



Columbus Advisory Committee on Disability Issues

CACDI Meeting Minutes

May 22, 2025

Meeting Information

Location: Hybrid, Michael B. Coleman Building, Room 204 (111 N Front St, Columbus, OH 43215)

Date & Time: May 22, 2025, 2:00–3:30 p.m.

Facilitator: Vice Chair Emma Strange

Attendees: Emma Strange, Angie Wise, Jennie Hanna, Josh Cartee, Bob Roehm, Nathan Grizenko, Eunha Suh, Pedro Meija, Victoria Solomon, Justin Simmons, Kristian Sims, Eugene Borders, Leslie Glevins (equal employment resource manager), Grace Shultz, Eric Duffy, Christine Brown, Nicole Carter, Tricia Kovacs, Alexia Kemerling, Corrina Hyde, Janae Miller, Bethany Svoboda (ASL Interpreter), Willard Smith-Hoffman (ASL Interpreter), Aimie Reider, and Phyllis Elmo.

Agenda Items

1. Welcome & Introductions

1.1. Vice Chair Emma Strange called a meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting

3. ADA Coordinator Update



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- 3.1. Angie Wise presented the ADA Coordinator update, beginning with words of appreciation for the leadership transition team, including Emma, Nathan, and Jordan, who helped lay the groundwork for CACDI's formation.
 - 3.2. She explained the next steps in the appointment process, which included submitting the names of commissioners and officers into Legistar, the City of Columbus's legislative management platform.
 - 3.3. The goal is to finalize appointments in time for recognition at the June 9 City Council meeting, where Council Member Wyche intends to introduce a resolution acknowledging the new commission.
4. Shared Mobility Update presented by Kristian Sims
 - 4.1. Discussed the recent shift from a permit-based system to a contractual service model with vendors Veo and Spin. This new model includes service level agreements (SLAs), which establish clearer expectations and accountability for scooter and bike share operations.
 - 4.2. A significant focus of these SLAs is the timely removal of vehicles that obstruct ADA accessibility, with a one-hour response time mandated for vendors.
 - 4.3. Kristian described efforts to evaluate compliance through field audits and data tracking, and emphasized new infrastructure plans such as using old COGO stations and adding marked parking corrals to promote proper parking behavior.
 - 4.4. The update prompted questions from folks about equitable access, alternative parking solutions, and vendor contracts, which Kristian addressed by explaining the evaluation



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checkpoints built into the contract period and the city's flexibility in responding to vendor performance.

4.5. Key improvements include:

- 4.5.1. Implementation of service-level agreements for enforcement.
- 4.5.2. One-hour response time for ADA access obstruction reports.
- 4.5.3. New and planned parking infrastructure for scooters and e-bikes.
- 4.5.4. Goals: equitable access, financial sustainability, and improved parking management.

4.6. To submit a 311 ticket, please use this link:

<https://www.columbus.gov/311-Customer-Service-Center>

- 4.6.1. It's important to note that if the submission is labeled as an ADA-non compliant issue, then the vendor has 1 hour to respond and remediate. This time parameter does not apply to all 311 tickets addressed by other divisions/departments within the City.

5. Welcome to CACDI! Legal Overview on Open Meetings and Public Records Act - presented by Josh Cartee, Assistant City Attorney



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- 5.1. Provided an overview of the legal obligations commissioners now hold as members of a public body.
- 5.2. He explained the requirements of the Ohio Open Meetings Act and the Public Records Act.
 - 5.2.1. As a subcommittee of the City Council, all discussions are expected to take place in public (pre-arranged gathering of members of the public, must be open to the public, minutes must be taken)
 - 5.2.2. Written (whether in ink or digital) communication and in-person gatherings or discussions about CACDI-related business may be subject to becoming public record
- 5.3. Commissioners were advised to conduct all public business transparently and in public meetings, and to be cautious about casual communications, such as texts and emails, that might become public records.
- 5.4. Josh recommended setting up a dedicated email address for CACDI communications and discussed the protocol for responding to public records requests.
 - 5.4.1. Example: *name.CACDI@____.com*
- 5.5. The goal was to balance transparency and accessibility while helping new commissioners understand their legal responsibilities in public service. City staff, including Josh, offered continued support for navigating these regulations.
- 5.6. Commission Leadership and Angie will work with commissioners in case a public records request is ever made.
- 5.7. Ethics trainings may be offered to commissioners



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- 5.7.1. Renata Ramsini, Chief Ethics Officer, is a great resource for ethics questions. Her email is RJRamsini@columbus.gov.

