



**City of Dallas**

**SPECIAL CALLED MEETING OF THE  
COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES**

**July 16, 2024, at 2:00 P.M.**

**J. Erik Jonsson Central Library, Stone Room (7<sup>th</sup> Floor) and Videoconference**

**Video Conference:**

<https://dallascityhall.webex.com/dallascityhall/j.php?MTID=m32144019273b59e2e108e2915ca6b040>

**Telephone:** (408) 418-9388, **Access Code:** 2491 434 2027

The City of Dallas will make “Reasonable Accommodations” to programs and/or other related activities to ensure any and all residents have access to services and resources to ensure an equitable and inclusive meeting. Anyone requiring auxiliary aid, service, and/or translation to fully participate in the meeting should notify the Office of Equity and Inclusion by calling (214)-670-731 or TTY (800) 735-2989, forty-eight (48) hours prior to the scheduled meeting. A video stream of the meeting will be available two business days after adjournment by visiting <https://dallascityhall.com/government/Pages/Live.aspx>.

Individuals and interested parties wishing to speak must register with the Office of Equity and Inclusion by calling (214) 670-7311, twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting date and time.

**AGENDA**

- I. **Call to Order** Chairman John Kalkanli, Mayor Appointee
- II. **Roll Call**
- III. **Public Speakers (2 minute limit)**

**VOTING AGENDA ITEMS**

- IV. **Self-Nomination for the Texas Governor’s Committee on People with Disabilities Martha Arbuckle Meritorious Service Award**  
  
Discussion and Approval of Self-Nomination
- V. **Review and Approval of Self-Nomination Draft**
- VI. **Announcements**
- VII. **Adjournment**

## **Handgun Prohibition Notice for Meetings of Governmental Entities**

**"Pursuant to Section 30.06, Penal Code (trespass by license holder with a concealed handgun), a person licensed under Subchapter H, Chapter 411, Government Code (handgun licensing law), may not enter this property with a concealed handgun."**

**"De acuerdo con la sección 30.06 del código penal (ingreso sin autorización de un titular de una licencia con una pistola oculta), una persona con licencia según el subcapítulo h, capítulo 411, código del gobierno (ley sobre licencias para portar pistolas), no puede ingresar a esta propiedad con una pistola oculta."**

**"Pursuant to Section 30.07, Penal Code (trespass by license holder with an openly carried handgun), a person licensed under Subchapter H, Chapter 411, Government Code (handgun licensing law), may not enter this property with a handgun that is carried openly."**

**"De acuerdo con la sección 30.07 del código penal (ingreso sin autorización de un titular de una licencia con una pistola a la vista), una persona con licencia según el subcapítulo h, capítulo 411, código del gobierno (ley sobre licencias para portar pistolas), no puede ingresar a esta propiedad con una pistola a la vista."**

**"Pursuant to Section 46.03, Penal Code (places weapons prohibited), a person may not carry a firearm or other weapon into any open meeting on this property."**

**"De conformidad con la Sección 46.03, Código Penal (coloca armas prohibidas), una persona no puede llevar un arma de fuego u otra arma a ninguna reunión abierta en esta propiedad."**

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION NOTICE**

A closed executive session may be held if the discussion of any of the above agenda items concerns one of the following:

1. seeking the advice of its attorney about pending or contemplated litigation, settlement offers, or any matter in which the duty of the attorney to the City Council under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with the Texas Open Meetings Act. [Tex. Govt. Code §551.071]
2. deliberating the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property if deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the city in negotiations with a third person. [Tex. Govt. Code §551.072]
3. deliberating a negotiated contract for a prospective gift or donation to the city if deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the city in negotiations with a third person. [Tex. Govt. Code §551.073]
4. deliberating the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee; or to hear a complaint or charge against an officer or employee unless the officer or employee who is the subject of the deliberation or hearing requests a public hearing. [Tex. Govt. Code §551.074]
5. deliberating the deployment, or specific occasions for implementation, of security personnel or devices. [Tex. Govt. Code §551.076]
6. discussing or deliberating commercial or financial information that the city has received from a business prospect that the city seeks to have locate, stay or expand in or near the city and with which the city is conducting economic development negotiations; or deliberating the offer of a financial or other incentive to a business prospect. [Tex Govt . Code §551.087]
7. deliberating security assessments or deployments relating to information resources technology, network security information, or the deployment or specific occasions for implementations of security personnel, critical infrastructure, or security devices. [Tex Govt. Code §551.089]

## **Texas Governor's Committee on People with Disabilities**

### **LEX FRIEDEN EMPLOYMENT AWARDS ENTRY FORM**

#### **MARTHA ARBUCKLE AWARD CATEGORY**

*Self-nominations are encouraged*

Nominee: Commission on Disabilities (COD) - City of Dallas

Website address (*if available*): <https://dallascityhall.com/government/Boards-and-Commissions/Commission-on-Disabilities/Pages/default.aspx>

**The Martha Arbuckle Award recognizes the most innovative local committee project, and is presented in memory of Austin's long-time disability advocate Martha Arbuckle.**

(1) Describe your Local Committee's or organization's most innovative program related to disability issues.

