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Update on Commission's Disability Pride Flag Recommendation

Commission on Disabilities

May 26, 2026

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Empowerment

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Presentation Overview



- **About the Disability Pride Flag**
- **Actions from Recommendation to Date**
- **Quality of Life, Arts & Culture Committee**
- **Next Steps**
- **Commission Support Needed**

About the Disability Pride Flag

- Designed by Ann Magill, writer and disability rights activist, in 2019
 - Included brightly colored zigzag stripes over a black background.
- Redesigned in 2021 with input from the disability community.
- Each color represents a different type of disability:
 - Red – physical disabilities
 - Gold – neurodiversity
 - White – invisible disabilities/disabilities that have not yet been identified
 - Blue – emotional and psychiatric disabilities
 - Green – sensory disabilities (i.e., deafness, blindness, etc.)

About the Disability Pride Flag (Part 2)

Image 1: Original Design with Bright Zig-Zag Lines



Image 2: Redesign with Muted Colors and Straight Lines



About the Disability Pride Flag (Part 3)

- The Disability Pride Flag signifies the full experience of people with disabilities, including dignity, pride, and struggle.
- The charcoal grey background represents mourning for victims and survivors of ableism, violence, and abuse due to their disability.
- The diagonal band/lines cut across the dark background to signify the walls and barriers people with disabilities face daily.
- Represents light and creativity shining through the darkness.

Actions from Recommendation to Date

- On March 25, 2025, Commission was briefed on the Disability Pride Flag, including the necessary approval process to recommend the City raise the Flag in July.
- On May 27, 2025, Commission voted to approve the recommendation.
- Through June, staff and leadership reviewed recommendation with City Attorney's Office as part of due diligence.
- On June 25, 2025, City Council issued a proclamation to recognize Disability Pride Month and the Commission.

Actions from Recommendation to Date (Part 2)



Image 3: City of Dallas Proclamation for Disability Pride Month in 2025

Actions from Recommendation to Date (Part 3)

- Commission brought forward recommendation again in its approved 2026 Annual Report.

“Commemorate July 2026 as Disability Pride Month by requesting staff seek department, City Manager, and City Council approvals to raise the Disability Pride Flag and hold a flag-raising ceremony to honor the occasion.”

Quality of Life, Arts & Culture Committee

- Office of Housing & Community Empowerment (OHCE) staff submitted a briefing memo on the initiative to Quality of Life, Arts & Culture.
- Considered during its May 18, 2026 meeting.
- Requesting the Disability Pride Flag be raised specifically at City Hall Plaza from July 15th, 2026 through July 31st, 2026.
- Requesting from the Committee that the item advance for City Council consideration on June 24, 2026.

Next Steps



Commission Support Needed

- Support from the Commission on its recommendation crucial to its success.
- Ways to support include:
 - Engaging your Council Member and their staff.
 - Mobilizing your network to support.
 - Signing up for public comment if/when item is considered by City Council.

Thank You / Questions?

