



# Santa Cruz County Commission on Disabilities

701 Ocean Street, Room 510, Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
P: (831) 454-2772 F: (831) 454-2411 TTY/TDD 711  
commissions@santacruzcountyca.gov  
www.scccod.net

## Notice of Public Meeting and Agenda

DATE: Thursday, February 8, 2024  
TIME: 12:30 PM to 2:00 PM  
LOCATION: Santa Cruz County Building, Fifth Floor Redwood Conference Room  
701 Ocean Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

**\*\*As a courtesy to those who are affected, kindly attend the meeting *scent-free* and *smoke-free*.\*\***

### AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Agenda Review
4. Approve *November 9, 2024 Minutes*
5. Public Comment: *Any person may address the Commission for a period not to exceed three minutes on any issue within the jurisdiction of the Commission.*
6. New/Continuing Business/Action Items:
  - 6.1. Consider Advocating for Cabrillo College Drive/Soquel Drive Pedestrian Bridge Accessibility
  - 6.2. Consider Establishing an Ad Hoc Legislative Priorities Subcommittee to Consider Legislative and Budgetary Advocacy Priorities for 2024
  - 6.3. Commissioner Stipends and Other Changes to Santa Cruz County Code Chapter 2.38
7. Commission Reports
  - 7.1. Cabrillo College Accessibility Center Advisory Committee Report
8. Commission Priority Reports
  - 8.1. Accessibility Awareness Report
  - 8.2. Accessible Recreation Report
  - 8.3. Commission History Project Report
  - 8.4. Community Partner Collaboration Priority Report
  - 8.5. Legislative Priorities Report
  - 8.6. Affordable Accessible Housing Report
  - 8.7. Affordable Accessible Transportation Report
9. Staff Report
10. Announcements/Emerging Matters
11. Adjournment

**Next Regular Meeting:** Thursday, March 14, 2024, from 12:30 – 2:00 PM

*The County of Santa Cruz does not discriminate on the basis of disability, and no person shall, by reason of a disability, be denied the benefits of its services, programs, or activities. If you have a disability and require assistance to participate, please contact 454-2772 or TDD/711 at least 72 hours in advance to make arrangements.*



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## Meeting Minutes

DATE: Thursday, November 9, 2023  
TIME: 12:30 PM to 2:00 PM  
LOCATION: Santa Cruz County Building, Fifth Floor – Redwood Conference Room  
701 Ocean Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
PRESENT: John Daugherty (1<sup>st</sup> District), Rebecca Haifley (1<sup>st</sup> District), Stacie Grijalva (2<sup>nd</sup> District),  
Fay Levinson (2<sup>nd</sup> District), Becky Taylor (3<sup>rd</sup> District), Brenda Gutierrez Baeza (Vice Chair -  
4<sup>th</sup> District), David Molina (Chair - 5<sup>th</sup> District),  
EXCUSED: None  
ABSENT: None  
STAFF: Kaite McGrew (Commissions Manager)  
GUESTS: 3 members of the public were present.

1. Call to Order  
Meeting convened at 12:34 PM.
2. Roll Call
3. Agenda Review
4. Approve October 12, 2023 Minutes  
**Motion to Approve Minutes As Written**  
Motion/Second: Molina/Haifley  
**Motion passed unanimously.**
5. Public Comment
6. New/Continuing Business:
  - 6.1. Consider Advocacy Letter to the Board Regarding ADA-Accessible Beach Mats  
Commission reviewed a letter to the Board advocating for their funding and support for the installation of ADA-accessible beach mats on County beaches.  
**Motion to send the advocacy letter to the Board as written**  
Motion/Second: Daugherty/Gutierrez Baeza  
**Motion passed unanimously.**
  - 6.2. Consider advocating with the Board for the Continuation of the Commission as a Distinct Advisory Body  
Commission discussed the recent presentation to the Board on the ASSCLM project findings. In January, the Board will hear recommendations on how best to streamline the County's Commission structure, including potentially dissolving, combining or in some other way reducing the number of advisory bodies.  
**Motion authorizing Chairs to draft and send a letter to the Board advocating for the continuation of the Commission as a distinct advisory body**  
Motion/Second: Daugherty/Levinson  
**Motion passed unanimously.**

7. Commission Reports

7.1. Cabrillo College Accessibility Center Advisory Committee Report:

Gutierrez Baeza will report on the December meeting in January.

