



COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ISSUES

Wednesday, December 17, 2025, 3:30 P.M.

Minutes

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 3:31 p.m. Those present and absent were:

Present:

Kate Elliott
Sue Kroeger
Derrick Espadas
Meghan Brajevich
Jonathan Lee-Confer
Zach Coble, Chairperson
Ray Jordan

Representing

City Manager
City Manager
Mayor's Office
Ward 2
Ward 3
Ward 4
Ward 5

Absent:

Representing:

Staff and Others Present:

Koren Manning
Panya Chhoeuy
Diana Amado
Chris Desborough
Brandi Medina
Stephanie Alvarez

Planning & Development
AGM Transit Team
City Manager's Office
Ward 2 Council Staff
City Clerk's Office
City Clerk's Office

2. Call to the Public.

No members of the public addressed the Commission.

3. Introduction of New CODI Member

Chairperson Coble welcomed new member Megan Brajevich and invited her to introduce herself. Commissioner Brajevich shared that she is completing her final semester of a bachelor's degree in social work with a focus on disability advocacy. She noted that she is currently interning at Ward 2 and working as a job coach at UCP. Commissioner Brajevich also spoke about her personal connection to the disability community through her family and expressed her appreciation for joining CODI and contributing to the Commission's shared goals. Chairperson Coble thanked Commissioner Brajevich for joining.

4. Consideration and Possible Approval for the November 2025 Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Co-Chairperson Lee-Confer, duly seconded, and passed by a roll call vote of 5 to 0, (Commissioners Espadas and Jordan abstaining) to approve November 2025 minutes.

5. Presentation and Discussion with the Planning and Development Department

Chairperson Coble introduced the item and welcomed Corinne Manning, Director of Planning and Development Services, who provided an overview of the department's mission, structure, and role in supporting health, safety, accessibility, and quality of life in Tucson. Director Manning described the department's divisions, including long range planning, current planning and site development, building safety, code enforcement, and customer service, and explained how accessibility considerations are incorporated at multiple stages of planning, site review, and building review. She also highlighted the recent adoption of Plan Tucson, the City's general plan, and its emphasis on community input, access, and inclusive design.

Commissioners asked questions regarding permitting requirements and processes, including whether developers are required to engage in specific steps related to accessibility and universal design. Director Manning explained that requirements vary by project scale, with larger projects typically participating in pre-application meetings where accessibility and ADA considerations are discussed early to help streamline review. Commissioners emphasized the importance of moving beyond minimum access requirements toward inclusive and universal design and encouraged stronger engagement with the disability community.

Director Manning expressed openness to expanding guidance, best practices, and resources on the department's website and committed to following up with additional information and materials to support developers and property owners.

6. Consideration and Possible Approval of Memo Regarding Accessibility During Road Construction

Chairperson Coble presented a draft memo developed from recent Commission discussions and presentations by Department of Transportation and Mobility staff. He noted ongoing concerns with inconsistent pedestrian accessibility during road construction, which can create safety barriers for people with disabilities. The memo recommends improved accountability for contractors and clearer advance notice when accessible routes are unavailable. Commissioner Jordan voiced support with no suggested edits. With no further discussion, Chairperson Coble requested a motion to approve the memo for submission to Mayor and Council.

It was moved by Commissioner Jordan, duly seconded, and passed by a roll call vote of 7 to 0, to approve the memo regarding Accessibility During Road Construction.

7. Announcements

Chairperson Coble announced that the Department of Transportation and Mobility has requested an agenda item in

January, with the possibility of scheduling an additional discussion in February. Commissioner Espadas shared that University of Arizona students have developed a proposal focused on promoting kindness on public transportation and suggested they present briefly at a future meeting; Chairperson Coble agreed. Chairperson Coble also noted that potential memos related to accessibility and transportation safety would be deferred until additional information is received. Commissioner Jordan agreed that more complete data is needed. With no further announcements, Chairperson Coble adjourned the meeting and wished members a safe and happy holiday season.

8. Adjournment: 4:54 PM