

City and County of San Francisco

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The mission of the Mayor's Office on Disability (MOD) is to ensure that every program, service, benefit, activity and facility operated or funded by the City and County of San Francisco is fully accessible to, and useable by, people with disabilities.

Director's Report to the Mayor's Disability Council (MDC) March 18, 2022

Nicole Bohn, Director Mayor's Office on Disability

Today's Director's Report to the Mayor's Disability Council (MDC) provides a snapshot of some of the core issues that the Mayor's Office on Disability (MOD) has been engaged with since the most recent public hearing of the MDC. The Council is encouraged to follow up on <u>any of the items presented today</u>. Along with this, items for future agenda consideration are provided.

Members of the public wishing to engage with aspects of this report may contact MOD at mod@sfgov.org or by calling 415 554-6789. You may join our distribution list by contacting us, or by visiting our homepage: https://sfgov.org/mod.

<u>Legislative updates, March 2022:</u> MDC and members of the public may want to engage with the following:

Local Legislation

JFK Drive: Referral number (220261): Park Code - **Golden Gate Park Access and Safety Program** - Slow Street Road Closures (Mayor) Status: Referred to Land Use and Transportation Committee under 30-day rule.

- This legislation forwards the recommendations of <u>SFMTA and Recreation</u> and <u>Parks (REC) staff report</u> to the Board of Supervisors (BOS) for consideration, under positive recommendation.
- On March 10, 2022, the Staff Report was accepted in Joint Meeting of the SFMTA Board and the Recreation and Parks Commission. The SFMTA Board accepted the report unanimously with the recommendation to revisit taxi provisions and paratransit access. Recreation and Parks Commission

forwarded the Report to BOS with positive recommendation by majority vote.

- There was <u>extensive public comment</u> provided at this meeting, including a significant number of commenters with disabilities.
 - In addition to concerns expressed at the February 2022 MDC meeting, concerns of "Closure" speed enforcement, especially related to bikes, e-bikes, and e-scooters exceeding speed limits, was raised as concern. This is highlighted here because this item was not addressed through the MDC's Resolution work.
- MOD continues to advise SFMTA, REC and the Mayor's Office on architectural and programmatic accessibility improvements, and continues to urge all involved to provide accessibility solutions that meet and exceed requirements, and advance disability equity. In addition, MOD continues to elevate the individual concerns from the disability community—from members who are opposed to the continued closure to private vehicles, and from members who support the current closure.
- As the Council knows, your <u>JFK Drive Resolution</u> is conditional and contingent upon continued accessibility improvements. MOD urges the Council to stay engaged on this issue, as there is work to do to ensure that all elements of your Resolution are realized.
- Both Director Ginsburg and Supervisor Chan have requested consult with the Council, as follow up to the Resolution.
 - o MOD recommends that this follow-up occurs as soon as possible, and at minimum, while the legislation is under the 30-day rule.

Shared Spaces: Referral 211301: <u>Limits on Fines for Shared Spaces Violations</u> (Peskin et al): Status: at BOS for final consideration.

- This legislation limits issuance of fines for violations to businesses utilizing outdoor dining, while maintaining the ability to fine for access violations impacting persons with disabilities, and first responder access.
- Expected Board of Supervisors (BOS) full-adoption by end of March 2022
- The Council may consider hearing an enforcement update at an upcoming public meeting.

State Legislation

Virtual Meetings Open meetings: state and local agencies: teleconferences (AB 361). Status: Approved by Governor.

• This bill allows for continued provision of virtual meetings for government agencies through January 2024.

• The Council may consider learning more about local implementation of hybrid meetings (see below).

Transportation Network Company (TNC) legislation (SB 1376): TNC Access for All Act is in pilot implementation phase. MOD, SFMTA and the County Transportation Authority (CTA) continue to be parties to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) comment proceeding, on the recommendation of the Mayor's Disability Council.

 The proceedings are ongoing, and are currently focused on service implementation timelines and the ability to pre-schedule wheelchair accessible vehicle (WAV) rides.

COVID Response and the Disability Community

State COVID Rent Help and Eviction Protection: Members of the public in need of rent relief may apply for assistance, but the deadline to apply is **March 31, 2022**. More information is available here: https://sf.gov/renthelp.

COVID-19 Vaccines: Third doses (booster shots) are currently available through your health provider or pharmacy network. <u>At home vaccination is also available</u>. To set it up, call the Covid Resource Center at 628-652-2700.

Other agenda Items for future MDC Hearing consideration, action, or resolution:

Time Sensitive item considerations:

- JFK Drive access/Great Highway/Continuation of slow streets: When the State and Local Emergency Orders are lifted, in addition to JFK Drive, other current road closures and slow streets may be under permanent closure consideration. This is of significant current concern to the disability community.
- Shared Spaces enforcement (see legislative item above)
- **Hybrid public meeting participation** for people with disabilities:
 - o In the Fall of 2021, the Community Alliance of Disability Advocates' (CADA) letter regarding virtual public meetings addressed to the Mayor's Office and City Administrator was forwarded to the Council. On March 7, 2022 hybrid public meetings launched.
 - The Council may want to learn more about and track this effort, especially pertaining to the ongoing provision of disability access for all participants and aspects of Civic engagement.
 - Note: Hybrid meetings apply to City Charter and Policy bodies. The MDC is a passive meeting body and is therefore allowed to meet virtually until further notice.

• Citywide Web Accessibility Policy:

- Dissemination of a citywide policy pertaining to accessibility and language access compliance is underway this Spring. The Council may want to learn about and track this effort, especially pertaining to remediation plans, training, and citywide compliance.
- Summer Together/Summer Camp Resources: MOD, Department of Children Youth and Families (DCYF), the San Francisco Unified School District and Recreation and Parks have worked over the past year to bring together a training curriculum aimed at improving access and awareness of the needs of kids with disabilities and their families who wish to participate in summer camp and afterschool programs. It is MOD's hope that these efforts will result in fewer barriers for young people with disabilities in San Francisco. The MDC may consider a program update on this item.

Other Considerations:

- Waste Reduction (Plastic Straws) Ordinance implementation update
- Accessible Business Entrance (ABE) Ordinance Program update
- Better Market Street accessibility improvements update
- **Reinstitution of the MDC Beacon Award:** previously awarded to members of the disability public for outstanding contributions to disability access awareness in San Francisco.