



# CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO IMMIGRANT RIGHTS COMMISSION

## San Francisco Immigrant Rights Commission Full Commission Meeting

November 14, 2022 at 5:30 pm PST

Online: <https://ccsf.webex.com/ccsf/onstage/g.php?MTID=eb809f4b14f703eb2c583a3fb9681e404>

Phone: 1-415-655-0001 / Event number: 2482 583 7476

**Note:** As authorized by California Government Code Section 54953(e) and the Mayor's 45th Supplement to her February 25, 2020 emergency proclamation, this meeting will be held remotely without providing a physical location. Members of the Immigrant Rights Commission will participate and vote by video. Members of the public may observe the meeting and provide public comment online. View [instructions](#) for providing public comment.

### 1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Kennelly called the meeting to order at 5:38 p.m.

Present: Chair Kennelly, Vice Chair Paz, Commissioners Enssani, Khojasteh, Latt (5:52 p.m.), Obregon, Rahimi, Souza, Wang

Not present: Commissioners Gaime, Ricarte, Ruiz (excused)

Staff present: Acting Director Whipple, Commission Clerk Shore, Operations and Grants Administrator Chan, Policy and Civic Engagement Officer Noonan.

### 2. Ramaytush Ohlone Land Acknowledgment

This item is to allow the Commission Chair to acknowledge that the Commission is on the unceded ancestral homeland of the Ramaytush Ohlone who are the original inhabitants of the San Francisco Peninsula.

Chair Kennelly read the land acknowledgment statement.

### 3. General Public Comment

This item is to allow members of the public to address the Commission on matters that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission and that do not appear on today's agenda.

There was no public comment.

### 4. Action Item: Resolution to Allow Teleconferenced Meetings

*(Discussion/Action)*

- a. Adoption of resolution making findings to allow teleconferenced meetings under

California Government Code Section 54953(e)

Discussion and possible action to approve a resolution making findings to allow for continued remote meetings due to the COVID-19 emergency. Explanatory Document: [Findings Resolution](#)

Commissioner Souza motioned to approve the resolution, seconded by Commissioner Enssani. Chair Kennelly called for public comment and there was no public comment on this agenda item. The motion was approved by the eight Commissioners present.

**5. Action Item: Approval of previous minutes**

*(Discussion/Action)*

a. Approval of October 17, 2022 Full Commission Meeting Minutes

Discussion and possible action to approve the minutes of the Immigrant Rights Commission's October 17, 2022 Full Commission meeting. Explanatory Document: [IRC Full Commission Meeting Minutes – October 17, 2022](#)

Commissioner Wang motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Souza. Chair Kennelly called for public comment and there was no public comment on this agenda item. The motion was approved by the eight Commissioners present.

**6. Discussion/Action Items**

*(Information/Discussion/Action)*

a. Update on Efforts to Create a Universal Basic Income Pilot Program for Immigrants (Chiamaka Ogwuegbu, Mayor's Office)

Information, discussion, and possible action on efforts to create a Universal Basic Income pilot program for immigrants in San Francisco.

Chiamaka Ogwuegbu, racial equity policy advisor with the Mayor's Office, provided an overview of the definition and limits of guaranteed income. He defined guaranteed income as unconditional and unrestricted cash assistance for individuals and families, noting that it is one strategy among many, can be paired with long-term solutions, and cannot replace direct solutions to combat poverty. He provided information on the City's current guaranteed income programs. The City's Abundant Birth Project provides \$1,000 per month for over two years to 150 low-income Black and Pacific Islander expecting mothers and birthing parents. In partnership with the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, the City's guaranteed income pilot for artists provides \$1,000 per month for 18 months to 190 low-income artists who were disproportionately impacted by the pandemic. The City's Guaranteed Income for Trans People (GIFT), which will launch

November 15, 2022, provides \$1,200 per month for up to 18 months to low-income transgender people in San Francisco. The City also plans to launch two programs in 2023 for foster youth in transition, and for youth experiencing housing instability. He noted that guaranteed income programs have the potential to fill gaps where immigrants are excluded from traditional safety net programs. He stated that his office is excited to explore solutions for San Francisco immigrants related to guaranteed income and beyond. Chair Kennelly, Vice Chair Paz and Commissioners Rahimi and expressed their support for a guaranteed income program for immigrants. Acting Director Whipple thanked Policy Advisor Ogwuegbu for his support of OCEIA and the IRC.

