



# 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, May 8, 2025  
TIME: 12:30 PM to 2:00 PM  
LOCATION: Santa Cruz County Building, Coastlines 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/Roll Call
2. Agenda Review
3. Approve *March 13, 2025 Minutes*
4. 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.*
5. New/Continuing Business/Action Items:
  - 5.1. Officer Elections
  - 5.2. Consider 2026 Meeting Schedule
  - 5.3. Consider Support for *SB 239: Open meetings: teleconferencing: subsidiary body.*
  - 5.4. Unmet Transportation Needs Advocacy Update
6. Commission Reports
  - 6.1. Cabrillo College Accessibility Center Advisory Committee Report – Gutierrez Baeza
  - 6.2. Ad Hoc Collaborative Event Subcommittee Report
  - 6.3. Ad Hoc Kudos Planning Subcommittee Report
  - 6.4. Ad Hoc Legislative Priorities Subcommittee Report
7. Commission Priority Reports
  - 7.1. Accessibility Awareness Report
  - 7.2. Accessible Recreation Report
  - 7.3. Affordable Accessible Housing Report
  - 7.4. Affordable Accessible Transportation Report
8. Correspondence
9. Staff Report
10. Announcements/Emerging Matters
11. Adjournment

**Next Regular Meeting:** Thursday, June 12, 2025, 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, March 13, 2025  
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 (*Co-Chair - 1<sup>st</sup> District*), Jonathan Zinnanti (*2<sup>nd</sup> District*), Richard Gubash (*3<sup>rd</sup> District*) Becky Taylor (*Co-Chair - 3<sup>rd</sup> District*), Brenda Gutierrez Baeza (*4<sup>th</sup> District*), Jessica Liddy (*4<sup>th</sup> District*)  
EXCUSED: Camille Summers (*1<sup>st</sup> District*), Fay Levinson (*2<sup>nd</sup> District*), David Molina (*5<sup>th</sup> District*)  
ABSENT: None  
STAFF: Kaite McGrew (*Commissions Manager*), Mitsuno Baurmeister (*EEO Officer*)  
GUESTS: 2 members of the public were present.

1. Call to Order

Meeting convened at 12:45 PM.

Commission welcomed Commissioner Zinnanti (District 2) and Commissioner Liddy (District 4).

2. Roll Call

3. Agenda Review

4. Approve February 13 Minutes

**Motion to approve minutes as written**

Motion/Second: Taylor/Gubash

**Motion passed unanimously.**

5. Public Comment: None

6. New/Continuing Business:

6.1. Consider Tabling at the Transition Resource Fair for Youth with Disabilities

Commission discussed tabling at the Transition Resource Fair for Youth with Disabilities. Gubash and Taylor committed to attending.

**Motion to table at the Transition Resource Fair for Youth with Disabilities**

Motion/Second: Taylor/Gubash

**Motion passed unanimously.**

6.2. Consider RTC E&D TAC Priorities

Commission reviewed updated priorities in Unmet Needs as identified by the Elderly & Disabled TAC advisory body to the RTC. Daugherty summarized the priorities.

**Motion to Establish an Ad Hoc Unmet Transit Needs Subcommittee**

Motion/Second: Gubash/Liddy

**Motion passed unanimously.**

**Chair appointed Daugherty, Zinnanti, Gubash and Taylor to the subcommittee.**

7. Commission Reports

- 7.1. Cabrillo College Accessibility Center Advisory Committee Report  
Gutierrez-Baeza plans to attend the next meeting in May.
- 7.2. Ad Hoc Collaborative Event Subcommittee Update: No Report
- 7.3. Ad Hoc Kudos Planning Subcommittee Report  
**Chair appointed Liddy to the subcommittee.**
- 7.4. Ad Hoc Legislative Priorities Subcommittee Report  
**Chair appointed Gubash to the subcommittee.**

8. Commission Priority Reports:

- 8.1. Accessibility Awareness Priority Report: No Report
- 8.2. Accessible Recreation Priority Report: No Report
- 8.3. Affordable Accessible Housing Report: No Report
- 8.4. Affordable Accessible Transportation Report: No Report

9. Correspondence: None

10. Announcements/Emerging Matters:

Staff provided will follow up with details about the new stipend registration form. The Commission will continue to meet in the Coastlines Room going forward. The Commission's feedback on the County's *2025-2027 Equal Employment Opportunity and Cultural Responsiveness Plan* were incorporated. The April meeting will include officer elections and approval of the 2025 Meeting Schedule. While Commissioner reappointments have traditionally been automatic, the appointment process for District 5 is now open to all interested candidates, and Commissioner Molina has been invited to reapply for consideration. A decision is expected by April 1st.

11. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 2:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Kaite McGrew, *Commissions Manager*



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## Scheduled Meetings

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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**

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2026 MEETING DATES		
DATE	TIME	LOCATION
January 8, 2026	12:30 – 2:00 PM	Coastlines Room
February 13, 2026	12:30 – 2:00 PM	Coastlines Room
March 12, 2026	12:30 – 2:00 PM	Coastlines Room
April 9, 2026	12:30 – 2:00 PM	Coastlines Room
May 14, 2026	12:30 – 2:00 PM	Coastlines Room
June 11, 2026	12:30 – 2:00 PM	Coastlines Room
August 13, 2026	12:30 – 2:00 PM	Coastlines Room
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October 8, 2026	12:30 – 2:00 PM	Coastlines Room
November 12, 2026	12:30 – 2:00 PM	Coastlines Room

### Public Participation

- Please check the meeting agenda to learn details about how to participate in the commission meeting.
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May 8, 2025

Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors  
710 Ocean Street, Room 500  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Re: Recommendation of Support for Senate Bill 239

Dear Chair Hernandez and Members of the Board,

On behalf of the Santa Cruz County Disabilities Commission, we respectfully urge the Board of Supervisors to formally support Senate Bill 239 (SB 239), which would enhance remote meeting access for individuals with disabilities and older adults by providing permanent flexibility under California's Brown Act.

SB 239 addresses a critical barrier to civic engagement by ensuring that people who cannot attend meetings in person due to mobility limitations, chronic illness, immuno-compromised status, transportation challenges, or caregiving responsibilities can continue to participate fully in local public processes. While emergency orders during the COVID-19 pandemic temporarily removed these barriers, many of our community members have since lost that access.

As a body charged with advising the Board on issues affecting people with disabilities, we have consistently heard from constituents who benefited from remote participation options. SB 239 would make it easier for commissions like ours, and others focused on aging and disability issues, to meet and operate effectively—ensuring that diverse voices remain part of decision-making.

Supporting SB 239 aligns with Santa Cruz County's commitment to equity, inclusion, and accessibility. It advances the goals of universal design and removes structural obstacles to civic participation—especially for those who have been historically marginalized or underrepresented. For these reasons, we request that the Board vote to endorse SB 239 and send a letter of support to our state legislative delegation.

Thank you for your time and consideration on behalf of the disabilities community in Santa Cruz County. Please feel free to reach out should you require any further information or clarification.

Respectfully,

\_\_\_\_\_  
<NAME>

*Commission on Disabilities Co-Chair*

\_\_\_\_\_  
<NAME>

*Commission on Disabilities Co-Chair*

*cc: Santa Cruz County Seniors Commission  
Santa Cruz County In-Home Support Services Commission*



## SB-239 Open meetings: teleconferencing: subsidiary body. (2025-2026)

### As Amends the Law Today

**SECTION 1.** *Section 54953.05 is added to the Government Code, to read:*

**54953.05.** *(a) (1) The definitions in Section 54953, as that section may be amended from time to time, apply for purposes of this section.*

*(2) For purposes of this section, "subsidiary body" means a legislative body that meets all of the following:*

*(A) Is described in subdivision (b) of Section 54952.*

*(B) Serves exclusively in an advisory capacity.*

*(C) Is not authorized to take final action on legislation, regulations, contracts, licenses, grants, permits, or other entitlements.*

*(b) A subsidiary body may use teleconferencing without complying with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of Section 54953, if the subsidiary body complies with all of the following:*

*(1) The teleconferenced meetings shall be conducted in a manner that protects the statutory and constitutional rights of the parties or the public appearing before the subsidiary body.*

*(2) Each member of the subsidiary body shall participate through both audio and visual technology.*

*(3) The subsidiary body shall provide at least one of the following as a means by which the public may remotely hear and visually observe the meeting, and remotely address the subsidiary body:*

*(A) A two-way audiovisual platform.*

*(B) A two-way telephonic service and a live webcasting of the meeting.*

*(4) The subsidiary body shall give notice of the meeting and post agendas as otherwise required by this chapter.*

*(5) The subsidiary body shall designate at least one physical meeting location within the boundaries of the legislative body that created the subsidiary body where members of the public may physically attend, observe, hear, and participate in the meeting. At least one staff member of the subsidiary body or the legislative body that created the subsidiary body shall be present at each physical meeting location during the meeting. The subsidiary body shall post the agenda at each physical meeting location, but need not post the agenda at a remote location.*

*(6) In each instance in which notice of the time of the teleconferenced meeting is otherwise given or the agenda for the meeting is otherwise posted, the subsidiary body shall also give notice of the means by which members of the public may access the meeting and offer public comment.*

*(7) The agenda shall identify and include an opportunity for all persons to attend and address the subsidiary body directly pursuant to Section 54954.3 via a call-in option or via an internet-based service option.*

*(8) In the event of a disruption that prevents the subsidiary body from broadcasting the meeting to members of the public using the call-in option or internet-based service option, or in the event of a disruption within the subsidiary body's control that prevents members of the public from offering public comments using the call-in option or internet-based service option, the subsidiary body shall take no further action on items appearing on the meeting agenda until public access to the meeting via the call-in option or internet-based service option is*

restored. Actions taken on agenda items during a disruption that prevents the subsidiary body from broadcasting the meeting may be challenged pursuant to Section 54960.1.

