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CITY SECRETARY

DALLAS, TEXAS



City of Dallas

Public Notice

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POSTED CITY SECRETARY  
DALLAS, TX

**COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES  
REGULAR MEETING**

**June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 3:00 P.M.**

**Dallas City Hall, 6ES Council Briefing Room and Videoconference**

**Video Conference:**

<https://dallascityhall.webex.com/dallascityhall/j.php?MTID=m4668f1edc5a7881b22245072e5eb2169>

**Telephone: (408) 418-9388, Access Code: 2482 055 5623**

The City of Dallas will make reasonable modifications to programs and/or other related activities to ensure 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 & Inclusion by calling (214) 670-7311 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 & Inclusion by calling (214) 670-7311, twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting date and time.

La Ciudad de Dallas llevará a cabo Modificaciones Razonables a los programas u otras actividades relacionadas para asegurar que todos y cada uno de los residentes tengan acceso a los servicios y recursos para asegurar una reunión equitativa e inclusiva. Cualquier persona que requiera asistencia adicional, servicio o interpretación para poder participar de forma íntegra en la reunión debe notificar a la Oficina de Equidad y Inclusión llamando al (214) 670-7311 o TTY (800) 735-2989, dos (2) días hábiles antes de la reunión programada. Una transmisión en video de la reunión estará disponible dos días hábiles luego de la finalización de la reunión en <https://dallascityhall.com/government/Pages/Live.aspx>.

Las personas y las partes interesadas que deseen hacer uso de la palabra deben registrarse en la Oficina de Equidad y Inclusión llamando al (214) 670-7311, 24 horas antes del tiempo de la reunión.

**AGENDA**

**I. Call to Order:** Chairman John Kalkanli, Mayor Appointee

**II. Roll Call**

**VOTING AGENDA ITEMS**

**III. Approval of Minutes**

- Approval of the May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Commission on Disabilities meeting minutes.

**IV. Public Speakers (3 Minute Limit)**

**V. Officer Reports**

- Chairman John Kalkanli (Mayor Appointee) will discuss the Department of Justice's final rule regarding ADA Accessibility for City Websites and Mobile Apps.
- Chairman John Kalkanli (Mayor Appointee) will review his attendance at the 2024 Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility (DEIA) Summit on behalf of City of Dallas' Commission on Disabilities organized by North Texas Disability Chamber on June 1, 2024.
- Chairman John Kalkanli (Mayor Appointee) will discuss initial plans to hold a team-building retreat for the Commission on Disabilities in July 2024.

## VI. Commissioners' Reports

### **BRIEFING ITEMS**

#### VII. Briefings

- Marketing Communications Manager and Senior Staff Analyst, Melonie Curry, with ParkHouston will present on ADA Parking Enforcement and Volunteer Training and Engagement.

#### VIII. Announcements

#### IX. 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]



**Commission on Disabilities  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
May 28, 2024  
Dallas City Hall, 6ES  
Call-in (408) 418-9388  
Access Code: 2491 915 4254  
John Kalkanli, Presiding**

**PRESENT: [6]**

John Kalkanli, Chair District 15	Christina Puga, District 8
Gay Revi, District 1	Starlet Ramirez, District 6*
Rod Hooker, District 3*	Chris Bellew, District 10*

**ABSENT: [3]**

Beverly White, District 9
Nicole Munoz Huschka, District 13
Nancy H Immerman, District 11

*\*Note: Members of the Commission on Disabilities participated in this meeting by video conference.*

*\*\*Note: Indicates arrival time after meeting called to order/reconvened*

**Technical Resource Panel Members Present: [1]**

Carrie Parks*
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**Absent: [5]**

Dr. Priscylla Bento	Dylan Rafaty
Wade Wilcox	Bianca Walker
Cynthia Suarez	

The May 28, 2024, Commission on Disabilities meeting was called to order at 2:06 p.m. with quorum being met.

