

State Council on Developmental Disabilities Bay Area Office

Community Outreach & Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) Meeting

Wednesday, April 22, 2026

Networking 5:15-5:30 PM Meeting 5:30-8:00 PM

This is a hybrid meeting: In-Person with Zoom / Teleconference options.

Join In-Person:

Marin County Office of Education, Board Room
1111 Las Gallinas Ave, San Rafael, CA 94903

Or Join by Zoom:

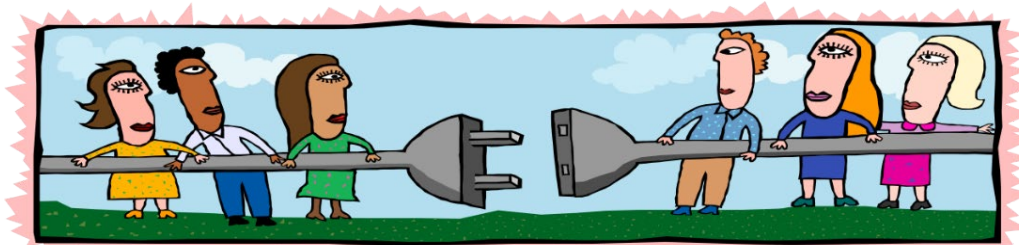
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84435763914?pwd=DwFJtC04X2b5uX5PdmEqCqkJmB02RP.1>

Meeting ID: 844 3576 3914 Passcode: 569060

Or by Telephone, U.S. Toll-free: (877) 853-5257 or (888) 475-4499

Collaboration is key! We invite members of the community to share input, issues and concerns. **All are welcome.** Featured: Intergenerational Trauma in Autistic Families Workgroup update; Airlines Passenger Protection overview update, and more!

This meeting will feature live English captioning. Individuals who require accessible alternative formats of the agenda and/or language interpretation (in Spanish or other languages) and/or auxiliary aids/services to participate in this meeting should contact us at **510-286-0439** or **bayarea@scdd.ca.gov**, at least five business days prior to the meeting. This meeting complies with Government Code Sections 11123.1, 11123.2, and 11125(f). Members may be physically present at one or more teleconference locations. There may be members of the public body who are remotely participating in today's meeting that were granted reasonable accommodation per the ADA.



Concilio Estatal en Discapacidades del Desarrollo Oficina del Área de la Bahía

Alcance Comunitario Y Reunión del Comité Asesor Regional

Miércoles, 22 de abril de 2026

Oportunidad de red 5:15-5:30 PM Reunión 5:30-8:00 PM

**Esta es una reunión híbrida: Presencial con opciones de
Zoom/Teleconferencia.**

Únase en persona:

Oficina de Educación del Condado de Marin, Sala de Juntas
1111 Las Gallinas Ave, San Rafael, CA 94903

Únase por Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84435763914?pwd=DwFJtC04X2b5uX5PdmEqCqkJmB02RP.1>

O por teléfono, número gratuito de EE. UU.:

(877) 853-5257 o (888) 475-4499

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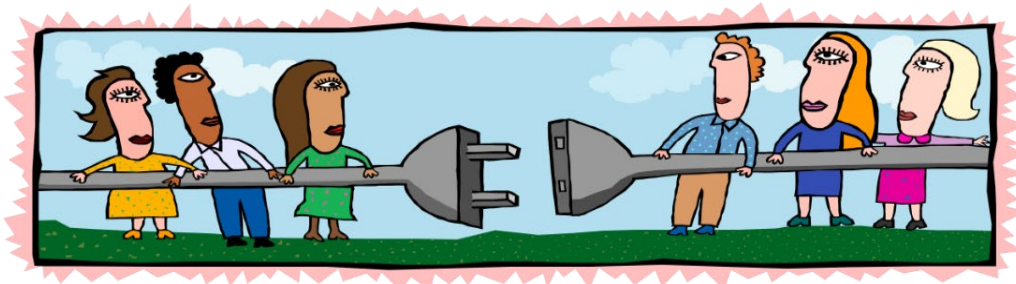
La colaboración es clave! Invitamos a los miembros de la comunidad a compartir sus opiniones, problemas e inquietudes. **Todos son bienvenidos.**

Destacado: Actualización del grupo de trabajo sobre el trauma intergeneracional en familias autistas; actualización de la visión general de la protección de pasajeros de las aerolíneas, iy mucho más!

Esta reunión tendrá subtítulos en vivo e interpretación en español.

