



CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
IMMIGRANT RIGHTS COMMISSION

**San Francisco Immigrant Rights Commission
Executive Committee Meeting
1155 Market Street, 4th Floor Conference Room
May 31, 2023 at 5:30 pm PDT**

Online: <https://sfpUBLIC.webex.com/sfpUBLIC/j.php?MTID=mf510890d350653002103169c645bc1fb>

Phone: 1-415-655-0001 / Access code: 2591 470 1046 / Password: 2023

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Kennelly called the meeting to order at 5:39 p.m.

Present: Executive Committee members Chair Kennelly, Vice Chair Paz, Commissioner Ricarte, Commissioner Souza; Awards Committee members Commissioners Obregon (5:54 p.m.), Senghor (5:49 p.m.)

OCEIA staff present: Director Rivas, Operations and Grants Administrator Chan.

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: Approval of previous minutes

(Discussion/Action)

a. Approval of April 26, 2023 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Discussion and possible action to approve the minutes of the Immigrant Rights Commission's Executive Committee meeting of April 26, 2023. Explanatory Document: Executive Committee Meeting Minutes – April 26, 2023

Commissioner Souza motioned to approve the minutes of the April 26, 2023 Executive

Committee meeting, seconded by Commissioner Ricarte. The minutes were approved unanimously.

5. Discussion/Action Items

(Discussion/Action)

- a. Follow-Up Actions from Special Hearing on LGBTQ Immigrants (Commissioner Latt)
This item allows Commissioner Latt and Executive Committee members to discuss developing recommendations for City officials and/or other follow-up actions from the May 8, 2023 special hearing on LGBTQ immigrants.

Chair Kennelly deferred this item to the next Executive Committee meeting when Commissioner Latt is present.

- b. Potential Amendments to Language Access Ordinance
This item allows Director Rivas to provide updates on potential amendments to the Language Access Ordinance and allows the Executive Committee to discuss and take possible action.

Director Rivas noted that Supervisor Walton's Office plans to introduce amendments to the Language Access Ordinance in late June, and suggested that Chair Kennelly and Vice Chair Paz meet with office staff before the amendments are introduced. Commissioner Souza expressed an interest in joining the meeting, and Chair Kennelly asked about noticing the meeting as public if three Executive Committee members are present. Chair Kennelly, Vice Chair Paz, and Commissioner Souza will determine which two Commissioners can join the meeting. Director Rivas and Commissioners also discussed inviting Supervisor Walton's staff to the June Executive Committee or the July Full Commission meeting.

- c. Follow-Up Actions from 2023 IRC Retreat
This item allows the Executive Committee to discuss follow-up actions from the May 17, 2023 IRC Strategic Planning Retreat.

Commissioners discussed holding a hearing on workforce development as a follow-up action to the strategic planning retreat. The Commission identified support for DACA recipients and support for asylum seekers as its top priorities for the next year. Commissioner Souza suggested pursuing a combined effort on workforce development. She suggested holding an informational hearing in September. Commissioners discussed speakers to invite, and Commissioner Souza and Director Rivas will finalize the list. Vice

Chair Paz also suggested connecting with the Mayor's Office to reactivate the Give2SF fund to focus on asylum seekers. Chair Kennelly asked Director Rivas to share information about the City's plans for mass arrivals at the July Full Commission meeting.

d. Immigrant Leadership Awards (Commissioners Ricarte and Obregon)

This item allows the Awards Committee, Executive Committee, and OCEIA staff to discuss plans for the upcoming 2023 Immigrant Leadership Awards.

Commissioner Obregon asked Director Rivas to provide updates on event planning and nomination selection. Director Rivas provided an update on the event, including participation by the Mayor and City Administrator, certificates from elected officials, and the proclamation for Immigrant Heritage Month. Director Rivas will share the contact information of the consular corps for Commissioners to follow up with individual invitations.

At its last meeting, the Executive Committee asked Director Rivas to connect with the City Attorney's Office. Director Rivas provided an overview of his conversation with the Deputy City Attorney, who had questions around the process of collecting nominations and selection criteria. Following the conversation, Director Rivas removed one awardee and moved another to a different category. Commissioners discussed improving the process for next year. Commissioner Obregon suggested using a point system for next year so the Commission can defend its decisions. Commissioner Ricarte said the process was sound and recognizing immigrants should be the priority. Commissioner Souza motioned to adopt the current list of awardees and move a nominee to next year, seconded by Chair Kennelly. Chair Kennelly called for public comment and there was no public comment on this item. The motion was approved, with three Executive Committee members in favor (Chair Kennelly, Vice Chair Paz, and Commissioner Souza) and one opposed (Commissioner Ricarte).

e. Proposed Statement on Immigrant Workers at Risk of Losing Visas (Commissioner Chaudhary)

This item allows the Executive Committee to discuss and take possible action on the revised draft statement submitted by Commissioner Chaudhary on immigrant workers at risk of losing their visas. On February 13, 2023, the Full Commission voted to issue a statement. The Executive Committee provided feedback and suggested edits on the draft statement at its April 26, 2023 meeting. Commissioner Chaudhary has submitted a revised version of the statement.

OCEIA staff shared Commissioner Chaudhary's revised statement with the Executive

Committee. Vice Chair Paz motion to approve the statement, seconded by Commissioner Souza. Chair Kennelly called for public comment and there was no public comment on this item. The statement was approved unanimously by the four Executive Committee members present.

- f. Proposed Resolution on Immigration Reform (Commissioner Souza)
This item allows Commissioner Souza to update the Executive Committee on her latest draft of the proposed resolution in support of immigration reform.

Commissioner Souza deferred this item to the next Executive Committee meeting.

- g. Follow-up Actions from IRC Hearing on Immigrant Perspectives on Housing in San Francisco (Commissioner Souza)
This item allows Commissioner Souza to update the Executive Committee on her latest draft of the report on the IRC's hearing on housing. During the April 26, 2023 Executive Committee meeting, Director Rivas asked Commissioner Souza to restructure the report so that it begins with the introduction and recommendations, followed by the minutes from the hearing as an addendum.

Commissioner Souza deferred this item to the next Executive Committee meeting.

- h. IRC Summer Meeting Scheduling/Cancellation
This item allows the Chair to schedule the IRC officer elections for an upcoming Full Commission meeting, and to cancel other Full Commission meetings scheduled for July and/or August.

Chair Kennelly made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ricarte, to keep the July Full Commission meeting, cancel the August Full Commission meeting, and keep the July and August Executive Committee meetings pending agenda items. The officer elections will take place at the next Full Commission meeting in July. Chair Kennelly called for public comment and there was no public comment on this item. The motion was approved by the four Executive Committee members present.

6. **Staff Reports** *(Information)*

- a. Director's Updates
Report on OCEIA and IRC activities and announcements. This item allows the OCEIA 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.

Director Rivas stated that the Mayor introduced her budget today. He noted that new Commissioners have been appointed by the Mayor and will be joining the Commission soon. He will follow up with the Board-appointed Commissioners whose seats expire in June to provide them with next steps to reapply for their seats.

- b. Resolution on California Domestic Workers Bill SB-686 (Commissioner Souza)
This item allows OCEIA staff to update the Executive Committee on the resolution written by Commissioner Souza in support of Senate Bill 686, which was issued by the Commission.

The Commission issued the resolution in support of Senate Bill 686 last week and Director Rivas thanked Commissioner Souza.

7. 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.

There was no old or new business.

8. Adjournment

Chair Kennelly adjourned the meeting at 7:01 p.m.