



Santa Cruz County Commission on Disabilities

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Meeting Minutes

DATE: Thursday, March 12, 2026
TIME: 12:30 PM to 2:00 PM
LOCATION: Santa Cruz County Building, Fifth Floor – Coastlines Conference Room
701 Ocean Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060
PRESENT: John Daugherty (*1st District*), Tymothie Hale (*2nd District*), Becky Taylor (*3rd District*),
Richard Gubash (*3rd District*), Brenda Gutierrez Baeza (*4th District Co-Chair*), David
Molina (*5th District Co-Chair*),
EXCUSED: Jessica Liddy Hayford (*4th District*), Mitali Weiglein (*5th District*)
ABSENT: None
STAFF: Kaite McGrew (*Commissions Manager*)
GUESTS: 3 members of the public were present.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call
Meeting convened at 12:35 PM.
2. Agenda Review
3. Approve February 12, 2026 Minutes
Motion to approve minutes as written
Motion/Second: Molina/Gutierrez Baeza
Motion passed unanimously.
4. Public Comment
5. New/Continuing Business/Action Items:
 - 5.1. Consider IHSS Commission Representation
Commission discussed nominating an at-large representative to the IHSS Advisory Commission. Molina will serve as the at-large liaison and Gutierrez-Baeza will apply to serve as an IHSS service recipient. Staff will communicate this decision to IHSS Advisory Commission Staff.
Motion to nominate David Molina as at-large representative to the IHSS Advisory Commission
Motion/Second: Daugherty/Taylor
Motion passed unanimously.

5.2. Consider Advocating for a Disabilities Policy and Services Coordination Council

Commission reviewed a potential strategy for establishing a Disabilities Policy and Services Coordination Council in Santa Cruz County and considered possible next steps to explore the concept. Molina suggested advocating for the Board to establish a task force to consider if the creation of such an entity is feasible and, if so, recommend how best to achieve it.

Motion to authorize Staff, in coordination with the Chair, to draft and submit a letter to the Board of Supervisors advocating for the establishment of a short-term task force to explore the creation of a Disabilities Policy and Services Coordination Council.

Motion/Second: Molina/Gubash

Motion passed unanimously.

6. Commission Priority Reports:

6.1. Accessibility Awareness Report: No Report

6.2. Accessible Recreation Report

Molina plans to meet with Parks and Recreation Commissioners to advocate for activities for people with disabilities. Gutierrez-Baeza asked Commissioners what questions they would like County Parks and County Park Friends to address in their April presentation. Molina emphasized the importance of integrating programming for people with disabilities with general programming to promote inclusion, rather than offering segregated programs. He also noted the lack of all-access parks on the Westside and in the San Lorenzo Valley, as well as the need for an inclusive and accessible teen center. Additional topics of interest included how to support Parks in re-establishing programs that have been reduced or eliminated due to funding constraints, and expanding beach accessibility, such as the installation of "Mobi-Mats" seasonally at County beaches.

6.3. Affordable Accessible Housing Report: No Report

6.4. Affordable Accessible Transportation Report: No Report

7. Ad Hoc Legislative Priorities Subcommittee Reports

7.1. Legislative Priorities Ad Hoc Subcommittee Report: No Report

8. Correspondence: None

9. Staff Report: None

10. Announcements/Emerging Matters:

Gutierrez Baeza will attend the Cabrillo Accessibility Support Center meeting in May.

11. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 1:57 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Kaite McGrew, *Commissions Manager*