Since its inception in 2022 by the presiding Mayor Eric L. Johnson, the City of Dallas, Commission on Disabilities (COD) advises the City Council, and city departments on issues, pertaining to the full spectrum of needs, rights, and privileges of residents with diverse abilities. We make recommendations on ways our city could meet the every day needs of these individuals, and we ensure that these residents are fully included in all areas of public life, including equal access to a quality education, employment, housing, transportation, and other public accommodations. Even though we are a relatively new commission, one major initiative that is in the works will address accessible transportation. Specifically, our aim is to encourage the City of Dallas to become one of the early adopters of self-driving autonomous vehicles, which are fully compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and already being used in other US cities.

(2) Describe how this effort has enhanced the quality of life for Texans with disabilities.

Enhancing the quality of life for Texans with disabilities is the essence of what we do as a commission, and our work has made significant strides in different aspects. For example, our advocacy efforts have created a space, where individuals are well-informed about their rights, and have become knowledgeable about seeking appropriate avenues for addressing violations. Additionally, our work in increasing access to public spaces and transportation is enabling residents to live independent, and productive lives. Collaborating with other disability organizations allows us the opportunity to reflect upon ways we can apply the strategies learned when it comes to stricter parking enforcement so that handicap parking spaces are not

unlawfully being used by people, who do not have disabilities. Working together closely with other city departments enables us to become aware of resources that are available for residents, living with disabilities as it relates to preparing for an emergency. These efforts, combined together, reaffirms our commitment to fostering an equitable environment, where the needs of these residents are recognized, respected, and understood.

(3)Identify key steps to describe how this program could be implemented by organizations in other communities.

From our point of view, being able to implement our work in the community can immensely benefit other organizations in that this will allow us the opportunity to leverage resources and expertise in promoting diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility. To successfully achieve this, we outline the key steps.

**Needs Assessment:** In order to better understand the full spectrum of needs, and challenges, faced by people with disabilities in the community, we plan on listening to residents, and being a resource in bringing a human face to their challenges.

**Community Outreach:** Fully engaging with the community is truly the only way to raise awareness about disability issues, rights, and available resources. To enhance this effort, we hope to conduct educational workshops and seminars to foster a deeper understanding and support.

**Partnerships and Collaboration:** We aim to continue building, and strengthening partnerships with local government agencies, nonprofit organizations, businesses, and educational institutions to share resources and knowledge to advance disability justice, and inclusion.

**Advocacy and Empowerment:** We will keep advocating for the rights of people with disabilities, and empower them to make their voices heard. We also encourage employers, schools, and providers of social services to engage in inclusive practices.

**Human Rights:** We will continue supporting, and encouraging city efforts to promote respect for, and understanding of the rights of people with disabilities. Our aim will be to ensure that members of the disability community in fact have a place at the table, by allowing them the opportunity to openly share their concerns. We also strive to be a body, where we identify the key issues, and identify solutions that are most effective.

## **Nominee Information**

Name of Local Committee: Commission on Disabilities (COD)

Type of Committee (Mayor's Committee, community organization, non-profit, etc.): Mayor's Committee

Committee Chair or Primary Contact: John Kalkanli

Type of Business: Local Government

Street Address: 1500 Marilla Street

City, State, Zip Code: Dallas, TX 75201

Daytime Phone: (214) 670-7311

Email Address: [commissionondisabilities@dallas.gov](mailto:commissionondisabilities@dallas.gov)

Website Address (*if available*): <https://dallascityhall.com/government/Boards-and-Commissions/Commission-on-Disabilities/Pages/default.aspx>

**Nominator Information** (*if this is not a self-nomination*)

Name of Nominator:

Street Address:

City, State, Zip Code:

Daytime Phone:

Email Address:

You are encouraged to include supplementary materials for your awards entry by email or postal mail. (Examples: local media coverage, brochures, photos, letters of recommendation, etc.)

Testimonials from employees or customers with disabilities are encouraged, but please obtain written permission to use information and/or photos used in the submission. Do not disclose confidential information.

*Please be aware that all information you submit to the Office of the Governor is subject to public disclosure under the Texas Public Information Act.*

Please send this completed form and any supplemental materials by email (preferred) OR by postal mail to:

**Email:**

[GCPD@gov.texas.gov](mailto:GCPD@gov.texas.gov)

**Postal Mail:**

Lex Frieden Employment Awards Nominations  
Texas Governor's Committee on People with Disabilities  
P.O. Box 12428  
Austin, TX 78711