



# CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO IMMIGRANT RIGHTS COMMISSION

**San Francisco Immigrant Rights Commission  
Executive Committee Meeting  
1155 Market Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room  
February 28, 2024 at 5:30 pm PST**

**Online:** <https://sfpublish.webex.com/sfpublish/j.php?MTID=mec95264e026a05c95a287c008630bd8f>

**Phone:** 1-415-655-0001 / Access code: 2660 356 7702 / 2024

**Overview:** Members of the Commission will attend this meeting in person. Members of the public are invited to observe the meeting in-person or remotely using Webex or by calling the phone number and entering the access code above. Everyone attending the meeting in person is encouraged to wear a mask throughout the meeting. Each member of the public attending in person may address the Commission for up to two minutes. Public speakers using consecutive interpretation assistance will be allowed to speak for twice the amount of the time.

## **1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

Chair Kennelly called the meeting to order at 5:49 p.m.

Present: Chair Kennelly, Commissioners Ricarte, Souza.

Not present: Vice Chair Chaudhary (excused), Commissioner Paz (excused).

OCEIA staff present: Director Rivas, Clerk Shore.

## **2. Ramaytush Ohlone Land Acknowledgment**

We, the San Francisco Immigrant Rights Commission, acknowledge that we are on the unceded ancestral homeland of the Ramaytush Ohlone who are the original inhabitants of the San Francisco Peninsula. As the indigenous stewards of this land and in accordance with their traditions, the Ramaytush Ohlone have never ceded, lost nor forgotten their responsibilities as the caretakers of this place, as well as for all peoples who reside in their traditional territory. As guests, we recognize that we benefit from living and working on their traditional homeland. We wish to pay our respects by acknowledging the ancestors, elders and relatives of the Ramaytush Community and by affirming their sovereign rights as First Peoples.

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)*

Discussion and possible action to approve the minutes of the Immigrant Rights Commission's Executive Committee meeting of January 22, 2024.

[IRC Executive Committee meeting minutes 1.22.24](#)

Commissioner Souza made a motion to approve the Executive Committee's January 22, 2024 meeting minutes, seconded by Commissioner Ricarte. Chair Kennelly called for public comment and there was no comment on this item. The motion was approved.

**5. Discussion/Action Items**

*(Discussion/Action)*

a. IRC Awards Committee

This item allows Awards Committee Co-Chairs Ricarte and Obregon and Commission Chair Kennelly to present an update on the first Awards Committee meeting and next steps.

Commissioner Ricarte provided updates from the Awards Committee meeting. Nominations will be open from March 1 to March 31. Commissioner Ricarte suggested that the Awards Committee meet at 5:00 p.m. on April 3 and April 10. Director Rivas provided an update on the awards event scheduled for June 10, 2024 and is working on a sponsorship presentation.

b. IRC Annual Report

This item allows Director Rivas to present the IRC Annual Report written by OCEIA on the Commission's work during 2023, and invite the Executive Committee to review, edit and approve the report's recommendations.

Director Rivas provided an overview of the 2024 IRC annual report, written by Elena Shore and designed by Jamie Richardson of OCEIA. Commissioner Souza made a motion to approve the report's recommendations, seconded by Chair Kennelly. Chair Kennelly called for public comment and there was no comment on this item. The motion was approved and the report will be shared with the Full Commission at the upcoming retreat. Commissioners discussed ways to highlight their work, and Chair Kennelly volunteered to work with Director Rivas on a short video.

c. IRC Strategic Planning Retreat

This item allows the Chair and Director Rivas to discuss plans for the IRC Strategic Planning Retreat scheduled for March 11, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. Clerk Shore sent Commissioners a pre-retreat survey asking Commissioners to identify their top priorities for the coming year.