Esta reunión cumple con las Secciones 11123.1, 11123.2 y 11125(f) del Código de Gobierno. Los miembros pueden estar físicamente presentes en uno o más lugares de teleconferencia. Es posible que haya miembros del público que participen de forma remota en la reunión de hoy a quienes se les concedió una adaptación razonable según la

Ley de Estadounidenses con Discapacidades. Las personas con discapacidades que requieran formatos alternativos accesibles de la agenda y materiales relacionados y/o ayudas/servicios auxiliares para participar en esta reunión deben contactarnos al **(510) 286-0439** o **bayarea@scdd.ca.gov**, al menos cinco días hábiles antes de la reunión.





STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES (SCDD)

BAY AREA REGIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RAC) MEETING & COMMUNITY OUTREACH

NOTICE & AGENDA*

**Date**

Wednesday, April 22, 2026

**Time**

Networking 5:15pm – 5:30p, Meeting 5:30pm – 8:00pm

**Locations**

This is a hybrid meeting: In-Person with Zoom / Teleconference options. Members of the public may participate telephonically, or by Zoom from any location. This meeting will feature live captioning, via Zoom.

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For more information, contact the State Council on Developmental Disabilities Bay Area Regional Office, 510-286-0439 or bayarea@scdd.ca.gov.



5:30p Call to Order

Introductions / Welcomes

Establishment of Quorum

Witkin



5:40p Approval of the February 2026 Meeting Minutes

Witkin



5:45p Public Comment

An invitation to provide the public with an opportunity to comment on and/or present information to the Committee on **any matter that is not on the agenda**. Each public member has up to 3 minutes to speak. Written requests will be considered first. The Committee will provide a public comment period not to exceed 5 minutes total for all public comments prior to action on any agenda item. Legislative office elected officials, or staff may also introduce themselves or provide comment.



5:55p Member Reports

SCDD Bay Area Regional Advisory Committee (RAC)

& SCDD Councilmembers

Witkin

Hear updates from RAC members and Councilmembers on their regional and statewide advocacy work, trends / needs in their county, and priorities.



6:15p Community Reports

Witkin

- People First Report
- Regional Center Reports
- County Developmental Disabilities Councils Reports
- Statewide Self-Advocacy Network (SSAN)
- National Council on Disability (NCD)



6:50p BREAK (10 mins)



7:00p Legislative Office Comments

Witkin

An invitation for legislative offices in attendance to provide brief statements, comments on emerging issues, or updates impacting their constituents from disability communities.



7:15p Update on the Intergenerational Trauma in Autistic Families Workgroup

Gonzalez

Hear a brief update on the developments with this workgroup.
Learn how you can help with outreach.



7:30p An Overview of Air Travel Rights & Areas for Traveler Advocacy

Gonzalez

Hear and review an overview of air travel rights, and areas of traveler advocacy.



**7:50p Other Announcements
& Agenda Items for Future Meetings**

Witkin

An opportunity for members of the community to bring up ideas, needs, issues, and concerns.



8:00p Meeting Adjourned

Witkin

***All times indicated, and the order of business are approximate and subject to change. Any agenda items have the potential to be brought for a vote.**



**State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD)
Bay Area Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) Meeting
February 25, 2026, Minutes DRAFT (This is an initial draft and is summarized in many places)**

This meeting was hybrid--held in person, and through Zoom (video call or call-in)

Location: San Mateo City Hall, Council Chambers, 330 W. 20th Ave., San Mateo, CA 94403

Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84785354068?pwd=x8SXNbxHkNli2gZ1dH5CivaVbqlv6o.1>

Meeting ID: 847 8535 4068 **Passcode:** 618882

Committee Members attending in-person: Terri Carol, Florence Wong.

Committee Members attending on Zoom: Eyan Gilder, Kevin Mintz, Kerry Rich, Sana Shooshtari, Emily Witkin.

Committee Members absent: Evan Milburn, Bird Sellergren.

Council Members attending on Zoom: Bob Twomey.

SCDD Staff: Valerie Buell, Sheraden Nicholau, Greg Gonzalez, Ron Usac.

Accessibility Assistance: Captioner Carilyn, Captioner Savannah.

Legislative office representation on Zoom: Nicole Cuellar-Nelson from Senator Christopher Cabaldon's office, Donna Browne from Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan's office, Ho-Yin Mo (Mo) from Assemblymember Catherine Stefani's office.

Community Partners attending in-person: Jerry Grace.