(9) Notwithstanding Section 54953.3, an individual desiring to provide public comment through the use of an internet website, or other online platform, not under the control of the subsidiary body, that requires registration to log in to a teleconference may be required to register as required by the third-party internet website or online platform to participate.

(10) The members of the subsidiary body shall visibly appear on camera during the open portion of a meeting that is publicly accessible via the internet or other online platform.

(A) The visual appearance of a member of the subsidiary body on camera may cease only when the appearance would be technologically impracticable, including, but not limited to, when the member experiences a lack of reliable broadband or internet connectivity that would be remedied by joining without video, or when the visual display of meeting materials, information, or speakers on the internet or other online platform requires the visual appearance of a member of a subsidiary body on camera to cease.

(B) If a member of the advisory body does not appear on camera due to challenges with internet connectivity, the member shall announce the reason for their nonappearance when they turn off their camera.

(C) A member shall publicly disclose at the meeting before any action is taken, whether any other individuals 18 years of age or older are present in the room at the remote location with the member, and the general nature of the member's relationship with any such individuals.

(11) The subsidiary body shall not require public comments to be submitted in advance of the meeting and must provide an opportunity for the public to address the subsidiary body and offer comment in real time.

(A) A subsidiary body that provides a timed public comment period for each agenda item shall not close the public comment period for the agenda item, or the opportunity to register, pursuant to paragraph (9), to provide public comment until that timed public comment period has elapsed.

(B) A subsidiary body that does not provide a timed public comment period, but takes public comment separately on each agenda item, shall allow a reasonable amount of time per agenda item to allow public members the opportunity to provide public comment, including time for members of the public to register pursuant to paragraph (9), or otherwise be recognized for the purpose of providing public comment.

(C) A subsidiary body that provides a timed general public comment period that does not correspond to a specific agenda item shall not close the public comment period or the opportunity to register, pursuant to paragraph (9), until the timed general public comment period has elapsed.

(12) A member of the subsidiary body who participates in a teleconference meeting from a remote location shall be listed in the minutes of the meeting.

(c) In order to use teleconferencing pursuant to this section, the legislative body that established the subsidiary body by charter, ordinance, resolution, or other formal action shall make the following findings by majority vote before the subsidiary body uses teleconferencing pursuant to this section for the first time, and every 12 months thereafter:

(1) The legislative body has considered the circumstances of the subsidiary body.

(2) Teleconference meetings of the subsidiary body would enhance public access to meetings of the subsidiary body.

(3) Teleconference meetings of the subsidiary body would promote the attraction, retention, and diversity of subsidiary body members.

(d) The subsidiary body shall approve the use of teleconferencing by two-thirds vote before using teleconference pursuant to this section.

(e) This section shall not apply to a subsidiary body that has subject matter jurisdiction over police oversight, elections, or budgets.

(f) Notwithstanding subdivision (b), any member of a subsidiary body who is an elected official shall comply with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of Section 54953 to participate in a meeting through teleconferencing pursuant to this section.

*(g) Any final recommendations adopted by a subsidiary body shall be presented at a regular meeting of the legislative body that established the subsidiary body.*

*(h) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2030, and as of that date is repealed.*

**SEC. 2.** *The Legislature finds and declares that Section 1 of this act, which adds Section 54953.05 to the Government Code, imposes a limitation on the public's right of access to the meetings of public bodies or the writings of public officials and agencies within the meaning of Section 3 of Article I of the California Constitution. Pursuant to that constitutional provision, the Legislature makes the following findings to demonstrate the interest protected by this limitation and the need for protecting that interest:*

*By removing the requirement for agendas to be placed at the location of each public official participating in a public meeting remotely, this act protects the personal, private information of public officials and their families while preserving the public's right to access information concerning the conduct of the people's business.*

**SEC. 3.** *The Legislature finds and declares that Section 1 of this act, which adds Section 54953.05 to the Government Code, furthers, within the meaning of paragraph (7) of subdivision (b) of Section 3 of Article I of the California Constitution, the purposes of that constitutional section as it relates to the right of public access to the meetings of local public bodies or the writings of local public officials and local agencies. Pursuant to paragraph (7) of subdivision (b) of Section 3 of Article I of the California Constitution, the Legislature makes the following findings:*

*This act is necessary to provide opportunities for public participation in meetings of specified public agencies and to promote the attraction and retention of members of those agencies.*





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