



CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO IMMIGRANT RIGHTS COMMISSION

**San Francisco Immigrant Rights Commission
Executive Committee Meeting
1145 Market Street, Suite 100
November 13, 2024 at 5:30 pm PST**

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 5:54 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 October 23, 2024.

Vice Chair Chaudhary motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Souza. Chair Kennelly called for public comment and there was no public comment on this agenda item. The minutes were approved by the three Commissioners present.

5. Discussion/Action Items

(Information/Discussion/Action)

- a. Proposed Resolution and Plan to Highlight Immigrant-Owned Small Businesses
(Commissioner Souza)
(Discussion/Action)

This item allows the Executive Committee to discuss the resolution drafted by Commissioner Souza and the Commission's plan to promote immigrant-owned small businesses. The resolution was approved at the Executive Committee's October 23, 2024 meeting, and will be added to the next Full Commission meeting agenda.

Director Rivas asked for a one-page guide for Commissioners to highlight immigrant-owned small businesses. Commissioner Souza will create a social media post before the next Full Commission meeting.

- b. Planning for IRC Holiday Event
(Information/Discussion)

This item allows Chair Kennelly to discuss the planning of the Commission's holiday event. Commissioners will be asked to confirm their attendance, invite guests, and follow up with consulates.

Director Rivas provided an overview of the upcoming holiday event and asked Commissioners to make phone calls to consulates. Each Commissioner may bring a guest.

- c. Post-Election Briefing and Discussion
(Discussion/Action)

This item allows Director Rivas to provide a brief update on the 2024 presidential elections, and allows the Executive Committee to discuss and take possible action.

Director Rivas provided an overview of the statement released by OCEIA and the Commission, and discussed planning for the next administration. Chair Kennelly suggested including a standing item on the agenda to provide information on resources such as the Rapid Response Hotline.

d. Planning for IRC Special Hearing
(Information/Discussion)

This item allows Vice Chair Chaudhary and Clerk Shore to discuss the planning of the Commission's special hearing. Commissioners will be asked to invite community members.

Vice Chair Chaudhary provided an update on her meeting with Clerk Shore to discuss planning for the special hearing, and provided a summary of suggested speakers. Chair Kennelly suggested inviting a state representative.

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 next San Francisco Pathways to Citizenship Initiative workshop, and plans to connect with the new mayor and supervisors.

b. Impact of Local Election on Immigrant Rights Commission

This item allows Director Rivas to provide a brief overview of the impact of the local election results on the Immigrant Rights Commission, including Propositions D and E.

Director Rivas provided an overview of the local election results, including the two measures impacting City commissions. Proposition D did not pass. San Francisco voters approved Proposition E to create a task force on Commissions. OCEIA can invite a City expert to present information on Proposition E and how this may impact the Immigrant Rights Commission.

c. 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 noted that USCIS is working on scheduling a 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.

Commissioner Souza asked for an update on the City's work providing housing for asylum seekers and what the Commission can do. Director Rivas will provide an update at the next Executive Committee meeting.

Vice Chair Chaudhary suggested inviting the Department on the Status of Women to present on Proposition E.

8. Adjournment

Chair Kennelly adjourned the meeting at 6:33 p.m.