7.2. Housing Element Community Stakeholder Group Final Report: None

8. Ad Hoc Subcommittee Reports:

8.1. Accessibility Awareness Priority Report: No Report

8.2. Accessible Adaptive Recreation Priority Report

Gutierrez Baeza reported that the Treasure Cove Adaptive Playground design was revealed at the Adaptive Family Fall Festival at Jade Street Park. Molina reported that County Parks will not be providing programming at the Siltanen pool because of funding and staffing issues though the project may be revisited. Levinson reported that a Coastal Commission representative encouraged Commission to advocate for reopening the Rio Del Mar beach access pathways.

8.3. Commission History Subcommittee Report:

Staff reported that the research intern had identified specific eras with specific events in each era and is working on design elements. Several key Commissioners who had a significant role in the Commission's impact will be featured.

8.4. Community Partner Collaboration Report: No Report

8.5. Legislative Priority Report: No Report

8.6. Affordable Accessible Housing Report

Levinson attended a County affordable housing presentation and followed up with Supervisor Friend to find out what percentage of the approximately 4600 proposed affordable housing units will be required to be ADA-accessible. Molina would like Planning to give the Commission an overview on how the affordable housing planning process works, including ADA-accommodation requirements, ratio of rentals vs. homes for purchase, etc..

8.7. Affordable Accessible Transportation Report:

Staff left a message for Michael Tree to try and get the proposed meeting back on track.

Grijalva mentioned that the number of available drivers is being reduced and shared anecdotal stories of service concerns.

9. Staff Report: None

10. Announcements/Emerging Matters

Daugherty requested that an item be placed on the January agenda regarding a potential loss of affordable accessible because the St. George Housing (120 units) may be losing most of their funding and rents may be increased to "market rate". Molina requested that Daugherty research the matter further before bringing it back to the Commission with supporting details.

11. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 1:55 PM.

Submitted by: Kaite McGrew, *Commissions Manager*

**From:** [Richard Gubash](#)  
**To:** [Katherine McGrew](#)  
**Subject:** Request for Commission On Disability advocacy  
**Date:** Friday, February 2, 2024 4:41:10 PM

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\*\*\*\***CAUTION:**This is an EXTERNAL email. Exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email.\*\*\*\*

Hi Kaite,

I hope you are well. Below is the news story and request for advocacy.

In early January, a truck pulling an excavator on a trailer collided with the Cabrillo College Pedestrian bridge of Soquel Drive. [Here is a new story with photos of the damage](#). The bridge will need to be removed and replaced and the construction is planned to take up to two years to complete. The bridge pre-dates the ADA.

### **History of a Recent**

The bridge was permitted back in 2021 for some updates that were completed in 2022. The project was approved to proceed without improvements to ADA accessibility. There are stairs to access the bridge on both sides of Soquel Drive and it has never been accessible. People with mobility disabilities must take elevators to the street level and cross at the crosswalk. This is not equal access and it is a problem that separates ambulatory people from the disabled community.

**Request:** Before the construction permit is approved, it is critical to equal access for all community members, that the bridge be made accessible to all people. Cabrillo College is built on a hill and traversing the two sides of campus should be the same regardless of mobility status. I request that the commission provide strong public comment on the need to make the bridge accessible before the permit is approved or before any new construction can begin. This is a Title II ADA requirement that should not be waived as it was when the refurbishment project was approved a few years earlier.

We need the planning commission to insist on the next iteration of the new bridge to be wheelchair accessible. No permit should be approved without a lens of inclusion and honoring the spirit of the ADA.

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Rick Gubash (he, him pronouns)  
ASC Director

Suicide Prevention: Call 988  
Emergency: Call 911  
Community Resources: Call 211

### **Resources:**

[Student Health Services \(SHS\)](#) provides nursing, mental health counseling and wellness education on both campuses. Call (831) 479-6435 or email

**From:** [rebecca haifley](#)  
**To:** [Katherine McGrew](#); [David Molina \(dsm@mentalodyssey.com\)](#)  
**Subject:** Governor's budget proposal  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 10, 2024 12:47:33 PM

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**\*\*\*\*CAUTION:** This is an EXTERNAL email. Exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email. \*\*\*\*

Copied is the proposal for developmental service changes budget proposal..

