State Council on Developmental Disabilities Bay Area Office

Community Outreach & Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) Meeting

Wednesday, December 2, 2026

Networking 5:15-5:30 PM Meeting 5:30-8:00 PM
This is a hybrid meeting: In-Person with Zoom / Teleconference options.

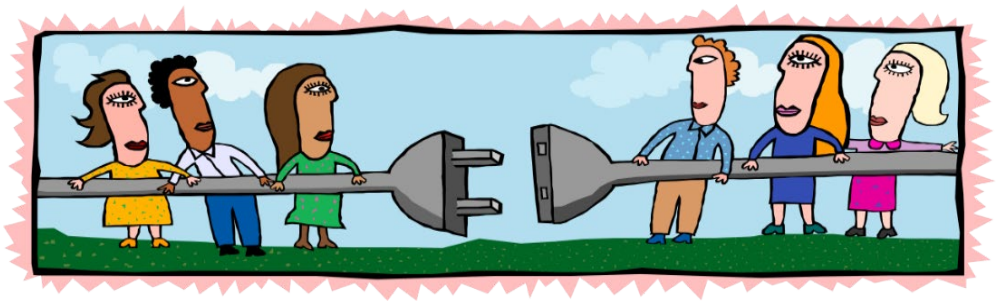
Join In-Person:
Hosted by Regional Center of the East Bay (RCEB), 1320 Willow Pass Road, 435, 4th floor - John Rodriguez Conference Meeting Room, Concord, CA 94520

Or Join by Zoom:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85658245801?pwd=IyusAat1akASeu2CX5dzIQdEd8aouh.1

Meeting ID: 856 5824 5801 Passcode: 709457

Or by Telephone, U.S. Toll-free: (877) 853-5257 or (888) 475-4499
Collaboration is key! ***All are welcome***. Featured: Transportation access; RAC member & Councilmember updates; community partner updates, 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 a reasonable accommodation per the Americans with Disabilities Act.



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

Alcance Comunitario Y Reunión del Comité Asesor Regional

Miércoles, 2 de diciembre 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:
Organizado por el Centro Regional de la Bahía Este (RCEB), 1320 Willow Pass Road, #435, cuarto piso - Sala de reuniones para conferencias John Rodriguez, Concord, CA 94520

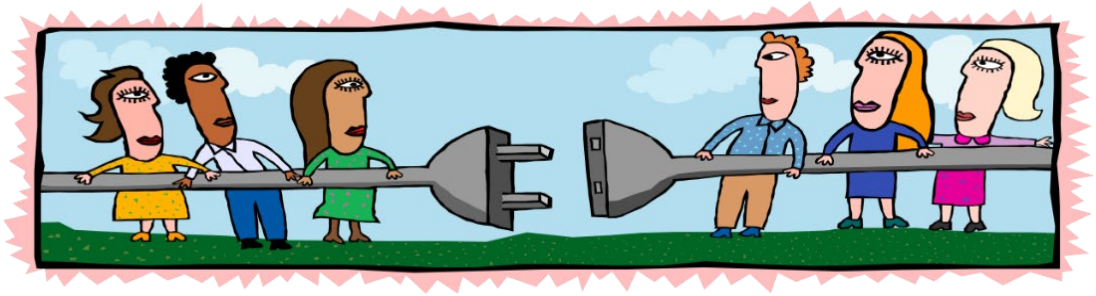
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O por teléfono, número gratuito de EE. UU.: (877) 853-5257 o (888) 475-4499

La colaboración es clave! ***Todos son bienvenidos***. Destacado: Acceso al transporte; actualizaciones de los miembros del RAC y del Concejal; actualizaciones de socios de la comunidad, y 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, December 02, 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.

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 a reasonable accommodation per the Americans with Disabilities Act.

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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**



5:35p Approval of the RAC's June 2026
& September 2026 Meeting Minutes **Witkin**



5:40p 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.



5:50p 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.



6:10p 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)



7p 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.



7:10p Presentation & Discussion:
Same-Day Transportation Overview **Shooshtari**

Hear an overview on same-day or urgent transportation needs in the community, and how existing transportation systems in the region can meet or cannot meet these needs. Consider potential steps to take in systemic advocacy, review references and resources. RAC members then discuss.



7:35p Policy Updates

- 'There Should Be a Law' 2026
- SCDD Policy Updates & Recent Actions
- Texas v. Kennedy update **Nicholau**



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
June 24, 2026, Minutes DRAFT

This meeting was hybrid--held in person, and through Zoom (video call or call-in)
Location: San Francisco City Hall, Room 305, 1 Carlton B Goodlett Place, San Francisco.
Link:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84435763914?pwd=DwFJtC04X2b5uX5PdmEqCqkJmB02RP.1
Meeting ID: 810 2120 4840 **Passcode:** 766095

Committee Members attending in-person: Sana Shooshtari, Emily Witkin.