Community Partners attending on Zoom: Eric Zigman, Patrick McKay, Dr. Rebecca Nanyonjo, Sara Desumala, Sabreena Sahota.

Guests attending on Zoom: J.M, Ila Duong, Meena Tadimeti, Patricia Albeno, Elyse Brummer.

5:30p Emily Witkin called the meeting to order. Valerie Buell took roll call of RAC members and confirmed there was a quorum. New RAC member Eyan Gilder and new Regional Manager Greg Gonzalez were introduced.

5:37p Approval of meeting minutes for December 3, 2025:

Moved: Kevin Mintz Seconded: Kerry Rich

Roll Call Vote:

- Abstain: Eyan Gilder.
- Aye: Terri Carol, Kevin Mintz, Kerry Rich, Sana Shooshtari, Emily Witkin, Florence Wong.

Public Comments: Emily Witkin asked for public comments.

- Donna Brown shared Assembly District 16 covers three cities in Alameda County and some parts of Contra Costa County, and staff attended the recent legislative breakfast hosted by the East Bay Legislative Coalition.
- Nicole Cuellar-Nelson shared Senate Bill (SB) SB 417 is the affordable housing bond that would support \$10 Billion to support housing if it is passed, and SB 1114 requires the collection of data related to sexual orientation, gender identity, and intersex, or variations in sex characteristics be protected from disclosure to entities outside California state government or contracted vendors, except under specific exceptions if it passes.
- Mo shared Assemblymember Stefani is on the Health Committee. Assembly Bill (AB) 2208 will cap costs for low income Medi-Cal patients and require clear communication of benefits if it passes. AB 871 has passed and is now in the senate and it will expand protections against elder financial abuse requiring financial institutions with training to proactively prevent, identify, and report suspected fraud.

Member Reports: RAC Members and Councilmembers reported on their regional and statewide advocacy work and priorities.

- **Terri Carol:**
 - Attended a screening of the documentary by Samuel Habib called "The Ride Ahead" about Samuel going to college and transitioning into the world living with Cerebral Palsy.
 - Big Wave is accepting applications for ten housing scholarships.
- **Eyan Gilder:**
 - Was on a panel earlier this month and learned a lot about jobs and opportunities that made him a better speaker.
- **Kevin Mintz:**
 - Had a high-profile publication come out at the end of last year about the engagement of Cerebral Palsy research called "My Call for Community Engaged Genetic Research into Cerebral Palsy".
- **Kerry Rich:**
 - The foundation Joshua's Gift advocates and supports the autism neurodiverse community to make life better and safer for them and will partner with Fremont Police in April training first responders and law enforcement on how to safely and respectfully interact with autistic people and other individuals with Intellectual Developmental Disabilities (IDD).
- **Sana Shoostari:**
 - AB 1250 passed recently and is related to paratransit eligibility and will permit individuals who have permanent disabilities to no longer need to renew eligibility status.

- Sana is working with the Equal Opportunity Employment Commission to ensure that individuals with disabilities have equal access to their rights, enabling them to perform their professional duties effectively. This includes assessing their abilities equitably and addressing barriers due to a lack of accommodations, such as assistive technology or additional time.
- **Emily Witkin:**
 - Will represent the RAC next week at the University of California San Francisco (UCSF) Annual Conference for updates in Developmental Disabilities in March.
- **Florence Wong:**
 - The Transition to Independence Fair will be on March 7th at the San Mateo County Office of Education.
 - San Mateo County declared a Public Health Emergency in 2024 to combat loneliness, becoming the first in the nation to do so. The initiative was prompted by reports that 45% of residents experienced loneliness, leading to investments in resources and a consulting firm to assess needs, particularly for seniors and adults with disabilities. Younger adults with disabilities experience even higher levels of loneliness than the elderly, a revelation that surprised the advisory group involved in the initiative.
- **Bob Twomey:**
 - The recent council meeting was in-person for the first time since COVID. Kevin Mintz presented on paratransit and his presentation was appreciated.

Community Reports:

Bay Area People First Report (BAPF):

- Patrick McKay gave the report:
 - The last meeting was in December, and the next meeting will be on March 18, 2026. There will be a presentation on Disability Awareness. All are welcome.

