

# **Sacramento County Disability Advisory Commission (DAC) and Subcommittees Work Plans for 2024 and Accomplishments for 2023**

## **Introduction**

Each year, Sacramento County Disability Advisory Commission (DAC) and its two standing subcommittees, the Programs and Services Access Subcommittee (PSAS) and the Physical Access Subcommittee (PASC), in consultation with the Sacramento County Disability Compliance Office (DCO), each develop work plans for the coming year. The Commission's work plan assists the DAC and DCO staff in setting priorities, organizing agendas, and balancing the work with the resources available.

The work plan's scope and priorities reflect the following considerations:

- Compliance with the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors resolution establishing the DAC, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and other applicable federal, state, and county disability and access laws that impact people with disabilities
- The findings and recommendations in the 2020 Sacramento County Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Self Evaluation and Transition Plan
- Concepts of universal design
- Issues and projects to ensure that no qualified individual with a disability shall, based on disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs, and activities offered or the use of facilities by Sacramento County departments, or be subjected to discrimination by any subpart of the county
- Issues and projects identified by DCO staff as having greatest positive impact on countywide access and performance in the delivery of services, programs, and activities to people with disabilities
- Issues reflected in the prior year work plan and carried forward
- Balance of the amount of work with resources (DCO staff support and time available, as well as Commission members' active participation)
- Commission members' comments and recommendations concerning issues and priorities, as well as input from interested members of the public

# Disability Advisory Commission (DAC) 2024 Work Plan

## Standing Items (schedule as needed)

- 1) Monitor status and progress, and participate in the implementation of the ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan
- 2) Report disability community concerns and participate in providing input on Voting and Polling Place Accessibility as well as usability
- 3) Follow-up on initiatives raised in the DAC Annual Report 2021-22 to continue to:
  - a) Initiate meetings when needed with the Deputy County Executives, Department Heads and program representatives regarding the issues raised in the Report
  - b) Receive updates and provide input to the Department of Technology (DTech), as to their work in implementing digital accessibility, training staff on creating accessibility and working with adaptive software; hiring staff with background in digital accessibility; and accessibility of public engagement processes and documents
  - c) Continue to recommend access features and needs to the Department of Airports and coordinate with the development and implementation of their ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan process
  - d) Continue to provide input to the draft RFP for the program review and desk audit for the Disability Compliance Office (DCO), to evaluate whether staffing and resources are sufficient for implementation of the ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan Findings and Recommendations county-wide
  - e) Advocate for the DCO's program review and desk audit to be implemented and completed within this fiscal year
- 4) Continue to be engaged in training and learning sessions to stay informed on changes in legal requirements, County organization and services, etc., in order to better advise on current disability access issues in facilities, programs, services and activities
- 5) Continue to participate in urgent and emerging disability related Issues, as warranted or on request
- 6) Continue to assist in the recruitment of qualified and actively involved members to serve on the DAC
- 7) Continue to follow up as to the accessibility in Covid-19 testing and vaccination services, as well as following up with additional recommendations for needed services for homebound people
- 8) Issue letter to the Board of Supervisors requesting their assistance in resolving the question: How can the DAC schedule an Agenda item, such as an Annual Report regarding matters of disability access in County services and facilities, on the Board of Supervisors' Agenda as a timed item for public discussion, without the requirement of a Department Director's signature or being forwarded on by the Chiefs of Staff?
- 9) Continue to address service delivery and accessibility concerns with the County's In Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Public Authority, through collaboration with the IHSS Advisory Commission and staff.
- 10) Advocate for the continuation of DAC interactive hybrid in-person and virtual meetings; make recommendations to the Department of Technology (DTech), Clerk of the Board's Office, County Executive Office, and Disability Compliance Office for the improvement of technological

equipment and support to enable all County Board of Supervisors, as well as all Boards and Commissions to hold their meetings both in-person and virtually, interactive and not solely the chat box, increasing the real-time participation of the public's access to the democratic process, especially for people with disabilities.

**New Initiatives** (schedule as time permits)

1. Introduction to new County Supervisor/County Executive and other key County leadership
2. Learn more about and advance greater accessibility and usability for 311 services
3. Receive updates from the Office of Emergency Services (OES) regarding Access & Functional Needs representation in disaster response, operational procedures and documents
4. Continue to review and provide input to the Summary Report of ADA/HIPAA Projects at County Jails from Chevon Kothari, Deputy County Executive, Social Services

