



CITY OF TACOMA COMMITTEES • BOARDS • COMMISSIONS

TACOMA AREA COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES

AGENDA

FRIDAY JULY 12, 2024 – 4:00-6:00 PM

Remote Online Meeting Via Zoom and Live at
Tacoma Municipal Building
747 Market Street, Conf. Room 248
Tacoma, WA 98402

WELCOME

Land Acknowledgement: ***“We gratefully acknowledge that we rest on the traditional lands of the Puyallup People where they make their home and speak the Lushootseed language.”***

Tacoma and TPU main campuses are both on these traditional lands. Even though none of us participated in taking indigenous land, those of us who are not native still benefit from the fact that it happened.

- 4:00 Call to Order /Roll Call
- 4:04 Ice Breaker/” What does democracy mean to you and how do you choose to contribute to democracy?”
- 4:15 Adoption of Agenda/Additions/New Business
- 4:18 Acceptance of the Minutes from June 2024
- 4:20 Public Comment

COD Members:, Chair; Amin Tony Hester, Vice Chair, Hayley Edick: , Aimee Sidhu, Anthony Caldwell, Todd Holloway,

James Williams, Lukas Barfield, Cheri D. Coleman, Wanda McRae, and Billie Periman

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4:30 **Chair Reports**

- Chair Hester
- Vice Chair Edick

4:40 **Liaison Report – Office of Equity & Human Rights – Lucas Smiraldo**

1. Feasibility Study Update
2. Break in August?
3. Recap of TACOD Strategic Plan Approval and New Project Management Format

A. New Subcommittees:

- Disability Resources and Access Platforms
- Transportation Access (Will include Accessible Taxi)

B. Existing Active Subcommittees:

- Public Works
- Emergency Management

C. Currently Inactive Subcommittees:

- Information Technology
- Public Safety
- Education

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Two Year Strategic Plan Priorities 2024-2026

1. Organize a **“State of Disability in Tacoma” Report** in Collaboration with Community Partners
2. Focus on **Transportation Needs** for People with Disabilities as a primary objective of the new Transportation Access Subcommittee.
3. **Develop and enhance platforms of access for disability resources** in partnership with agencies and entities that have established or are developing similar work.
4. Expand **outreach and community engagement** to include community events such as festivals, speaker engagements, resources fairs and other community facing opportunities.
5. Seek opportunities to **partner with other City of Tacoma Commissions, Boards and Committees** to pursue common interests and intersecting advocacy missions.

5:00 Report from Active Subcommittees

- **Public Works—Anthony Caldwell, Chair, Barfield, Hester, Luke Byram**
- **Disability Resources and Access Platforms— Cheri Coleman and Caldwell, Co Chairs, McRae, Periman. Sidhu**
- **Transportation—Hayley Edick, McRae, Barfield, Hester, Periman**
- **Emergency Management—Todd Holloway, Ivan Tudela**

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5:25 Ivan Tudela—Pierce County Human Services

5:30 Tony Hester—Report from PCAC

5:35 Individual Commissioner Reports

5:40 Invitation for community input

5:45 New Business or Good of the Order

5:50 Meeting Adjourned

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Tacoma Area Commission on Disabilities Committee Minutes

Hybrid Meeting, hosted virtually via Zoom and in person at
Tacoma Municipal Building
Friday June 14, 2024

Call to Order	Chair Edick called the meeting to order at 4:04 PM. Land Acknowledgement read out loud
Commissioners Present	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vice Chair Edick• Sidhu• Coleman• Perriman• McRae• Barfield• Caldwell
Commissioners Absent	Holloway (excused) Hester (Excused) Walthier (excused), Williams (excused)
City Staff Present	Lucas Smiraldo, Angel Pele, DeMeshee Pye, Maria Gamez, Ashley Young
Guests Present – Community	Julian Wheeler, Ivan Tudela
Ice Breaker	“ If you were gifted two free tickets to any concert, performance, or event, who or what would you choose to see/hear/attend?”
Adoption of Agenda	Co Edick motions. Perriman seconds. All in favor. Adopted agenda. Agenda is adopted as presented.
Acceptance of Minutes	Acceptance of the Minutes from May 2024: Sidhu motions. Caldwell seconds. All in favor. Minutes adopted.
Public Comment	Julian Wheeler: Please celebrate ADA Anniversary