The meeting agenda, posted in accordance with Chapter 551, "OPEN MEETINGS", of the Texas Government Code, was presented.

**PUBLIC SPEAKERS**

Chairman Kalkanli opened the floor with roll call and for any public speakers, advising the public of available time and requesting that they turn on their camera's when speaking.

With no public speakers, Chairman Kalkanli moved to the next order of business.

## COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES MEETING MINUTES

MAY 26, 2024

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chairman Kalkanli opened the floor to approve minutes from March 26, 2024.

Chairman Kalkanli mentioned the following edits to be made:

- Statement in Commissioner's reports should read "Commissioner Puga voiced her concerns" rather than "Commissioner Puga expressed her frustration"
- Statement in Commissioner's Report should read "Women's History Month" rather than "Women's Herstory Month"
- An additional statement in the briefing should read "Chairman Kalkanli acknowledged the concerns brought upon by some of the commissioners but emphasized the necessity and importance of a Human Rights Commission to more effectively achieve the strategic priorities and quickly bring solutions to the everyday challenges faced by people with disabilities."
- Acronym in Announcements "NFP News Line" should be corrected to "NFB", to signify the National Federation of the Blind.

Commissioner Puga mentioned the following edits to be made:

- Commissioner Puga should be referred to as Commissioner Puga rather than the "she" pronoun, to identify that she is the Commissioner being referenced to.
- Statement "On February 15th, Commissioner Puga attended Netflix's 'Black Beauty Effect' Documentary Red Carpet premiere" should include "invited by 3 Think Media PR Lia Frazier".

Chairman Kalkanli called to vote the approval of the March 26, 2024, minutes. All were in favor of approving minutes with edits.

### **MEETING SUMMARY**

Chairman Kalkanli provided the Officer Reports:

On April 10th, Chairman Kalkanli and Commissioner Revi conducted a fact-finding meeting with Mozee Inc, a company providing self-driving autonomous vehicles that are fully ADA compliant. Chairman Kalkanli expressed the hope that the Commission on Disabilities will adopt vehicles created by Mozee. Chairman Kalkanli indicated that Commissioner Revi would have more to report on Mozee and their discussions with DART and other Dallas City departments.

On April 17th, Chairman Kalkanli attended and spoke at the Autism Acceptance Month event hosted by the City of Dallas' Office of Equity and Inclusion. Chairman Kalkanli stated he was honored to be a speaker and to discuss the intersectionality of disability rights, autism acceptance, and human rights. Chairman Kalkanli expressed his hope that the Office of Equity Inclusion continues to host events in this manner, highlighting disabilities and sparking meaningful discussions.

Chairman Kalkanli motioned for Commissioner Hooker to speak on the proposed Disability

## COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES MEETING MINUTES

MAY 26, 2024

Cultural Humility Training. Chairman Kalkanli gave a brief overview of the training and motion was passed.

### **COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS**

Commissioner Puga shared the following report, including events which occurred in April and May:

Kennedy Krieger Institute hosted four relevant Zoom calls in April

- Rethinking Research and Policy Impacting and Addressing the Importance of Autism Research
- Experience and Adult Life Planning for Autistic Individuals
- Making Sense of Sensory Processing
- Supporting Behavior and Emotional Regulation for Individuals with Autism, including Individuals with other Disabilities

On April 6, 2024, Commissioner Puga attended Dallas Mavericks' Employee Resource Group Symposium, where Inclusion and Employment of Individuals with Disabilities was discussed.

On April 17, 2024, Commissioner Puga attended the Autism Awareness Event hosted by the City of Dallas's Office of Equity and Inclusion.

On April 19, 2024, Commissioner Puga attended the Dallas Symphony Orchestra's Diversity night, where inclusion of all disabilities was discussed. Commissioner Puga mentioned Technical Advisory Panelist Dylan Rafaty being in attendance with the North Texas Disability Chamber, and many other vendors and chambers being in attendance.