## Disability Advisory Commission (DAC) Activities and Accomplishments 2023

1. Provided input to the Office of Emergency Services (OES) on the needs of the disability community with regard to evacuation maps and evacuation information
2. Successfully adapted to updated Brown Act meeting requirements for hybrid (in-person and virtual) meetings
3. Established a Housing and Homeless Services Task Force; performed a site visit of County's first Safe Stay site (pallet cabins with wraparound services) and offered guidance to program staff on enhancing accessibility on site and in program delivery
4. Provided input to Airport staff on SMForward, the largest ever expansion project for Sacramento International Airport, including a new pedestrian walkway between terminals, new ground transportation facilities and rental car center
5. Received status report on Airports' ADA Self Evaluation and Transition Plan progress
6. Heard testimony from consumers and disability advocates regarding significant systemic barriers in In Home Supportive Services (iHSS), and considered steps for ongoing engagement
7. Gave input to the Disability Compliance Office (DCO) and Department of Personnel Services (DPS) regarding the Request for Proposals for consultants to review and make recommendations on the staffing and resources needed by the DCO
8. Reviewed a report provided to the Human Services Coordinating Council (HSCC) regarding completed and ongoing ADA updates to the Jails (Mays Consent Decree), and considered follow up steps
9. Received updates from Department of Technology (DTech) on hiring additional staff to focus on web accessibility, in response to the DAC Report 21/22
10. Made recommendations to the Clerk of the Board's Office regarding making the Boards and Commissions Application process accessible
11. Provided input to the Department of Voter Registration and Elections (VRE) on accessibility of Vote Centers and other election facilities, ballot information and other election processes
12. Issued follow-up letter to the Community Wellness Response Team (CWRT) and Mobile Crisis Support Team (MCST), requesting their response to six questions to assist the DAC in its understanding of how they address access issues in their programs
13. Received training on
  - a. compliance with updated Brown Act provisions regarding hybrid meetings
  - b. making effective motions under Robert's Rules of Order
  - c. the basics of ADA Title II and
  - d. Brown Act serial meeting prohibitions

## **DAC Programs & Services Access Subcommittee Work Plan 2024**

### **Standing items:** (schedule as needed)

1. Continue discussions with the Behavioral Health Services (BHS) Cultural Competency staff regarding recommendations to include disability categories in BHS staff and contracted service provider demographics surveys
2. Review Department of Rehabilitation guidelines for accessible meetings to determine if it is an effective resource to be posted on the Disability Compliance Office's (DCO) web page, Disability Access (ADA) Resources for County Employees Serving the Public (ADA resource page)
3. Review DCO draft of Accessible Meetings Guidelines (when available, currently under development)
4. Review responses to Subcommittee questions and continue to engage with BHS Community Wellness Response Team (CWRT) and Mobile Crisis Support Team (MCST) regarding disability access concerns in 988 crisis response and referral programs
5. Review electronic Disability Access Complaint form for content and accessibility, when available (currently under development)
6. Revisit development of a county-wide Service Animal policy, including establishment of relief areas and other best practices, using the previous DCO draft, Airports and Department of Human Assistance policies as a guide
7. Monitor and review development and dissemination of ADA resource page for County employees
8. Urgent or emerging issues as needed or on request

### **New Initiatives** (schedule as time permits):

1. Assessment of DAC member skills

## **DAC Programs & Services Access Subcommittee**

### **Activities and Accomplishments 2023**

- 1) Reviewed Behavioral Health Services' Cultural Competency Report and provided input to staff, including specific recommendations for inclusion of comprehensive questions into the diversity survey for employees.
- 2) Reviewed and provided input to the Department of Personnel Services (DPS) regarding content of their web page "Disability Access Resources for County Employees Serving the Public." Evaluated and made recommendations regarding the resource "Planning an Accessible Meeting or Event" from the US Department of Labor's AskEARN.org
- 3) Researched the Division of Behavioral Health Services' Community Wellness Response Team (CWRT) and Mobile Crisis Support Team (MCST) programs and service delivery and evaluated for potential accessibility barriers
  - a) Gathered information by review of program materials
  - b) Engaged in dialogue with program manager
  - c) Attended MCST Advisory Committee meeting and gave input
  - d) Developed questions regarding opportunities for improving accessibility for people with disabilities receiving MCST/CWRT services
  - e) Submitted questions via letter to MCST/CWRT Program Managers; requested response by 1.31.24

## DAC Physical Access Subcommittee Workplan 2024

1. Continue to receive, comment on, and develop recommendations as warranted to quarterly Departments of Transportation and semi-annual Department of General Services reports:
  - a. Receive, comment on, and develop recommendations of scheduled updates from the Sacramento County Departments of General Services and Transportation as to their progress in meeting all legal obligations in their individual ADA self-evaluation and transition plans. For example, how many existing and new traffic signals are being equipped with accessible pedestrian signals (APS) annually, and when will all traffic signals, including pedestrian hybrid beacons, have APS within the unincorporated area of the County
  - b. Receive, comment on, and develop recommendations as to the status of the development of an updated accessible pedestrian signal policy, as well as the development of a policy which addresses rectangular rapid flashing beacons to be made accessible to pedestrians with disabilities
  - c. Receive, comment on, and develop recommendations to a schedule as to when all existing pedestrian crossings will have curb ramps with detectable warning surfaces
2. Continue to learn about, participate in community meetings, provide comments on, and develop recommendations to the:
  - a. Arden Way Complete Streets Master Plan - Construction Phases I and II
  - b. Empowerment Park, a planned accessible playground near Bell St. and Northrup Ave., and surrounding pedestrian facilities – continue monitoring development and giving input during construction, implementation of final amenities, sidewalk and public rights-of-way design and construction
  - c. Gibson Ranch Sensory Trail Project – monitor development and continue to give input on design and construction
  - d. Greenback Lane Improvements and Undergrounding
  - e. Madison Ave from Fair Oaks Blvd to Hazel Avenue
  - f. Re-imagine North Watt Avenue Corridor (Antelope Rd. to Peacekeeper Way)
  - g. Other street and sidewalk improvement projects when they are ready for review
3. Continue to receive, comment on, and develop recommendations as warranted to the Department of Transportation Arden Way Complete Street Corridor Project Master Plan updates, such as:
  - a. Continue to advocate for use of trapezoidal warning delineators where bike lanes intersect with commercial driveways
  - b. Monitor the evaluation of the durability under vehicular traffic of trapezoid/tactile warning delineator products made of polymer concrete (StrongGo), galvanized metal, and cast iron, to be considered for installation across driveways, to occur in one of Sacramento County DOT's corporation yards