Director Rivas provided an update on the strategic planning retreat and Clerk Shore provided an update on the pre-retreat survey responses.

d. Follow-Up from IRC Special Hearing on Workforce Development

This item allows Director Rivas to invite the Executive Committee to remove, modify, or add recommendations, and take possible action. Clerk Shore drafted the recommendations based on testimony by community members during the October 30, 2023 hearing called by Commissioner Souza. During the last Executive Committee meeting, Commissioners suggested several changes, including adding a list of resources. Director Rivas asked Commissioners to prioritize the recommendations, and to send OCEIA staff any resources they would like added to the list by today's meeting.

Director Rivas provided an overview of the updated document, including edits and additional resources by OCEIA staff. Chair Kennelly deferred the item to the next Executive Committee meeting to give Vice Chair Chaudhary and Commissioner Paz time to provide feedback.

e. 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 provided an update on her latest draft. Commissioner Ricarte suggested adding recent developments on housing, and referencing the recommendations in the resolution if they are submitted together. Director Rivas will meet with Commissioner Souza to discuss the latest draft.

f. Proposed Resolution on Affordable Housing

This item allows Commissioner Souza to propose issuing a resolution on affordable

housing, and allows the Executive Committee to discuss and take possible action. This item was introduced during New Business at the Full Commission's January 8, 2024 meeting. During the January 22, 2024 Executive Committee meeting, Commissioner Souza volunteered to draft a resolution.

This item was discussed as part of agenda item 5e.

g. Proposed Statement on DACA and Sanctuary City

This item allows the Executive Committee to discuss, and take possible action on, issuing a statement affirming the Commission's support for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and San Francisco's sanctuary status. On September 13, 2023, the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas found the DACA final rule to be unlawful, and the case is expected to reach the U.S. Supreme Court. During the October 25, 2023 IRC Executive Committee meeting, Chair Kennelly suggested that the statement include a reference to the Commission's hearing on workforce development. On October 30, 2023, the Full Commission voted to empower the Commission Chair to issue a statement.

This item was deferred until the next Executive Committee meeting.

h. Proposed Statement on Expansion of Medi-Cal

This item allows Commissioner Paz to propose issuing a statement on the expansion of Medi-Cal to all California residents, regardless of immigration status, and allows the Executive Committee to discuss and take possible action. Commissioner Paz introduced this item under New Business during the January 22, 2024 Executive Committee meeting, and volunteered to draft a statement.

This item was deferred until the next Executive Committee meeting.

i. Proposed Letter on Budget Priorities

This item allows Commissioner Obregon to propose issuing a letter regarding the City's budget priorities and allows the Executive Committee to discuss and take possible action. This item was introduced during New Business at the Full Commission's January 8, 2024 meeting.

This item was deferred until the next Executive Committee meeting.

j. Language Access Ordinance and Language Access Compliance Report Hearing

This item allows Director Rivas to provide an update on the upcoming Language Access

Ordinance and Language Access Compliance Report hearing and allows the Executive Committee to discuss and take possible action.

Director Rivas said the hearing is likely to be scheduled in March or April, and Chair Kennelly will speak at the hearing. Director Rivas will reshare the proposed amendments with Commissioners and provide an update on the hearing date at the next Executive Committee meeting.

**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.

OCEIA's DreamSF Fellowship application is open, and the next San Francisco Pathways to Citizenship Initiative workshop is scheduled for April 6, 2024 at the County Fair Building.

b. Reappointment Hearings for Board-Appointed Commissioners

Four Board-appointed Commissioners are up for reappointment by the Board of Supervisors as of June 6, 2023.

Director Rivas provided an update on the hearing to reappoint Commissioners and appoint new Commissioners. Commissioner Souza is not able to attend and will submit an email.

c. Statements of Economic Interests (Form 700)

Commissioners are required to complete their annual Statements of Economic Interest (Form 700) by April 2, 2024.

Director Rivas noted that Commissioners' Statements of Economic Interests are due by April 2, 2024.

**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 new or old business.

**8. Adjournment**

Chair Kennelly adjourned the meeting at 6:37 p.m.