams, Vice Chair  
Kim Vuong, Secretary  
Elyse Ares, Member



Victor A. Garate, Member  
Chris Karadjov, Member  
Jennifer Kumiyama, Member  
Deaka McClain, Member  
Gretchen Swanson, Member

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**TELECONFERENCE**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS MAY BE SUBMITTED BY TELEPHONE AT 562-570-6257 OR EMAIL  
TO HEATHER.VANWIJK@LONGBEACH.GOV.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Adams at 1:00 pm.

**ROLL CALL**

**Commissioners** Elyse Ares, Victor Garate, Chris Karadjov, Jennifer Kumiyama,  
**Present:** Deaka McClain, Gretchen Swanson, Kim Vuong and Stephen  
Adams

**Commissioners** Nubia Flores Cedeno  
**Absent:**

**PRESENTATION**

The Digital Inclusion Initiative is a Citywide effort that focuses on ensuring that everyone in Long Beach has equitable access and use of digital literacy training, the Internet, technology devices, and other digital inclusion resources. In direct support of this initiative, the City officially kicked off the Digital Inclusion Roadmap development process in August 2019. Due to Covid-19, the City has had to shift strategies but still remains focused on digital inclusion and utilizing the various opportunities that have become available through the CARES Act .

Rebecca Kauma, MPA, is the City's Economic and Digital Inclusion Program Manager presented an overview of the City's digital inclusion initiative to the commission this month.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

1. [20-044CA](#) Recommendation to approve the minutes from the October 8, 2020 meeting of the Citizen's Advisory Commission on Disabilities.

**Attachments:** [October 2020 Minutes.pdf](#)

**A motion was made by Secretary Vuong, seconded by Commissioner Garate, to approve recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 7 - Elyse Ares, Victor Garate, Chris Karadjov, Deaka McClain, Gretchen Swanson, Kim Vuong and Stephen Adams

**Abstain:** 1 - Jennifer Kumiyama

**Absent:** 1 - Nubia Flores Ceden

**STANDING COMMITTEE & AD-HOC REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

2. [20-045CA](#) Recommendation to receive and file monthly report by the Accessibility, Transportation & Services standing committee or adopt any recommendations this committee would like to make.

Commissioner Garate reported that the committee met on Wednesday, November 4th and discussed several topics. These included the exploration of ideas on how this committee can continue to be of valuable service, especially during the pandemic. The committee also discussed the possibility of a presentation on safe boarding and riding practices on public transportation, especially when using a mobility device or accompanied by a service animal.

**A motion was made by Commissioner McClain, seconded by Commissioner Swanson, to approve recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 8 - Elyse Ares, Victor Garate, Chris Karadjov, Jennifer Kumiyama, Deaka McClain, Gretchen Swanson, Kim Vuong and Stephen Adams

**Absent:** 1 - Nubia Flores Cedeno

3. [20-046CA](#) Recommendation to receive and file monthly report by the Youth, Employment & Programs standing committee or adopt any recommendations this committee would like to make.

Commissioner McClain stated that there was no report this month.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Garate, seconded by Commissioner Ares, to approve recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 8 - Elyse Ares, Victor Garate, Chris Karadjov, Jennifer Kumiyama, Deaka McClain, Gretchen Swanson, Kim Vuong and Stephen Adams

**Absent:** 1 - Nubia Flores Cedeno

4. [20-047CA](#) Recommendation to receive and file after-action report from the NDEAM ad-hoc committee.

Vice Chair Adams began the discussion with praise for the event, especially given that it was our first virtual event. Vice Chair Adams thought it was good use of the time set aside. Commissioner McClain acknowledged the great job that the ad-hoc committee did in putting the event together, and recognized a better turnout because it was a virtual event and more folks could participate. Commissioner Garate stated that a lot of good, useful information was shared. Commissioner Swanson stated that the selection of speakers and participants was impressive and hopes that the video can be shared.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Garate, seconded by Secretary Vuong, to approve recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 8 - Elyse Ares, Victor Garate, Chris Karadjov, Jennifer Kumiyama, Deaka McClain, Gretchen Swanson, Kim Vuong and Stephen Adams

**Absent:** 1 - Nubia Flores Cedeno

**NEW BUSINESS**

5. [20-048CA](#) Recommendation to cancel the December 10, 2020 meeting of the Citizen's Advisory Commission on Disabilities.

There was a discussion on the floor and the commission agreed that December's meeting could be a good use of time to promote any supportive events happening in the area during the holidays, such as food drive, clothing drives, toy drives, etc. Commissioner Garate reminded the commission that December tends to be a month that folks tend to need extra support, and going dark in December, would take away from CACoD's efforts in supporting the community. Commissioner Ares suggested that the commission select a local organization to support in lieu of a meeting, if not this year, perhaps something to consider in the future.

Commissioner McClain made a substitute motion to keep the December 10th, 2020 scheduled.

**A motion was made by Commissioner McClain, seconded by Secretary Vuong, to approve recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 8 - Elyse Ares, Victor Garate, Chris Karadjov, Jennifer Kumiya, Deaka McClain, Gretchen Swanson, Kim Vuong and Stephen Adams

**Absent:** 1 - Nubia Flores Cedeno

## **AGENCY REPORTS**

Commissioner Ares reported that Child 360 is currently partnering with LBUSD Child Development Department for their annual symposium on various topics around Covid. Commissioner Ares also announced that Joe Biden's campaign is organizing a virtual, celebratory rally for Inauguration Day, January 20, 2020.

Commissioner Garate reported that he participated in the LA County Parent Town Hall for Covid-19 and schools, which was very informative re: reopening processes, including for those with IEPs. Commissioner Garate also attended the LB Disability Resources Collaborative on November 3.

Commissioner Swanson reported that Heart of Ida received grants on 3 derivatives directly through City of Long Beach CARES funding, including partnering with Human IT pop ups (digital inclusion initiative), 4 programs on public access television (PADNET) specific to social isolation, and dependent information workshops (partnering with LIBRe).

## **STAFF REPORT**

Citywide Accessibility Coordinator, Heather Van Wijk, reported the following:

- CACoD is now a full commission of 9;
- Standing Committee Assignments: Youth, Employment & Programs-Commissioners Ares, McClain, Kumiyama, Swanson; Accessibility, Transportation & Services-Commissioners Adams, Garate, Karadjov, Vuong;
- The Office of Equity is now managed within the City Manager's office and disability services will be under that umbrella;
- Framework for Reconciliation Presentation will be in December or January;
- The LB Disability Resources Collaborative meets monthly on the first Tuesday at 3:00 pm;
- The Economic Development Commission has started their study sessions on Blueprint 2.0. These study sessions will be held during their monthly meetings, 2nd Mondays at 4:00 pm, via WebEx;
- Free flu shots continue through November 21st;
- Between FY18 and FY20, the City constructed 1735 new curb ramps and reconstructed 741 existing curb ramps; evaluated 237 emergency access request location and improved 230 of those locations;
- Community outreach for t-intersection ramps continues, working on translations of materials.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CLOSING REMARKS**

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Discussion of supportive events happening over the holidays

**ADJOURNMENT**

Vice Chair Adams adjourned the meeting at 2:28 pm.

I, Heather Van Wijk, Citywide Accessibility Coordinator, certify that the agenda was posted not less than 72 hours prior to the meeting.

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