- c. Continue to advocate for the placement of bus stops at the curbside along the corridor
  - d. All other disability-related access and usability matters
4. Receive, comment on, and develop recommendations on the status of making track crossings in the unincorporated County in compliance with Title 24, Part 2, Chapter 11B, 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design; and PROWAG Accessibility Guidelines for Pedestrian Facilities in the Public Right-of-Way, Final Rule (August 8, 2023)
5. Continue to receive, comment on, and develop recommendations as warranted to the Department of Airports updates on such matters as:
  - a. The implementation of the airport ADA self-evaluation and transition plan for the four airports in the system: Sacramento International Airport (SMF), Mather Airport (MHR), Executive Airport (SAC), and Franklin Field (F72)
  - b. Planning, design, and construction activities for access at the four airports in the system
  - c. Four airport master plans (accessibility and usability goals and objectives).
  - d. Ground transportation and parking
  - e. Emergency evacuation procedures, including the Automated People Mover (APM)
  - f. Wayfinding, especially for people with sensory and cognitive disabilities
  - g. All other disability-related access and usability matters
6. Continue to receive, comment on, and develop recommendations as warranted to the Department of Airports updates on such matters as:
  - a. Status of the development and implementation of the airport's modernization and expansion project: Sacramento International Airport (SMF)
  - b. Planning, design, and construction activities at the SMF
  - c. The master plan (accessibility and usability goals and objectives)
  - d. Ground transportation and parking
  - e. Emergency evacuation procedures, including the Automated People Mover (APM)
  - f. Wayfinding, especially for people with sensory and cognitive disabilities
  - g. All other disability-related access and usability matters
7. Work collaboratively with the County Disability Compliance Office and Office of Emergency Services (OES), in making accessible OES Evacuation Routes
8. Receive a presentation and provide input on the current process for sidewalk access requests, which are now made using 311, as well as an update on the status and progress of responding to the requests
9. Continue to address emerging, urgent, and/or emergency disability-related issues involving physical access, as warranted or upon request



## **DAC Physical Access Subcommittee Activities and Accomplishments 2023**

1. Received updates, gave feedback and recommendations to the Department of General Services (DGS) regarding ADA Facilities Improvements
2. Reviewed Public Access Complaint and County response; proposed accessible alternatives for 700 H Entry and Path of Travel from County Parking Lot
3. Assisted the Disability Compliance Office with response to inquiry regarding accessibility requirements on American River Parkway informational signage
4. Received presentations and provided input and recommendations to enhance accessibility for the following Department of Transportation (SacDOT) street and sidewalk improvement projects
  - a. Fair Oaks Blvd. Mobility Project Phase II
  - b. Folsom Blvd Complete Streets Improvements Phase II
  - c. Arden Way Complete Streets Project Phases I and II
  - d. Street Striping – Maintenance Division
5. Received stakeholder input and prepared recommendations for ensuring accessibility in the planned new Ground Transportation Facilities at Sacramento International Airport, with emphasis on the needs of paratransit, i.e., SacRT Go and Yobus Special, passengers with disabilities
6. Submitted Letter to Department of Transportation detailing numerous access concerns with designs using Class IV Bike Lanes and “floating” bus stops, and proposed alternative solutions, including specific product specifications and recommendations, and concept drawings
7. Engaged in ongoing discussions regarding the proposed use of trapezoidal warning delineators where bike lanes intersect with commercial driveways; proposed a feasibility study of two proposed products by recommending they be installed at the SacDOT lot where County vehicles are kept, to evaluate durability
8. Received an overview and provided recommendations to Sally Swanson & Associates and Department of Airports staff regarding the implementation of the Sacramento County Airports’ ADA Self Evaluation and Transition Plan
9. Provided detailed input and recommendations to support the Department of Transportation in developing the Safer Sacramento County Project, which is the implementation of the PathVu wayfinding application that identifies accessible paths of pedestrian travel. Submitted letter of support for Federal grant funding
10. Reviewed final design drawings and gave detailed input on the Gibson Ranch Sensory Trail Project for inclusion of additional desirable accessibility features to be added later as funding permits
11. Received updates on local accessible playground projects, including EmPOWERment Park