



## Santa Cruz County Commission on Disabilities

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Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
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### Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, January 11, 2018  
Location: Regional Transportation Commission Offices, 1523 Pacific Avenue, Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
Present: Becky Taylor, Felipa de Leon, Janet Crosse, John Daugherty, Brenda Gutierrez Baeza, Lynn Stipes, Ernestina Saldana  
Excused: David Molina  
Absent: Sylvia Luna  
Guests: Maria Magana, Central Coast Center for Independent Living (CCCIL)  
Staff: Britt Harmssen, EEO Officer and Angelica Victoria, Intern

1. Call to Order:  
Meeting was convened at 12:33 pm
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of October 12, 2017 minutes:  
Motion/Second: Crosse/Taylor.  
Ayes: Taylor, de Leon, Crosse, Gutierrez Baeza, (4)  
Nays: None (0)  
Abstain: Stipes, Saldana (2)
4. Additions/ Deletions to Agenda:  
None.
5. Public unscheduled presentations and announcements to the Commission:
  - a.) Taylor congratulated Saldana on receiving an award from the ACLU. Saldana will be honored at a ceremony/reception on Sunday, January 14, 2018 at 2:00 PM at the Peace United Church of Christ located at 900 High Street, Santa Cruz. All Commissioners are invited to attend.
  - b.) Daugherty shared his disappointing experience in confronting numerous transportation obstacles which ultimately prevented him from attending Intern Angelica Victoria's Capstone Presentation at CSUMB. A discussion regarding similar service deficiencies followed. Daugherty encouraged Commissioners to write letters documenting issues to transportation agencies.
6. Staff Report: A recruitment for a new Commissions Coordinator has been launched, and many applications have been received.
7. Commission Reports:
  - a.) Metro/ Measure D: Daugherty reported that there has been discussion regarding restoring services and purchasing new vehicles/ParaCruz buses. Some routes that were cut two years ago have been restored due to increased funding from Cabrillo College student bus passes.

Daugherty explained that Measure D is utilizing sales tax revenue previously available for other purposes; however, no further cuts in services are planned.

b.) Social Media: No report.

c.) Employment: No report.

d.) History: No report.

e.) Legislation: Saldana will report on Governor Brown's proposed budget's impact on persons with disabilities once she has gathered more information.

f.) IHSS:

i. Magana reported that Governor Brown developed a conservative budget to ensure a "honey pot" in the event of "rainy days."

ii. Saldana reported that Governor Brown's proposed budget includes \$10.6 billion for the IHSS program in 2017-2018, representing a 6.5 percent increase over the revised 2016-2017 level; the proposed increase in the Counties' share of the cost of IHSS will likely result in a considerable impact to County finances.

iii. Victoria announced that there is a helpful training available for persons receiving IHSS in San Jose through Parents Helping Parents.

iv. Saldana encouraged Victoria to apply for the District 3 vacancy, and Taylor announced that she will compose a letter of recommendation for Victoria.

g.) Education:

i. Victoria will present her Capstone presentation to the Commission at the February 22, 2018 meeting. Victoria provided a synopsis of her research and project which focused on local schools' failings to assist monolingual Spanish parents in navigating and understanding the special education system.

ii. Magana described local efforts to "Train the Trainer" to improve advocacy, awareness, and accessibility within the school system and provided an overview of Pajaro Unified School District's transitional aged-youth education and career planning efforts.

8. Subcommittee Updates:

a.) Recreation:

i. Crosse provided an update regarding a Leo's Haven Inclusive Playground Project/Chanticleer Park meeting. The Packard Foundation is making a monetary contribution. Crosse anticipates that breaking ground on the playground should happen soon, since 75% of the project's budget has been raised.

ii. Saldana requested an addition to the next meeting agenda to approve a letter regarding changes negatively impacting DeLaveaga Park's accessibility.

b.) Accessibility Awareness: Taylor will hold a study session at the March Commission meeting to brainstorm ideas for Accessibility Awareness Month events in October. Taylor requested this item be added to the March meeting agenda.

c.) KUDOS Awards: No report.

d.) Housing: Saldana reported that there is a rent control movement gaining momentum within the City and County, including advocating for a rent-freeze and a limit to the permissible bases for tenant eviction. Saldana announced that the issue will receive comment at the January 23, 2018 City Council meeting.

9. Commission Vacancies:

a.) One vacancy in District 3.

10. New Business:

a.) Tabling opportunities: Taylor discussed possible "Disability Capital Action Day" tabling

opportunity in June 2018 under the IHSS Report.

11. Emerging Matters that may require Commission action:  
None.

12. Adjournment at 2:05 pm

Next Meeting: Thursday, February 22, 2018 from 12:30 – 2:00 pm at the Regional Transportation  
Commission Offices, 1523 Pacific Avenue, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Submitted:  
Britt Harmssen, EEO Officer