



Commission on Disability

## Commission on Disability

Regular Meeting Minutes  
September 13, 2000

**Roll Call:** 6:35 p.m.

**Present:** Charlie Betcher, Karen Craig, Norm Rabkin, Miya Rodolfo-Sioson, Karen Rose, Robert Smith, Delia Todd, Emily Wilcox

**Absent:** Marissa Shaw

**Staff present:** Deborah Chernin, Rosemary Dady, Eric Dibner, Carol Lopes, Lindsey Urbina, Virginia Vafa

**Comments from the Public:** Mark Liolios spoke in support of upcoming ballot measures related to financing for public parks. Michael Pachovas spoke about current provision of Measure E emergency services and concerns regarding current Measure E contractor. Michael Minasian thanked Commissioners for their support regarding incident at Jupiter's Cafe. Scott Luebking discussed the attendant shortage problem in Berkeley and the need for more outreach to university students and others. Jesse Townley of 'Easy Does It' expressed a desire for greater coordination between the Commission and his program. Raymond Ayers described his difficulties with police and others who misunderstand his disability.

### **Business**

**Actions and Discussion:** *All actions are unanimous unless otherwise indicated.*

Approval of June 7, 2000 Minutes: It was M/S/C (Smith/Todd) to approve the amended June 7, 2000 minutes that were included in the September meeting packet.

Presentation on Brown Act: Deputy City Attorney Lindsey Urbina presented information on the Brown Act and its impact on Commission activities. During discussion, Commissioners requested clarification regarding what constitutes an announcement under the Brown Act and requested copies of prior opinions issued by the City Attorney's Office.

Presentation on Project Impact: Carol Lopes gave a presentation on the emergency preparedness program Project Impact.

Recommendation Regarding I-80 Overpass Amenities: It was M/S/C (Craig/Rose) that the staircase to Aquatic Park receive the lowest priority for funding and that the following four amenities receive top priority for funding: 1) installation of adequate seating, including benches and individual chairs with armrests; 2) installation of emergency callboxes near the east and west touchdown plazas; 3) installation of emergency callboxes that are accessible to the profoundly deaf; and 4) increased pedestrian lighting at the touchdown plazas. Commissioners also discussed the need for accessible streets and sidewalks and adequate lighting leading up to the plazas.

Future Meetings Regarding I-80 Overpass: It was M/S/C (Craig/Betcher) that any future meetings regarding the I-80 Overpass, including any groundbreaking or opening ceremonies, should be scheduled for afternoons, rather than mornings, in order that people with disabilities can participate.

Office Space for the Center for Education of the Infant Deaf: It was M/S/C (Wilcox/Rabkin) that the Commission urge the City to continue assisting the Center for Education of the Infant Deaf with finding an appropriate office space in Berkeley so that the Center can continue providing its valuable services in Berkeley.

Traffic Calming Workshop on October 14: It was M/S/C (Craig/Betcher) that the Commission on Disability co-sponsor the upcoming Traffic Calming Workshop on October 14.

October Special Meeting: It was M/S/C (Wilcox/Rose) that the October 14 Traffic Calming Workshop serve as a special meeting for the Commission on Disability.

Hearing Regarding ADA Transition Plan: It was M/S/C (Rose/Wilcox) that the first two hours of the October 11, 2000 Commission meeting be devoted to a review of the ADA Transition Plan.

**Items for Future Agenda:**

- Update on petition to request speed humps (available on Public Works' website).
- Request for representative to participate in meetings regarding West Berkeley Redevelopment Projects to ensure accessibility of Amtrak station.

**Adjournment:** Commissioner Rose moved that the meeting be adjourned at 9:40 p.m.