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Chair Reports	Vice Chair Edick offered brief report
TVE Presentation and Feedback	<p>a. What kinds of accommodations should be available at every presentation, performance, and event in our city?</p> <p>Commissioner Comments</p> <p>In these areas of transportation, access, and language – assuming everyone can navigate technology. TACOD can't afford to have interpreters. How can we market further than QR codes and smart phones? Access is huge and not everyone has a smart phone. How do we push marketing further than Tacoma? A lot of folks are from out of the area such as Fircrest, Fife, etc.</p> <p>Universal design – Apply this to events, i.e., farmer's markets.</p> <p>Universal Design Resources:</p> <p>https://www.guggenheim.org/accessibility/guggenheim-for-all/guggenheim-for-all-toolkit/creating-a-sensory-friendly-environment</p> <p>https://www.washington.edu/doit/universal-design-process-principles-and-applications</p> <p>Inclusive language – Braille.</p> <p>Guide for where folks are supposed to be seated.</p> <p>Sensory objects for example, TBI's.</p> <p>b. Which accommodations are most frequently missing? If a Venue doesn't know how to best accommodate anyone, they miss it altogether. They don't know the difference between visually impaired and blind. If you see something that looks unique to you, bring it up to her to include things that are hilarious.</p> <p>Can we make announcements prior to the end of events for those with disabilities to exit safely? So, the crowd will stabilize for the exit?</p> <p>Emergency services response for disabilities.</p> <p>Communication during the event - how are you making announcements around the timeline of things? How are you communicating the coming/going of the toolkit?</p> <p>Departure pathways,</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• For the ICE's - who is there to communicate or a service provider to help translate in case of an emergencies, etc.• Train folks around how to ask the questions... how to support them... removing assumptions.• How can we partner with other organizations?• RAINBOW and OASIS Center.• For the skill shop itself, we'll invite Athena who is our partner and contracted to help run PRIDE.• Karen Foster - Event producer who might have some info to help along with Athena.• Ivan Tudela - Pierce County.• Metro Parks -• Adding Councilmember to the platform explaining the importance. <p>c. What kinds of trainings do you think people hosting events need more of? Trainings around interacting with staff.</p> <p>a. Marketing & Signs</p> <p>b. Transportation in Events –</p> <p>c. Utilizing Universal Design Practices.</p> <p>Future Input to address access to events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• LGBTQ+IA*Can we invite the Rainbow Center & Oasis Group to the meeting.• Disabilities Communities. <p>City Council - Councilmember Diaz</p> <p>*They will be on the panel.</p> <p>Ivan Tudela - Pierce County (Commissioners), He worked with our Commissioners to create Emergency Responses for different access points. *Can we invite him to the meeting. He will be a resource and intended engagement for research purposes.</p> <p>Language Access -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Can we engage with some of the cultural groups? Affinity groups? Maria and Liesl - Can we engage with the particularly Spanish-speaking groups to gauge feedback? *Can we invite them to this meeting to gauge their feedback? Golden & Liesl.• Employee Engagement (HRD) - DEIAB (Annalycia & Angel)
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • *Gauging their experience surrounding necessary trainings needed to support the implementation of the toolkit. • TVE uses Brain Shark and LinkedIn Learning for Equity trainings. Wondering if we can use that as a resource at the skill shops & would love for HRD to provide feedback. DEIA training on a staff level, and will bring in Claire (guest services member - training). Equity committee uses the trainings in brain sharks and linkedin learning. • Next steps - Creating a shared file folder so that we can operate in from wherever we are. • Ashley will reach out to Diaz to see if she would like to a meet and greet in addition to a run through. • Maria will reach out to the Calavera group to see if they're interested in attending any meeting moving forward. Mariam will speak with the engagement groups. • August 19th Skill Shop Presenters <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tony Hester (Chairman) - Councilmember Diaz - Athena - Maria - Angel - Ashley/DeMeShee <p>Maria Gamez shared her work around language access and commissioners visited that theme with these questions: How can we recruit language ambassadors? How can we make the brochures or event-related material accessible? How can we establish a buddy-system for partners? Communication-buddy?</p>
Liaison Report – Office of Equity & Human Rights – Lucas Smiraldo	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Feasibility Study Update This is in the works with Public Works and in preparation to be placed in front of council. 2. Commissioner Orientation Check in and Feedback. A lot of information but it was well designed. The online components were helpful if you take them prior. The desire is to re-present it in September and conduct these twice per year. 3. Review of Commission Feedback and Recommendations for New Subcommittees and Top Priorities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioners reviewed the strategic plan. They selected chairs for the new proposed committees DISABILITY RESOURCES AND ACCESS PLATFORMS (Coleman and Caldwell) and TRANSPORTATION ACCESS (Edick).