6. New Business

6.1. Electing Officers

- 6.1.1. Discussion centered on officer roles and staggered commissioner terms. While it was legally permissible to delay officer elections, the Vice Chair facilitated a vote among the present commissioners whether to conduct elections or wait until next month's meeting.
- 6.1.2. The decision to postpone elections passed 5-4. Commissioners-elect Duffy, Shultz, Kemerling, and Suh voted to conduct elections. Commissioners-elect Simmons, Kovacs, Roehm, Miller, and Carter voted to postpone elections. Commissioners-elect Tessa Wilson and Katrina Norris were not present for today's meeting.
- 6.1.3. While it was legally permissible to delay officer elections, the group chose to proceed to determine length of term for each new commissioner.
- 6.1.4. The meeting opened with clarification that the current leadership and structure are transitioning from a committee to a formal city commission.
- 6.1.5. Returning members (Janae, Bob, and Tricia) were highlighted as key resources due to their experience in both the committee and transition process.
- 6.1.6. Discussion began about officer roles, particularly the role of Historian. Eric expressed interest in this role with



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the caveat that most responsibilities occur outside of work hours, which was affirmed as acceptable based on past leadership practices.

- 6.1.7. It was clarified that leadership roles, terms, and structures would be sent out via email, and that commissioners should expect future decision-making autonomy.
- 6.1.8. Commissioners asked whether terms are renewable. Josh Cartee explained that there are no term limits, but reappointments must be approved by City Council.
- 6.1.9. Existing bylaws from the previous committee will be terminated, and new bylaws must be developed. However, the old bylaws can be referenced for inspiration.

6.2. Determining Terms

- 6.2.1. To determine staggered commissioner terms, a randomized selection process was conducted using paper slips labeled for one-, two-, and three-year durations. The results were as follows:
 - 6.2.1.1. One-Year Terms: Tricia Kovacs, Janae Miller, Alexia Kemerling



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6.2.1.2. Two-Year Terms: Nicole Carter, Justin Simmons, Bob Roehm, Tessa Wilson

6.2.1.3. Three-Year Terms: Grace Schultz, Eric Duffy, Eunha Suh, Katrina Norris

6.2.2. This random drawing method was deemed most fair and consistent with how other city bodies have previously organized staggered terms. Questions were raised about officer eligibility and term conflicts, and Josh acknowledged a possible discrepancy between officer term requirements and the random assignment of membership terms. He agreed to clarify the interpretation of the code with city staff and provide guidance via email.

6.3. Selecting Virtual Meeting Platform

6.3.1. It was determined that the commission would move forward with purchasing a Zoom account for consistent and accessible virtual participation, as recommended by several members.

6.3.2. The decision addressed recurring issues caused by the use of a free trial platform. Angie and Tricia confirmed



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the affordability and reliability of Zoom for the commission's future needs.

6.3.3. The city's OWL cameras (used for hybrid meetings) were discussed. These were purchased by the City of Columbus for the HR department and will remain available for CACDI use but are stored in Angie's office.

6.4. Belinda, a long-time advocate and supporter, commended the leadership and new commissioners for their dedication and passion. She emphasized the importance of seizing this moment to shape the commission's identity and direction.

6.4.1. Angie and Pedro echoed this sentiment, encouraging commissioners to take ownership of their roles and reminding them that city staff are present to support—not dictate—the commission's decisions.

6.5. Official commissioner appointments are scheduled to be recognized at the June 9 City Council meeting, though formal powers activate on June 14. A ceremonial swearing-in will take place at Council Chambers with an invitation extended to friends and family.

7. Community Issues/Announcements

7.1. Belinda, a disability advocate, raised concerns about accessible housing and urged CACDI members to testify at the May 27 City Council meeting on housing development and fair housing regulations.



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- 7.2. She emphasized the importance of tracking what's being implemented under the new housing vision and the need for community-led policy input, especially in areas of institutional transitions and housing instability.
- 7.3. Emiliana shared the dates and details for upcoming Committee Hearings, Phase 1.5 Review/Discussion for Zone-In Initiative, and office hours. More information about these events will be shared via email.

8. Adjournment

- 8.1. Angie confirmed that future agenda items would include the adoption of new by-laws and decisions on how to allocate the commission's operating budget, which currently stands at \$10,000. She and other city staff committed to supporting commissioners through these early processes and encouraged continued collaboration.
 - 8.2. Adjourned at 3:28 p.m.
 - 8.3. Next Meeting: June 26, 2025 @ 2 p.m.
 - 8.3.1. Location: Next month's meeting will be at the Front Street Conference Room (located under the Front Street parking garage) The address for the location is 141 N. Front Street. More information to come!
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Submitted By:
Nathan Grizenko, Secretary