Regional Center Reports:

- Eric Zigman gave the report for Golden Gate Regional Center (GGRC):
 - GGRC is focused primarily on analyzing the Trailer Bills, which are linked to the state budget and significantly impact Regional Centers, including Golden Gate and East Bay.
 - The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) has provided a summary of current laws and proposals affecting oversight and the composition of board members, as well as remote services for day programs and independent living. There are plans to convene a summit to gather input from individuals, families, service providers, and advocates regarding remote service usage.
- Dr. Becky Nanyonjo gave the report for Regional Center of the East Bay (RCEB):
 - Over the weekend, the Regional Center of the East Bay is hosting two events: a deaf plus community listening session on Saturday, February 28th from 10:00 a.m.

to 1:00 p.m. at The Deaf Plus Adult Center in Newark, led by executive director Teresa Nold, and a Black History Month celebration at the San Leandro Community Center from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Additionally, an Asian American community conference is scheduled for Saturday, March 7th, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the same San Leandro location.

- The Master Plan for the regional center system will be presented to the California Legislature in March 2026 for finalization.

Developmental Disabilities (DD) Councils Report:

- Sabreena Sahota gave the report for both the Alameda County and Contra Costa County Developmental Disabilities Councils.
 - The annual transition conference on March 28th at Chabot College, running from 8:15 AM to 3:30 PM, with a call for volunteers and vendors. There will be approximately 16 presentations at the event, and participants can RSVP.
 - Additionally, planning for a June awards event is underway, with nominations for awards from Alameda and Contra Costa counties to be solicited in April. Interested individuals can contact Sabreena Sahota or Vi Ibarra.

Statewide Self Advocacy Network (SSAN):

- Sara Desumala read the report:
 - The next meeting is scheduled for March 4th and 5th, and the featured guest speaker will be Aaron Carruthers, Executive Director for the State Council. Chris Arroyo from SCDD will also be providing a legislative update. All are welcome.

National Council on Disabilities (NCOD):

- Sheraden Nicholau read the report from Sasha Bittner:
 - The next National Council on Disability meeting is scheduled for May 7th, with meeting details to be posted on the website soon. A new council member was appointed last month, and they're looking forward to getting into some great resources and policy work later in the year.

6:49p Break – Resumed at 6:59

Legislative Office Comments:

- No Comments

Sheraden Nicholau presented on the Update on the Intergenerational Trauma in Autistic Families Workgroup:

- Bird reports that they, along with Emily and Kevin, have collaborated on this work group. Draft surveys and transcripts are ready for translation, with minor updates needed for fliers before public launch. The project aims to gather insights from autistic individuals

and families about their policy and service support needs, particularly those who have faced trauma due to inadequate services. The Bay Area team of the State Council will assist with translation. As Bird steps away, the work group will require additional RAC members, community members, and core partners to volunteer for sharing the survey link and supporting focus groups or interviews.

7:08p SCDD Bay Area Regional Advisory Committee Vice Chair Elections

Sheraden Nicholau read out loud each candidate statement for Kevin Mintz and Sana Shooshtari.

7:16p Roll Call Vote: Each member was asked which person should be the next vice chair.

- Sana Shooshtari: Eyan Gilder, Kerry Rich, Sana Shooshtari
- Kevin Mintz: Terri Carol, Kevin Mintz, Florence Wong
- Abstain: Emily Witkin.

The committee agreed that both Sana Shooshtari and Kevin Mintz should be co-Vice Chairs after the vote.

An Overview of Air Travel Rights & Areas for Traveler Advocacy:

- Sheraden Nicholau gave a power point presentation on this topic that was requested by the RAC members at the last RAC meeting. One or two highlights are:
 - There was a review of the Air Traveler's Bill of Rights and some of the optional or voluntary programs around accessibility that local airports have engaged as well as what is required by law. There was also a review of FAA rules disabled passengers must conform to.
 - Around September of 2025, the Department of Transportation (DOT) issued a notice to temporarily pause enforcement of four requirements in its disability regulation; liability when equipment or devices are not timely returned in the same condition, frequency of required trainings, predeparture notification to passengers that check wheelchairs or scooters of their right to contact a complaint resolution official to file a complaint, and reimbursements of the difference in fare for wheelchair or scooter users based on the flight they would have taken if their mobility device had fit on that flight.
- Valerie noted the request to have an agenda item in the April 2026 RAC meeting that continues the conversation about advocacy, both individual and collective, around air travel and specifically around the temporary pause in enforcement on those four areas. Also include an introductory conversation of traveler's rights for trains.