Commissioner Puga attended the Rays of Light Gala for the United Methodist Church's respite program. Commissioner Puga shared that her family was highlighted at the gala and that the Rays of Light provides Respite services for parents/guardians on the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Friday of every month.

Commissioner Puga shared that May is Mental Health Awareness Month and that she attended the May 4th Mental Wellness Walking Fair at Senior Hills Recreation Center. Commissioner Puga shared attendees include Former Dallas Cowboy Greg Ellis, who discussed mental health awareness, Mayor Pro Tem Tennell Atkins, and Texas State Rep District 110 Toni Rose.

On May 6, 2024, Commissioner Puga attended the Vista Bank Grand Opening/Ribbon Cutting in South Dallas. Commissioner Puga mentioned the Bank having ADA accommodations available and Vice President and Director of Community Development and Outreach Lubbock D. Smith III being in attendance.

On May 10, 2024, Commissioner Puga met with Courtney Walger from Disability Rights of Texas and discussed resources available to those with disabilities.

On May 15, 2024, Commissioner Puga had her first disability discussion in her district at Senior Hills Recreation Center where she informed citizens of disability resources and discussed advocacy for disability rights and finding resources and information on wellness and wellbeing.

## COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES MEETING MINUTES

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On May 18, 2024, Commissioner Puga attended the Highland Park High School Buddy Bowl, sponsored in part by Raising Cane's and CBS 11, where varsity football players and children with special needs and disabilities play football together.

Commissioner Hooker shared the following report:

On May 4, 2024, Commissioner Hooker participated in Bike Multiple Sclerosis round up for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, where over \$8,000 was raised.

On May 10th, Commissioner Hooker met with Chief Strategy Officer Tate Ringer to learn more about the Individual and Developmental Disabilities training sent to the City Council to create awareness, with hopes to gain support in advocacy and with the state of Texas increasing funding for support services.

### **SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Commissioner Revi provided a report on behalf of the Transportation Subcommittee. Commissioner Revi shared that Lime Scooters provide a free tricycle to individuals with disabilities; Lime will deliver the tricycle to residences and pick it up after use. Commissioner Revi reported she will provide more updates soon.

Commissioner Revi reported an upcoming meeting with Cruise self-driving cars and will report back with updates.

Commissioner Revi reported meeting with Phoenix Mobility Rising, a nonprofit aiming to provide free or low-cost transportation to people with disabilities and expressed their interest in Mozee. Commissioner Revi provided a detailed report on Mozee: Commissioner Revi reports Mozee vehicles are fully ADA compliant, can be programmed in 35 different languages, and have space for baggage and service animals under seats. Mozee vehicles have sensors to measure potholes and air quality and are able to relay this information to relevant city departments. Mozee vehicles would be assembled within the City. Commissioner Revi reports that Mozee is currently in discussion with, Office of Environmental Quality and Sustainability, Dallas County, City of Arlington, and DART.

Commissioner Revi motioned that the Commission on Disabilities continues to investigate the possibilities of adopting autonomous vehicles for use by persons with disabilities in Dallas. This study will include all affected city departments and DART, with the goal of recommending these vehicles to city council.

Commissioner Bellew asked for clarification on the motion. Commissioner Revi stated wanting the Commission to further investigate these vehicles and consider the possibility of adopting these vehicles.

The motion passed with all in favor.

### **BRIEFING**

Chairman Kalkanli moved to the next order of business and introduced Chief Integrity Officer, Baron Eliason, who provided a basic overview of ethics, specifically code of conduct, civility, and decorum in meetings. Quorum was temporarily lost, as Commissioner Revi and

## COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES MEETING MINUTES

MAY 26, 2024

Commissioner Ramirez temporarily left the meeting. Quorum was regained, but a temporary technology issue prevented virtual attendees from hearing the meeting. Commissioner Puga inquired about best practice regarding correspondence to emails. Commissioner Puga and CIO Barion Eliason agreed best practice is to respond, and Eliason encouraged Commissioner Puga to have an assertive conversation regarding difficulty receiving correspondence.