Committee Members attending on Zoom: Terri Carol, Eyan Gilder, Florence Wong.

Committee Members absent: Evan Milburn, Kevin Mintz, Kerry Rich.

Council Members attending in-person: Bob Twomey

SCDD Staff: Valerie Buell, Greg Gonzalez, Gabriela Solval.

Accessibility Assistance: Captioner Carilyn, Captioner Savannah.

Legislative office representation in-person: Nicholas Lochrie from Representative Kevin Mullin's office.

Legislative office representation on Zoom: Nicole Cuellar-Nelson from Senator Christopher Cabaldon's office, Rickiea Lacy from Assemblymember Mia Bonta's office, Leslie Bulbuk from Assemblymember Marc Berman's office.

Community Partners attending on Zoom: Sara Desumala, Vi Ibarra.

Guests attending on Zoom: Jim Engval, Brynn Boyle.

5:29p Emily Witkin called the meeting to order. Valerie Buell took roll call of RAC members and confirmed there is a quorum.

5:33p Approval of meeting minutes for February 2026 and April 2026 minutes:

Moved: Sana Shooshtari Seconded: Florence Wong

Roll Call Vote For February 2026:

- All Ayes

Roll Call Vote for April 2026:

- Abstain: Terri Carol, Eyan Gilder
- Aye: Sana Shooshtari, Emily Witkin, Florence Wong

Public Comments: Emily Witkin asked for public comments.

- Nicholas Lochrie from Representative Kevin Mullin's office highlighted Medicaid's critical role in funding Regional Center services in California. He raised concerns over recent Medicaid cuts, including a $900 billion reduction over ten years, which may affect coverage for 62,000 seniors and disabled individuals. Lochrie praised legislative efforts to counter these cuts and emphasized the necessity of government support for vulnerable populations. Representative Mullin plans to advocate for these issues in Washington.
- Nicole Cuellar-Nelson from Senator Christopher Cabaldon's office reported two key updates on the state budget and legislative process. The Senate has submitted a budget to the governor, which allocates $700 million for affordable housing, supports in-home services, and provides $100 million for the Cal food program. Additionally, active legislation includes Senate Bill 1054, which streamlines work reporting for CalFresh recipients, and Senate Bill 1114, which improves data privacy protections. Senate Bill 417, focused on addressing housing affordability, is pending the governor's signature.
- Rickiea Lacy from Assemblymember Mia Bonta's office shared Assemblymember Bonta, chair of the Healthcare committee, introduced bill AB298 to eliminate copays, deductibles, and out-of-pocket costs for in-network healthcare services for children and youth under 21, ensuring cost does not hinder access to necessary healthcare. Additionally, a children's caucus was launched this year, focusing on healthcare access, behavioral health, early childhood development, education, and family support.
- Leslie Bulbuk from Assemblymember Marc Berman's office continues to support the developmental disability community though he is generally not on any of the committees that would introduce bills related to this community.
- Brynn Boyle shared the difficulties she has been having communicating with her regional center on behalf of her son. He has been a client for 25 years.

Member Reports: RAC Members and Councilmembers reported on their regional and statewide advocacy work and priorities.
One or two highlights include:

- **Terri Carol:**
  - Big Wave in Half Moon Bay will finally be opening their doors and have people move in this July. Saturday, June 27th will be the open house. The ribbon cutting will be at 1:00p.
- **Eyan Gilder:**
  - In Alameda county, local legislative representatives have strongly supported issues affecting people with disabilities. I have collaborated with the ARC of San Francisco and my local community college to raise awareness about ADA compliance and accessibility barriers. This effort resulted in actions like installing a ramp at an AC Transit location. I will begin the fall semester at Cal State East Bay, and plan to engage in improving campus accessibility, working with the Disability Support Services office and highlight how budget cuts are making it harder for individuals with disabilities to find and keep jobs.
- **Sana Shooshtari:**
  - Since the last RAC meeting, I attended the Annual Joint Awards Celebration Developmental Disabilities Councils, recognizing individuals with disabilities and supportive community partners.
  - There are barriers in our healthcare system, especially a lack of providers for chronic pain management. This can force individuals to choose between immediate pain relief and future healthcare access.
  - The San Francisco Adaptive Sports Fair will be on June 27th from 11 am to 2 pm at the Glen Park Recreation Center. This is a FREE event for cycling, wheelchair basketball, pickleball, and more.
- **Emily Witkin:**
  - Emily Witkin discussed issues related to conflicting medications and the lack of information from doctors that affects decision-making. When prescribed medication, patients might unknowingly hinder future treatment options because doctors don't always inform them of potential impacts.
  - Emily also attended an accessibility event that lacked consideration for individuals with disabilities. Tables were positioned too close together for wheelchair access, and the event was held outdoors in hot weather, creating discomfort for those taking certain medications. Additionally, multiple sources of noise made it hard to focus, particularly causing sensory overload for autistic individuals.

