

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26, 2025
PLUMMER PARK - ROOMS 5 & 6
7377 SANTA MONICA BOULEVARD
6:00 PM**

1. **CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL:** Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

PRESENT: Board Member Dore
Board Member Green
Board Member Nash
Board Member Schwartz
Board Member Watts
Vice Chair Mann
Chair Smith

Absent: Board Member Leathem
Board Member Semonco

ALSO Isaac Arredondo, Social Services Program Administrator
PRESENT: Derek Murray, Social Services Supervisor
Joyce Britton, Recording Secretary, Administrative Specialist IV

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Board Member Green led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
The Disability Advisory Board approved the meeting agenda for March 26, 2025. **Motioned by Board Member Dore, seconded by Board Member Nash and approved unanimously by roll call vote.**
4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
The Disability Advisory Board approved the minutes of the February 26, 2025, meeting.
ACTION: Motioned by Vice Chair Mann, seconded by Board Member Dore and approved unanimously by roll call vote.
5. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
Dan Harrington Tyrell expressed concern about the city's response to the needs of people with disabilities.
Stephanie Harker strongly opposed reducing advisory board meetings to every other month.

Mikie Friedman urged the City to end the delivery robot pilot program, citing safety risks and ADA barriers for people with disabilities.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. DISABILITY ADVISORY BOARD 2025 WORK PLAN

Board members discussed the 2025 Work Plan and requested a presentation from Community Safety Department on the City's emergency response, along with educational sessions and a community event focused on emergency preparedness.

ACTION: Motioned by Vice Chair Mann to move Discussion of the Work Plan to Unfinished Business for discussion. **Seconded by Board Member Green and approved by roll call vote.**

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. PERSONAL DELIVERY DEVICES AND DELIVERY ROBOTS

The Disabilities Advisory Board received an update on the Personal Delivery Devices Pilot Program and review staff's recommendations for key requirements in the permanent PDD Program Operating Agreement.

ACTION: Received and provided feedback. The Board appointed Chair Smith to attend the Council meeting on May 19 and speak on its behalf.

Public Comments on Item 7.A:

Four members of the public expressed strong concerns about the delivery robot program, citing blocked sidewalks, safety risks for pedestrians—especially the elderly and disabled—and the lack of ADA compliance. They criticized the program as profit-driven, questioned its environmental and job impacts, and urged the City to prioritize community needs over corporate interests.

Board Member Comments on Item 7.A:

Advisory Board members raised concerns about delivery robots blocking narrow, non-ADA-compliant sidewalks, creating safety and access issues for people with disabilities, and noted a lack of City revenue, formal complaint process, and adequate oversight. Some recommended pausing the program, rerouting robots, reducing hours, and voiced broader concerns about automation, discrimination, and community impact.

B. DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH SUBCOMMITTEE

The Disabilities Advisory Board formed a subcommittee to support the

planning and execution of the Disabilities Resource Fair and Disability Service Awards Televised Meeting.

ACTION:

Subcommittee: Vice Chair Mann, Board Member Green, Board Member Schwartz.

Alternates: Board Member Nash, Board Member Watts, Chair Smith

8. EXCLUDED CONSENT:

A. DISABILITY ADVISORY BOARD 2025 WORK PLAN

The Disability Advisory Board received the finalized 2025 work plan.

ACTION: The Board discussed incorporating emergency preparedness for people with disabilities, including the idea of having community safety personnel who can assist and account for individuals with disabilities during emergencies. The Board expressed interest in receiving a presentation from the Community Safety Department. They emphasized the need for first responders to educate the public on how to respond to these situations. The Board expressed a desire to provide input on the needs of people with disabilities rather than just receive presentations. They requested that emergency preparedness be prioritized on the Work Plan due to its importance. Additionally, the Board recommended reducing the number of presentations by half, focusing more on action-oriented items, and sharing their "wish list" of presentations with other advisory boards.

*****Vice Chair Mann motioned to extend the meeting 15 minutes.**

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

10. ITEMS FROM STAFF: None.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

12. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS/LIAISON REPORTS

Board Member Dore announced the Social Services Priorities Public Hearing on April 8 at 5:30 PM and encouraged attendance.

Board Member Nash reported he is hearing there is an increase in apartment-to-condo conversions, resulting in residents being displaced.

Board Member Schwartz suggested that the delivery robot issue be sent back to the City Council for reconsideration.

Board Member Green attended the LGBTQ+ Commission meeting, applied for the Civic Leadership Academy, and expressed concern about delivery robots operating unsafely on Romaine.

Board Member Watts motioned to adjourn in memory of Crane Landis. He also attended the Older Adults Advisory Board and Public Safety Commission meetings.

Vice Chair Mann shared that she has heard the City may no longer be using an ADA compliance company for Pride and asked staff to confirm.

Chair Smith attended a webinar on cerebral palsy and noted interest in the topic at the Disabilities Expo. She expressed concern about limited support for children on the autism spectrum and thanked staff.

13. ADJOURNMENT

The Disability Advisory Board adjourned at 8:18 pm to its next Regular Meeting on Wednesday, April 23, 2025, at 6:00 pm at the Plummer Park Community Center, Rooms 5 & 6.

APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD ON THIS 23rd DAY OF APRIL, 2025.

Signed by:
Louise Smith
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LOUISE SMITH,
CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:
Michelle Liberman
98183AC7676F4F8...

STAFF LIAISON

A copy of the audio recording of this meeting can be obtained from the City Clerk's office upon request.

(Disclaimer: Staff records the meetings for the sole purpose of composing the official meeting minutes; therefore, the recordings are not of commercial quality.)