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They voted in favor of the following action priorities and supported the new chair assignments: Sidhu moved to accept the strategic plan and Caldwell seconded. Vote was unanimous. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Organize a “State of Disability in Tacoma” Report in Collaboration with Community Partners 2. Focus on Transportation Needs for People with Disabilities as a primary objective of the new Transportation Access Subcommittee. 3. Develop and enhance platforms of access for disability resources in partnership with agencies and entities that have established or are developing similar work. 4. Expand outreach and community engagement to include community events such as festivals, speaker engagements, resources fairs and other community facing opportunities. 5. Seek opportunities to partner with other City of Tacoma Commissions, Boards and Committees to pursue common interests and intersecting advocacy missions. <p>PROPOSED NEW SUBCOMMITTEES:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. DISABILITY RESOURCES AND ACCESS PLATFORMS Enhance access to disability resources across the city of Tacoma and surrounding communities to offer people with disabilities one stop guides, networks, and links to support these communities with the services and support they need to thrive. This work is to be done in collaboration with community partners that would likely develop and host these platforms. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co Chairs will be Coleman and Caldwell • Coleman will reach out to set up first meeting • Up to five commissioners can be members and other community members are welcome to join these discussions. <p>EXISTING SUBCOMMITTEES:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Public Works Work in an advisory capacity in partnership with staff in Public Works to meet ADA access needs to include infrastructure and intersection and traffic upgrades across the city. Recommend policies that would enhance access and mobility for those with disabilities and maximize safety of these same communities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair: Anthony Caldwell
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	<p>2. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT Work in partnership with City of Tacoma and local jurisdictional public entities and agencies to help advise and shape emergency responses that will best serve people with disabilities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chair: Todd Holloway (Will Term Out in August but could remain chair as community member) <p>PROJECT BASED SUBCOMMITTEES</p> <p>1. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY Work in support of digital equity to provide digital access to people with disabilities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chair: No Current Chair <p>2. Public Safety Advise Emergency Response Agencies including Police, Fire and other emergency response entities in building policies and practices that enhance public safety for people with disabilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chair: No Current chair <p>3. Education Partnerships Work with Tacoma Public Schools and other Education Institutions to enhance disability access practices and policies that best meet the needs to students with apparent, and non-apparent disabilities and neuro divergent ways of learning.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Subcommittee does not have a chair and has not met regularly since youth chair departed in 2022
Action Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Commissioners Coleman and Caldwell will meet to discuss next steps for Disabilities and Access Platform• Commissioners will lead remaining subcommittees and not all will be staffed moving forward,• Questions for TACOD Consideration: How can we recruit language ambassadors? How can we make the brochures or event-related material accessible? How can we establish a buddy-system for partners? Communication-buddy?
Emergency Management—	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No report

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Ivan Tudela – Pierce County Human Services	Partnering with community. Shared 70 AC units with those in need. Income and age qualified. Processed 4,000 EBT cards for those in need of food assistance.
Report from PCAC	See chair report above.
Committee Reports	Caldwell—Next phase of access extending from McKinley to Portland via 64 th is beginning. More bike lanes planned for downtown.
Individual Commissioner Reports	None.
Invitation for Community Input	None
New Business or Good of the Order	None
Adjournment	5:40 PM

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