

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE May 18, 2026

TO Honorable Members of the Quality of Life, Arts and Culture Committee: Zarin Gracey (Chair), Laura Cadena (Vice Chair), Adam Bazaldua, Paul Ridley, Bill Roth, Chad West, Gay Willis

SUBJECT **June 24, 2026, City Council Agenda Item #26-1346A: Resolution to Approve Disability Pride Flag to Commemorate 36th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act**

The purpose of this memorandum is to brief the Quality of Life, Arts, and Culture Committee on the Commission on Disabilities' recommendation for the City of Dallas to commemorate the 36th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) by raising the disability pride flag and commemorate the month of July as Disability Pride Month beginning in 2026. The Council will receive a resolution on June 24th, 2026, to approve the Disability Flag to be raised the following month in July and annually thereafter.

About the Commission on Disabilities

The Commission on Disabilities, established by Ordinance No. 32070 on December 8, 2021, is a 15-member body tasked with advising City leadership on full spectrum of needs, rights, and privileges of people with disabilities. The Commission is supported by the Office of Housing and Community Empowerment (OHCE). This initiative follows a 2025 Council proclamation and a renewed request for the flag-raising in the Commission's January 2026 Annual Report.

About the Disability Pride Flag

The Disability Pride Flag was originally designed in 2019 by Ann Magill, a writer and disability rights activist. The current design, formalized in 2021 with community input, features five colors on a charcoal background, each representing different disability types:

- **Red:** Physical disabilities
- **Gold:** Neurodiversity
- **White:** Invisible disabilities
- **Blue:** Emotional and psychiatric disabilities
- **Green:** Sensory disabilities

The background honors those lost to violence and ableism, while the design signifies the community's collective dignity and resilience.

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Picture - Disability Pride Flag

Next Steps – Adopt Council Resolution to Approve Display of Disability Pride Flag

For next steps, OHCE will present a resolution for consideration to City Council on June 24th (Agenda Item 26-1346A), to formally allow City staff to raise the Disability Pride Flag at City Hall Plaza from July 15th, 2026, through July 31st, 2026, including the anniversary of Americans with Disabilities Act on July 26th.

The proposed resolution would authorize the Disability Pride Flag to be displayed at City Hall Plaza in July 2026 and annually thereafter, with the display limited to City Hall Plaza in future years. Staff will additionally seek a Disability Pride Month Proclamation for the June 24th agenda to not only recognize the Commission on Disabilities, but also highlight the upcoming flag raising, pending Council approval. The estimated cost to purchase the Disability Pride Flag for display at City Hall Plaza is anticipated to be \$6,000 or less.

This request affirms the City’s commitment to the Americans with Disabilities Act, promotes the dignity of the disability community, and highlights Dallas’s inclusivity on the global stage during the 2026 World Cup.

Should you have any questions or need any additional information, please contact myself or Thor Erickson, Director, Office of Housing and Community Empowerment at 214-670-3632 at thor.erickson@dallas.gov.

Service First, Now!

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M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira
Assistant City Manager

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Mamatha Sparks, City Auditor (I)
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