



# CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO IMMIGRANT RIGHTS COMMISSION

**San Francisco Immigrant Rights Commission  
Executive Committee Meeting  
1145 Market Street, Suite 100  
September 25, 2024 at 5:30 pm PDT**

**Online:** <https://sfpublish.webex.com/sfpublish/j.php?MTID=m7c598051c01c21419b371193c789edea>

**Phone:** 1-415-655-0001 / **Access code:** 2661 312 0432 / **Webinar password:** 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 5:51 p.m.

Present: Chair Kennelly, Vice Chair Chaudhary, Commissioner Souza.

Excused: Commissioner Paz.

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 August 28, 2024.

[IRC Executive Committee meeting minutes – August 28, 2024](#)

Vice Chair Chaudhary motioned to approve the August 28, 2024 meeting minutes, seconded by Commissioner Souza. Chair Kennelly called for public comment and there was no public comment on this item. The motion was approved.

**5. Discussion/Action Items**

*(Discussion/Action)*

- a. Proposed Resolution on Immigrant-Owned Small Businesses (Commissioner Souza)  
*(Discussion/Action)*

This item allows the Executive Committee to discuss the resolution drafted by Commissioner Souza on the contributions of immigrant-owned small businesses. This item was introduced under New Business at the Full Commission's May 13, 2024 meeting and discussed during the August 28, 2024 Executive Committee meeting.

Director Rivas met with Office of Small Business Director Katy Tang, who provided ideas of how Commissioners can support small businesses in San Francisco. Commissioners can use social media to highlight small businesses in their neighborhoods, which the Office of Small Business can reshare. Commissioners can also uplift the Office of Small Business's Latino Heritage Month and other campaigns. Commissioner Souza noted that the goal of the resolution is to raise awareness of the importance of supporting and preserving immigrant-owned small businesses. Director Rivas recommended that the Commission make a plan and move forward with the resolution. The item was continued to the next Executive Committee meeting.

- b. Follow-Up Actions from Workforce Recommendations  
*(Discussion/Action)*

This item allows the Executive Committee to discuss the letter drafted by Clerk Shore to the San Francisco Department of Human Resources (DHR) requesting that DHR support and sponsor City employees. This item was introduced at the July 24, 2024 Executive Committee meeting and discussed during the August 28, 2024 Executive Committee meeting.

Chair Kennelly motioned to approve the draft letter and forward it to the Full Commission for a vote, and Vice Chair Chaudhary seconded the motion. Chair Kennelly called for public comment and there was no public comment on this item. The motion was approved.

c. Planning of Upcoming IRC Hearings  
(Discussion/Action)

This item allows Chair Kennelly discuss the rescheduling or cancelation of upcoming Commission meetings, and allows the Executive Committee to discuss the planning of upcoming special hearings.

Chair Kennelly rescheduled several Commission meetings due to upcoming holidays. Commissioners also discussed planning for hearings in the new year, including a special hearing on the new administration, and a community hearing in a neighborhood.

**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.

Director Rivas provided an update on the City budget, OCEIA staff transitions, and the upcoming San Francisco Pathways to Citizenship Initiative workshop.

b. Proposed Letter Addressing Delays in Asylum Interviews (Vice Chair Chaudhary)

The letter written by Vice Chair Chaudhary was approved by the Executive Committee on June 26, 2024, and by the Full Commission on September 9, 2024.

Director Rivas will connect USCIS with Vice Chair Chaudhary to set up a follow-up meeting.

**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 6:27 p.m.