Chairman Kalkanli introduced Public Information Coordinator, Michael Smith, with the City of Dallas Department of Transportation to present on the Department's work and resources available for people with disabilities. With limited time left in meeting, Chairman Kalkanli and Mr. Smith agreed to revisit the presentation in a later Commission meeting.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chairman Kalkanli announced that April was Autism Acceptance Month and May is Mental Health Awareness Month and shared relevant information regarding each. Chairman Kalkanli shared being in communication with a UT-Dallas Undergraduate student who designed Apollo, a pair of glasses used with a mobile app that are useful for individuals with disabilities, specifically those who are visually impaired. Chairman Kalkanli shared this student is interested in the Commission and he may ask her to present in the future.

Chairman Kalkanli proposed a retreat for July, Disability Pride Month, and shared his initial ideas. Chairman Kalkanli discussed potentially visiting the Freedom Matters Exhibit at the George W Bush Presidential Museum. Chairman Kalkanli shared this exhibit includes information on how freedom has evolved in this country, including specifics regarding ADA and disability rights.

Commissioner Hooker announced that the North Texas Disability Chamber is hosting their 1st Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Accessibility (DEIA) Summit June 1st from 8am-12pm. Chairman Kalkanli shared he will also be in attendance and a speaker at the event.

### **ADJOURNMENT,**

Chairman Kalkanli adjourned the May 28, 2024, Commission on Disabilities meeting at 3:46pm.

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Drafted by:  
Kelsi Peterson, ADA Coordinator  
Office of Equity & Inclusion

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Date



COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES MEETING MINUTES  
MAY 26, 2024

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Approved by:  
John Kalkanli, Chairman  
Commission on Disabilities

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Date



# Empowering Volunteers to Make an Impact

Melonie Curry, MBA

City of Houston - ParkHouston

Senior Staff Analyst

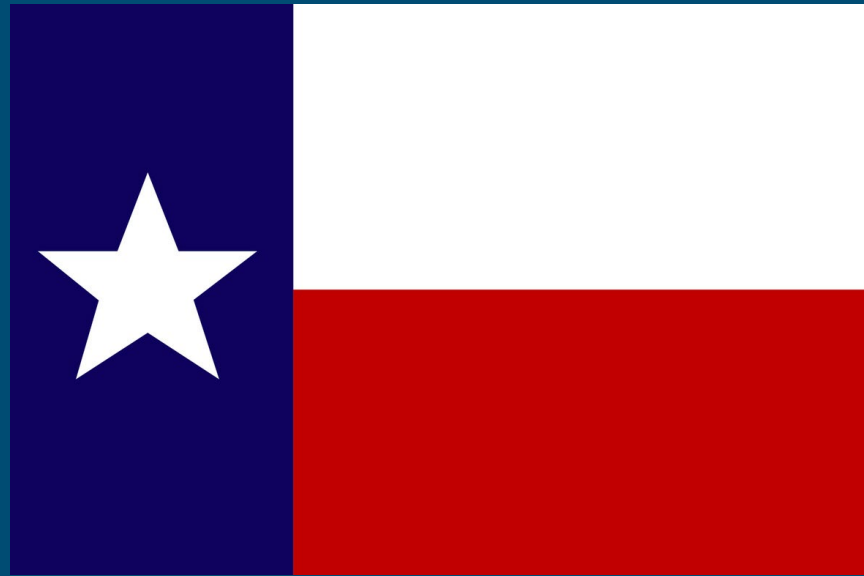
[www.Houston.tx.gov/parking](http://www.Houston.tx.gov/parking)



# Why do people volunteer?



- Personal Passion
- Protecting the Rights of the Disabled
- Connect Them to Their Passion
- Fulfill a True Need