Other Announcements:

- The Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) Accessibility Taskforce (BATF) had their annual reception for BART staff and executives to meet with members of the taskforce and their

guests in January 2026. Their next meeting will be on February 26, 2026, at the East Bay Paratransit location in Oakland.

- Sana Shooshtari would like the RAC to look at ADA housing as many units are not accessible for everyone who has a disability and treat ADA accessibility as a “one size fits all”.

8:05p Meeting Adjourned.

Continuation of Travel Rights & Areas for Traveler Advocacy



State Council on Developmental Disabilities' Bay Area
Regional Advisory Committee

◆ April 2026

Air Travel Review (1 of 4)

Air Carrier Access Act

- ✓ Airlines may not refuse transportation to people on the basis of disability.
- ✓ Airlines must provide certain accommodations and assistance to people with disabilities.
- ✓ Certain requirements for accessible facilities such as ramps and bathrooms on newer and larger aircraft.
- ✓ Training is required for personnel who deal with the traveling public.
- ✓ Airlines must have “complaints resolution officials” to respond to complaints from passengers and respond to written complaints.
- ✓ Service animals must be allowed on planes.

Air Travel Review (2 of 4)

Recent Changes in Air Travel

- DOT issued a notice in September 2025 to **temporarily pause enforcement of four requirements in its disability regulation** while it engages in a new rulemaking process to determine whether to modify them.
 - <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2025/09/30/2025-18980/ensuring-safe-accommodations-for-air-travelers-with-disabilities-using-wheelchairs>

Air Travel Review (3 of 4)

Areas where enforcement has been ‘temporality paused’:

- airlines' liability when passengers' wheelchairs or other assistive devices are not timely returned in the condition they were received;
- frequency of required refresher training of airline employees and contractors;
- pre-departure notifications to passengers that check wheelchairs or scooters of their right to contact a Complaint Resolution Official and file a claim; and
- reimbursements of the difference between the fare on a flight a wheelchair or scooter user took, and the fare on a flight that the wheelchair or scooter user would have taken if his or her wheelchair or scooter had been able to fit on the flight.

Air Travel Review (4 of 4)

Right to File a Complaint

If you believe your rights under the ACAA are being or have been violated, ask to speak with a **Complaints Resolution Official (CRO)**.

A CRO is the airline's expert on disability accommodation issues. Airlines are required to make one available to you, at no cost, in person at the airport or by telephone during the times they are operating.

<https://www.transportation.gov/airconsumer/file-consumer-complaint>

If the airline does not resolve the issue to your satisfaction, you may want to file a complaint with DOT.

<https://airconsumer.dot.gov/consumer/s/oacp-form>

Other Local Travel Options

- There are 27 official transit agencies that serve the greater Bay Area, with 16 within the BARO RAC catchment area.
- All levels of government are involved (Federal, State, County, City, Joint Powers Authorities)
- The ADA does have provisions specifically for Amtrak, Public Transit, and Paratransit



Amtrak Policies for Passengers with Disabilities

- Amtrak has posted the following Non-Discrimination policy on its website:
- In compliance with state and federal laws and regulations, including the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Amtrak prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in its programs, services, and activities for the public.
- Amtrak welcomes customers with disabilities and is pleased to provide additional services (at no extra charge) for such passengers (such as at-seat or in-room meal service or boarding assistance).

Amtrak Booking for Passengers with Disabilities

- You travel with a wheeled mobility device (for when you will remain seated in your wheelchair during travel or when you travel in a seat and stow your wheelchair)
- For reservations that include special service requests (oxygen equipment, special dietary requirements, etc.)
- When traveling without a wheelchair but need assistive equipment (e.g. ramp, lift, etc.) for boarding or detraining
- Ticket agents at staffed stations are available to sell tickets during regular ticket office hours.
- For these types of accommodations, reservations are encouraged on all trains, including on "unreserved trains" (on which reservations for standard seating is not required).

Riding Amtrak with a Wheeled Mobility Device

- Amtrak will provide assistance to passengers with a disability who use a wheeled mobility device in the following situations:
 - High Platforms: Amtrak will assist you across the gap between the platform and the train by using a bridge plate.
 - Low-Level Platforms: Amtrak will provide access to the train through the use of station-based mobile lifts.
 - Bi-Level Trains: Amtrak will provide a ramp or station-based mobile lift to provide access to the lower level of the train.
- Passengers with mobility impairments who have requested wheelchair lift assistance or passengers who need assistance boarding will be pre-boarded at originating stations and given priority boarding at enroute stations.