As a commission do we want to discuss and possibly ask the Supervisors to write a letter to Senator Laird and Assembly member Gail Perllerin advocating a restoration of the original funding? A delay of a year in increased care provider pay and inclusive preschool would have widespread and long lasting consequences to people with developmental disabilities.

The key major adjustments in the developmental services budget that the Governor is proposing in his 2024-2025 State Budget plan are (CDCAN will issue separate report on other proposals in the Governor's budget):

- *Regional Center Provider Rate Reform (-\$1 billion Total Funds, -\$612.5 million General Fund): Due to resource availability, returns full implementation of service provider rate reform to the original timeline of July 1, 2025, while maintaining focus on improving outcomes and quality of services through the Quality Incentive Program. That original July 2025 implementation date was moved up to July 1, 2024 in the 2022-2023 State Budget as part of the overall budget deal reached that year between the Legislature and the Governor. That implementation now is being proposed to go back to the original July 1, 2025 date. All rate adjustments and increases already implemented will remain in the budget and efforts to implement the Regional Center Provider Rate Reform will continue, though with the original July 1, 2025 implementation date (assuming the Legislature approves the Governor's budget proposal).*

- *Fairview Warm Shutdown (\$11.3 million General Fund): An additional year of funding to support the warm shutdown of Fairview Developmental Center as the property disposition process continues.*

- *Preschool Inclusion Grants (-\$10 million GF): Proposes to delay the grant program from FY 2024-2025 until FY 2026-2027.*

The developmental services budget as proposed does not include any other major delays or reductions.

The Governor's release of his proposed spending plan begins the long yearly state budget process, with legislative budget subcommittee hearings beginning in February through late May; release in mid-May by the Governor of his May budget revision (that updates budget numbers and proposes revisions to his January 10th proposed budget) and then passage of budget plan in mid-June (state budget year begins July 1st)/.

**CDCAN NOTE:** To receive the free CDCAN Reports, send email request, with "Subscribe CDCAN" in the subject line, to Marty Omoto at: [martyomoto@att.net](mailto:martyomoto@att.net)

#### **LINKS TO GOVERNOR'S PROPOSED BUDGET**

The following, compiled by CDCAN (California Disability-Aging Community Action Network), are the links to the Governor's proposed budget plan (each department will release highlights or summaries of the proposed budget impacting their departments - CDCAN will issue separate report with those links)

**NEW** - GOVERNOR'S PROPOSED 2024-2025 STATE BUDGET - SUMMARY - PDF Document (149 pages) - posted on the Department of Finance (DOF) website:

<https://ebudget.ca.gov/2023-24/pdf/BudgetSummary/FullBudgetSummary.pdf>



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## Scheduled Meetings

Unless otherwise specified below, regularly scheduled Commission on Disability meetings are generally held as follows:

DAY: Second (2<sup>nd</sup>) Thursday\*  
MONTH: Every month except July and December  
TIME: 12:30 PM – 2:00 PM  
LOCATION: Santa Cruz County Building, Fifth Floor – Board Chambers or Redwood Room\*  
701 Ocean Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

**\*Meetings will be held in either of these rooms unless noted otherwise below**

Changes to the schedule, including special meetings, changes of location, or meeting cancellations, will be listed on the website at [www.scccod.net](http://www.scccod.net) as soon as information becomes available.

2024 MEETING DATES		
DATE	TIME	LOCATION
January 11, 2024	12:30 – 2:00 PM	Redwood Room
February 8, 2024	12:30 – 2:00 PM	Redwood Room
March 14, 2024	12:30 – 2:00 PM	Redwood Room
April 11, 2024	12:30 – 2:00 PM	Redwood Room
May 9, 2024	12:30 – 2:00 PM	Redwood Room
June 13, 2024	12:30 – 2:00 PM	Redwood Room
August 8, 2024	12:30 – 2:00 PM	Redwood Room
September 12, 2024	12:30 – 2:00 PM	Redwood Room
October 10, 2024	12:30 – 2:00 PM	Redwood Room
November 14, 2024	12:30 – 2:00 PM	Redwood Room

### Public Participation

- Please check the meeting agenda to learn details about how to participate in the commission meeting.
- If you need special accommodations, please call 454-2935 or TDD: 711 (California Relay Service) at least 48 hours before the meeting.