# How to Establish a Volunteer Program



## State Statute

Texas Transportation Code  
681.0101  
Enforcement by Certain  
Appointed Persons

## 4-Hour Training

- The Regulation
- Handle Conflict
- Public Service
- Personal Safety

## Recertification every 3 years

- Process Improvement
- Recruiter



# Educate ADA Parking Space

**\$500**

**Fine for Illegally Parking or Blocking a  
Disabled Parking Space**

The access aisle is a no parking zone for ALL vehicles.  
The access aisle is for passenger loading and unloading only.



**PARKING**

**NO**

**PARKING**



[www.houstontx.gov/Parking](http://www.houstontx.gov/Parking)

- ADA Compliant Parking Space
- Requirements for Parking Violation Enforcement



# Educate

# ADA Parking Credentials

License Plates require  
International Symbol of Access

Valid Parking Placards





# Educate

# Requirements for Disabled Veterans

**City of Houston**  
Office of Veterans and Military Affairs

**PARK HOUSTON**

### Disabled Veteran DV Plates Parking in ADA Parking Spaces State Law Effective January 1, 2022

**Disabled Parking Placard Not Required**

TEXAS vB01BB  
TEXAS 1BBBB

**Disabled Parking Placard Required**

+ TEXAS DV+01BBB

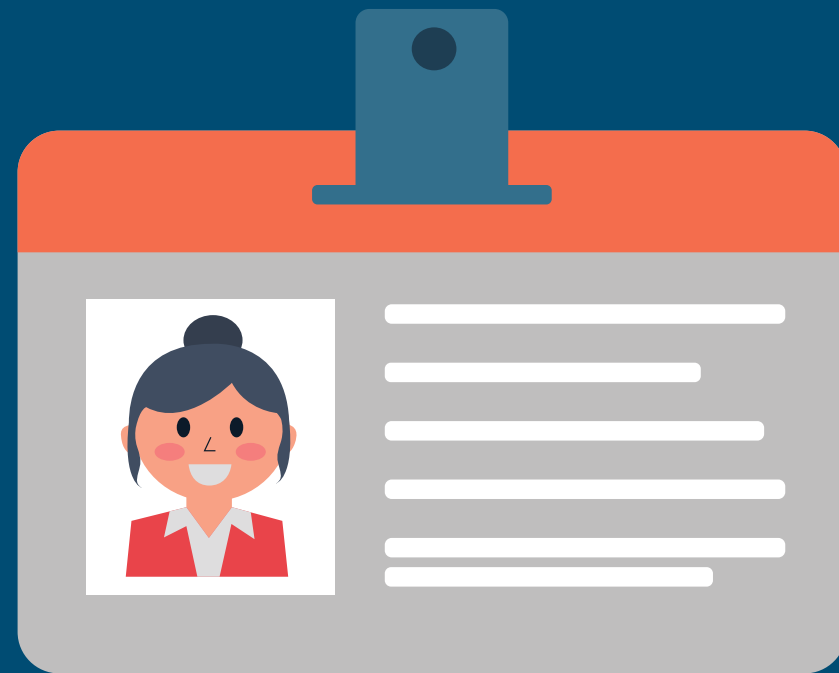
**Not Eligible to Park**

TEXAS DV+01BBB

[www.Houstontx.gov](http://www.Houstontx.gov)



# Empower and Equip



- Uniform
- Badges
- Safety Vests
- Caps



- Handheld devices
- Citation books



- Be prepared to take all the heat
- Business Card
- Contact Information





# Advocates vs. Avengers

## AVENGERS

- Punish
- Power Hungry
- Penalize and Inflict Pain



## ADVOCATES

- Passion to fulfill a need
- Serve their community
- Increase accessibility



# Evaluate



Trained



Active



Recertification



Inactive



# Celebration and Recognition





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Senior Staff Analyst  
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