Other Amtrak Services

- Service animals that are trained to do work or perform tasks directly related to a person's disability and are permitted in all areas where passengers are allowed. A service animal must be under the control of its handler at all times and housebroken.
- On all trains with food service options, passengers with a disability can request that meals be brought to their room or seat, depending on the type of food services on the train.
- Most Amtrak stations in major cities, and many other stations across the country, are accessible to passengers with a disability.
- Amtrak offers a 10% discount for persons traveling with a passenger with a disability as a companion. Those designated as a companion must be capable of providing the necessary assistance to the passenger with a disability.

Filing a Complaint with Amtrak

- If you believe that Amtrak has discriminated against you on the basis of disability, you can file a complaint with Amtrak or with the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) Office of Civil Rights.
- You can contact Amtrak's ADA coordinator to make an inquiry or file a complaint. Information on how to contact the ADA Coordinator are here:
<https://www.amtrak.com/non-discrimination-policy>
- The FRA Office of Civil Rights is the agency responsible for enforcing the Department of Transportation's non-discrimination regulations on railroads. You can find instructions on filing a complaint here with the FRA here:
<https://www.fra.dot.gov/Page/P0578>

Public Transportation Regulations

- Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) prohibits disability-based discrimination by public transportation services.
- Public transportation services include fixed route systems such as city busses and light rails.
- Public transportation agencies cannot refuse to serve people with disabilities and must provide them with reasonable accommodations (also called “reasonable modifications”) that they need to use their services.
- <https://www.transit.dot.gov/regulations-and-guidance/civil-rights-ada/americans-disabilities-act>

Requirements for Buses

- **Stop Announcements:**

- A bus operator must announce transfer points, major intersections, destination points, and other points so that people with vision and other disabilities understand their location.
- A bus operator must announce any stop when requested by a rider with a disability.

- **Lifts and Ramps:**

- Vehicles must have a device, such as a ramp or a lift, to allow a passenger who uses a wheelchair access to board the vehicle. Lifts must be able to accommodate a minimum of 600 pounds and must be able to accommodate a wheelchair measuring 30 inches by 48 inches.
- Passengers using wheelchairs, walkers, crutches, canes, braces or who are otherwise unable to use steps must be allowed to use the lift.

Requirements for Buses, Cont'd.

- Fare boxes must be placed so that they do not obstruct passenger flow onto the bus
- Handrails inside the vehicle must be accessible to people outside the vehicle upon entering the vehicle. The handrail must be accessible for the entire process of boarding, which includes when the passenger is depositing their fare into the fare box.
- Stop Request pull chords or buttons should be within reach of a person in a wheelchair and should not require “tight grasping, pinching, or twisting of the wrist.”
- People with disabilities have the right to bring service animals, but not emotional support animals, on public transportation.

Requirements for Rapid Rail (BART)

- Each rapid rail train must have at least one car that is readily accessible and usable to individuals with disabilities including individuals in wheelchairs.
- Handrails must be provided to assist with on- and off-boarding, maneuverability within the vehicle, and seating and standing.

Emerging Issues with Local Public Transit

- Ridership levels dropped with COVID and have not fully recovered leading to funding shortages.
- Governor Gavin Newsom signed a law in February 2026 authorizing a \$590 million state loan to prevent major service cuts for Bay Area transit agencies (BART, Muni, Caltrain, AC Transit) in fiscal year 2026-27.
- A 5-county sales tax measure is on the November 2026 ballot to provide long-term funding.
- Cuts could include closure of stations and routes across all agencies.

Paratransit

- Transit agencies operating fixed-route bus/rail systems must provide paratransit services for people with disabilities who cannot use regular services.
- This are typically provided by municipal agencies that only cover specific routes.
- **Coverage:** Generally offered within 3/4 mile of fixed routes.
- **Availability:** Must operate during the same hours and days as regular transit.
- **Cost:** Fares cannot exceed twice the regular fixed-route fare.

Eligibility for Paratransit

- Eligibility typically requires an application and verification of disability.
- To be eligible, you must meet one of the following categories:
 - A person cannot navigate the transit system without assistance due to a disability.
 - A person with a disability who requires an accessible vehicle or stop when one is not available.
 - A person who is unable to reach the transit stop due to a disability.
- Recertification is often required after a set period of time.