**7. Chair and Vice Chair Reports**  
*(Information)*

- a. Chair and Vice Chair's Updates (Chair Kennelly and Vice Chair Paz)  
Report on Executive Committee and Commission activities and announcements. This item allows the Chair and Vice Chair to provide brief updates on the work of the Executive Committee and the Full Commission.

The Commission sent a letter to SFUSD requesting resources for newcomer students. Chair Kennelly thanked Commissioner Souza, Vice Chair Paz, and OCEIA staff.

Vice Chair Paz asked Director Whipple to provide an update on the City's preparation for the potential arrival of migrants. Acting Director Whipple provided an overview of the expansion of Title 42 to Venezuelans and ongoing conversations to plan for the potential arrival of migrants.

- b. Rescheduling of November Executive Committee Meeting and Cancellation of December Meetings  
Information on changes in scheduled meetings for November and December. The Executive Committee meeting has been rescheduled to November 30, 2022, and the IRC's December Full Commission and Executive Committee meetings have been canceled.

Chair Kennelly announced that the November Executive Committee has been rescheduled to November 30, 2022. The December Full Commission and Executive Committee meetings have been canceled.

**8. Staff Reports**  
*(Information)*

a. Director's Updates

Report on OCEIA and IRC activities and announcements. This item allows the Director to provide brief updates on activities and announcements. If the Commission would like a full report, we can place that matter on the agenda for a future meeting.

Acting Director Whipple provided an update on OCEIA's activities, including filling a position of a data/research specialist, and reviewing data from City departments on their compliance with the Language Access Ordinance. OCEIA recently hosted a citizenship workshop with San Francisco Pathways to Citizenship Initiative, and an immigration screening clinic with OCEIA's DreamSF program. The next citizenship workshop is scheduled for January 14, 2022.

b. Reappointment Hearings

Report on vacant seats and four Board-appointed Commissioners whose seats are up for reappointment: Commissioners Ruiz, Gaime, Khojasteh, and Enssani.

Acting Director Whipple provided an overview of vacant seats on the Commission and reminded Commissioners to re-apply for their positions.

c. Parivar Bay Area Symposium

Update on Parivar Bay Area's Transgender Immigrant Symposium and Global South Transgender Day of Remembrance on November 18, 2022 in San Francisco.

Acting Director Whipple provided information on Parivar Bay Area's Transgender Immigrant Symposium and Global South Transgender Day of Remembrance on November 18, 2022 in San Francisco. Chair Kennelly and Vice Chair Paz are hoping to attend, along with Commissioner Latt. Chair Kennelly encouraged any interested Commissioners to attend.

**9. Old and New Business**  
*(Information)*

This item is to allow Commissioners to provide updates on items the Commission has previously discussed, and to introduce new agenda items for future consideration by the Commission.

Commissioner Rahimi asked if the Commission could support an upcoming Board of Supervisors resolution on human rights violations in Iran. Commissioner Enssani thanked Commissioner Rahimi for his efforts. Acting Director Whipple noted that since the

Commission has already issued a statement on the matter, the Chair and Vice Chair could voice their support on behalf of the Commission. Other Commissioners may not speak on behalf of the Commission. Chair Kennelly will communicate with Vice Chair Paz on next steps. Chair Kennelly called for public comment and there was no public comment on this item.

**10. Adjournment**

Chair Kennelly thanked Commissioners and OCEIA staff and adjourned the meeting at 6:45 p.m.