Issues with Paratransit

- Significant delays in pickup and drop-off times are common, often causing missed medical appointments or hours-long travel durations.
- Many services require booking 24 hours or more in advance, preventing spontaneous travel and making emergency trips difficult.
- Service often operates only during limited hours or within strict, narrow boundaries, leaving users stranded outside of these parameters.
- Call centers are often understaffed, leading to long hold times or unhelpful staff. Some drivers may be inconsiderate or lack adequate training, resulting in unprofessional, disrespectful, or ableist behavior.

Issues with Paratransit, Cont'd.

- Vehicles may take inefficient routes or combine too many trips, resulting in long, exhausting commutes for passengers.
- The certification process to prove eligibility can be complex and intimidating, acting as a barrier for potential users.
- Instances of poorly maintained vehicles, uncomfortable seating, or unsafe boarding/disembarking areas are reported, particularly for those with complex physical disabilities.

Filing a Complaint Local Transit

- **Muni:** Call 311 or <https://www.sfmta.com/getting-around/muni/muni-feedback>
- **SamTrans:** <https://www.samtrans.com/about-samtrans/contact-us#feedback>
- **AC Transit:** https://actransit1.my.site.com/support/s/compliments?language=en_US
- **Marin Transit:** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Q99R8LT>
- **CC Transit:** <https://ccta.ca.gov/about-us/contact-us/>
- **BART:** <https://www.bart.gov/contact/comments>
- **Caltrain:** <https://www.caltrain.com/about-caltrain/contact-us#feedback>
- **CPUC CAB:** <https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/consumer-support/file-a-complaint/transportation-complaint>
- **FTA:** <https://www.transit.dot.gov/regulations-and-guidance/civil-rights-ada/file-complaint-fta>

Advocacy

- ✓ BART Accessibility Task Force (BATF)
- ✓ The BART Accessibility Task Force (BATF) meets on the fourth Thursday of the month and the meetings are open to the public. The meetings start at 2:00 p.m. and generally end between 4:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- ✓ **Next meeting: April 23, 2026**
- ✓ <https://www.bart.gov/about/bod/advisory/accessibility>



Other Advocacy

- ✓ Follow and give comment to the National Council on Disability: <https://www.ncd.gov/>
- ✓ Get to know the DOT Disability Law Guidance Resources: <https://www.transit.dot.gov/regulations-and-guidance/civil-rights-ada/dot-disability-law-guidance>
- ✓ Know about your public transit rights, too: <https://www.transit.dot.gov/regulations-and-guidance/civil-rights-ada/file-complaint-fta>



Local Advocacy

- ✓ Let your local transit authority know about your experiences (You can find the email and phone numbers for these departments on the transit authority's webpage).
- ✓ Tell your friends, family, and network to let their transit authority know what accessibility and accommodations are going well, and what need work.
- ✓ Use paratransit when you travel, and give feedback.



References

Disability Rights California Public Transportation:

<https://www.disabilityrightsca.org/resources/public-transportation>

Amtrak Accessible Travel Services:

<https://www.amtrak.com/planning-booking/accessible-travel-services>

US DOT ADA Article II Guidance:

https://www.transit.dot.gov/sites/fta.dot.gov/files/docs/Final_FTA_ADA_Circular_C_4710.1.pdf

THANK YOU!

Continuation of Travel Rights & Areas for Traveler Advocacy

State Council on Developmental Disabilities' Bay Area
Regional Advisory Committee

◆ April 2026





The State Council on Developmental Disabilities' (SCDD) Bay Area Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) is taking *applications for membership!*

RACs represent the communities they represent, including geographically and ethnically. The Bay Area RAC is especially interested in meeting: **Applicants from Marin County**, identifying as a male or nonbinary; and /or identifying as a self-advocate; and/or identifying as Latino/a or Hispanic, Black, or African American.

Thank you for your continued efforts in being a voice for the community!

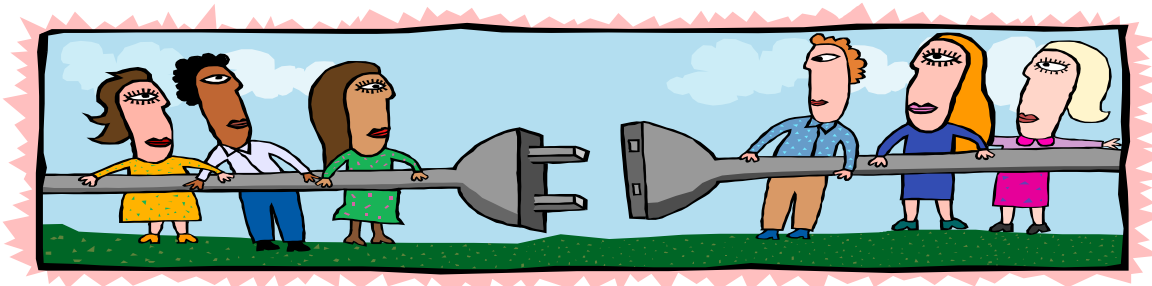
Appointed RAC members:

- Advise SCDD and its Regional Office on local issues in Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, Alameda, and Contra Costa counties.
- Identify and provide input regarding local systemic needs within its communities.
- Provide public information programs /events for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, families, professional groups, and the general public to increase awareness of areas identified in the SCDD state plan; and more!

To apply online:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSepqt80u578ELHgcPjNzsjO71PPvxZ1txZn77P5Cm6iVbvBzg/viewform?c=0&w=1>

Contact us for more information: bayarea@scdd.ca.gov or call 510.286.0439





2025-2026 Schedule of State Council Bay Area Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) Meetings (Hybrid meetings)

Members of the public are welcomed and encouraged to participate in these Bay Area Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) meetings, in-person or over teleconference.

These meetings comply with Government Code Sections 11123.1, 11123.2, and 11125(f). Specific meeting details and accessible formats of all agenda and materials can be found at least 10 days prior to the meeting at:

www.scdd.ca.gov/bayarea/. There may be members of the public body who are participating in the meeting that were granted a reasonable accommodation per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Members may be physically present at one or more teleconference locations.

Individuals with disabilities who require accessible alternative formats of the agenda and related materials and/or auxiliary aids/services to participate in any meeting should contact us at bayarea@scdd.ca.gov or call us at **510.286.0439**, a least five (5) business days before that meeting.

Those with other accessibility requests, including language interpretation and/or ASL interpretation, should contact us at bayarea@scdd.ca.gov or call us at **510.286.0439**, a least five (5) business days before that meeting.

Networking from 5:15 PM to 5:30 PM, RAC Meeting from 5:30 PM to 8:00 PM.

September 24, 2025: Hybrid meeting, in-person location in Alameda County

December 03, 2025: Hybrid meeting, in-person location in Contra Costa County

February 25, 2026: Hybrid meeting, in-person location in San Mateo County

April 22, 2026: Hybrid meeting, in-person location in Marin County

June 24, 2026: Hybrid meeting, in-person location in San Francisco



Calendario 2025-2026 del Concilio Estatal Reuniones del Comité Asesor Regional (RAC) del Área de la Bahía

Se da la bienvenida y se alienta a los miembros del público a participar en estas reuniones del Comité Asesor Regional (RAC) del Area de la Bahía.

Estas reuniones cumplen con las secciones 11123.1, 11123.2 y 11123.2 del Código del Gobierno, así como con las secciones 11123.1, 11123.2 y 11125(f). Los detalles específicos de la reunión y los formatos accesibles de todos los temas y materiales se pueden encontrar al menos 10 días antes de la reunión en:

www.scdd.ca.gov/bayarea/. Puede haber miembros del público que estén participando en la reunión a los que se les haya concedido una acomodación razonable según la Ley de Estadounidenses con Discapacidades (ADA). Los miembros pueden estar físicamente presentes en una o más teleconferencias.

Las personas con discapacidad que necesiten formatos alternativos accesibles del programa y los materiales relacionados y/o ayudas auxiliares/servicios para participar en cualquier reunión deben comunicarse con nosotros a través de bayarea@scdd.ca.gov o llámenos al 510.286.0439 al menos cinco (5) días hábiles antes de esa reunión.

Aquellos que tengan otras solicitudes de accesibilidad, incluyendo interpretación en idiomas y/o ASL, deben contactarnos a bayarea@scdd.ca.gov o llamarnos al 510.286.0439, por lo menos cinco (5) días hábiles antes de esa reunión.

Oportunidad de red 5:15 PM a 5:30 PM, Reunión de 5:30 PM a 8:00 PM.

24/9/2025 Reunión híbrida, ubicación en persona en el condado de Alameda

3/12/2025 Reunión híbrida, ubicación en persona en el condado de Contra Costa

25/2/2026 Reunión híbrida, ubicación en persona en el condado de San Mateo

22/4/2026 Reunión híbrida, ubicación en persona en el condado de Marin

24/6/2026 Reunión híbrida, ubicación en persona en el condado de San Francisco