- **Florence Wong:**
    - On May 30, La Tusa and Golden Gate Regional Center held the Rights Choices and Connections conference at the Pomeroy Center, led by individuals with disabilities. The conference focused on their experiences and provided tips on success in areas like housing, school, and relationships.
    - On June 16, the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors declared July 2026 as Disability Pride Month and planned a flag-raising ceremony at the annual Inclusion Festival on July 16. This event will feature music, family activities, and food trucks at the remodeled County Center.
    - On June 13, the Commission on Disabilities had a successful engagement at the San Mateo Pride event, highlighting potential intersections between disabilities and the LGBTQ community.
- **Bob Twomey:**
    - Yesterday, the legislative and public policy committee met from 10:30 to 1:30. Chris Oroyo, the Deputy Director of policy and public affairs, briefed on the legislative and budget matters. The state council's sponsored legislation includes AB2360 and SB1052, with additional bills under consideration in civil rights, education, and health. Key deadlines were highlighted: July 2 for policy committees, August 31 for bill passage, and September 30 for the governor's action. Concerns were raised about wheelchair access in San Francisco's Great Highway situation, which may be put back on the ballot.

Community Reports:

Bay Area People First Report (BAPF) Highlights:

- Valerie Buell read the report submitted by Patrick McKay:
    - The BAPF had their meeting on June 23rd on Zoom. The members brainstormed presentation ideas for the remaining 2026 meetings. The next meeting will be on September 17th from 4:30p to 5:45p on Zoom. Members of the public are welcome to join. Contact the Bay Area office with any questions.

Regional Center Reports Highlights:

- No reports

Developmental Disabilities (DD) Councils Report Highlights:

- Vi Ibarra gave the report for the Contra Costa County Developmental Disabilities Councils.

- The Joint County DD Council Awards event alternates between Alameda County and Contra Costa County. This year it was hosted in Contra Costa County.
- The DD Council Board Meeting is on the fourth Wednesday of the month, but we will be on break for the summer and resume in September.

Statewide Self Advocacy Network (SSAN):

- Sara Desumala read the report:
  - The June SSAN meeting was cancelled. The next meeting will be in September, and the public are encouraged to attend to learn about leadership and advocacy. Reach out to the Bay Area office with any questions.
- **National Council on Disabilities (NCD):**
  - The next NCD meeting will be on August 19th from 9:00a to 11:00a on Zoom. More information will be available soon.

6:37p Break – Resumed at 6:47

Legislative Office Comments:

- Representative Lateefah Simon expresses regret for missing an event aimed at supporting Californians with developmental disabilities, citing the challenges posed by the president's cuts to support for this community. She emphasizes the importance of activism and centers her work around the needs of the disability community. Since joining Congress, she has championed four bills to enhance opportunities and resources for disabled individuals and is committed to exploring new support avenues.

Services On Demand Discussion:

- Sana Shooshtari presented the concerns that led to this topic being on the agenda.
  - Not all transportation needs can be planned in advance, but transportation providers like Paratransit need the transportation to be scheduled in advance and do not provide on demand transportation.
  - Individuals who do not require transportation accommodations are able to get on demand transportation with services like Uber and Lyft.
  - If, for example, someone has a same day appointment, they cannot schedule transportation for that day.

    - Calling for an ambulance is not always the solution, especially if it is non-emergency, and they often cannot bring the wheelchair or mobility device in the ambulance.
    - Requesting a workgroup be formed to determine areas in which same-day access is not granted to those who need it and are not able to use Uber and Lyft.
- Emily Witkin shared agreement and personal examples.
- Florence Wong shared San Mateo County has implemented a new "No Wheelchair Left Behind" policy to ensure that patients who use specialized or motorized wheelchairs are not separated from their equipment during emergency medical transport. Florence will look for more information about it and send it to Greg Gonzalez.
- Eyan Gilder shared some personal experiences with Paratransit, especially with drivers leaving without the person, picking up the wrong person, or just no-show, and it can take over an hour to get another driver.

- Motion: The RAC should make a transportation work group within the Regional Advisory Committee
  Moved: Sana Shooshtari Seconded: Emily Witkin
  Roll Call Vote: All Ayes

Future Agenda Items and Other Announcements:

- Greg Gonzalez shared the RAC will take a break in July and August and resume meetings in September. The new RAC schedule is in the meeting packet.

7:30p Meeting Adjourned.

State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD)
Bay Area Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) Meeting
September 30, 2026, Minutes DRAFT

This meeting was hybrid--held in person, and through Zoom (video call or call-in)
Location: Oakland City Hall, Hearing Room 1, 1 Frank Ogawa Plaza, Oakland.
Link:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89701644840?pwd=Mu3hbOaRHU8yGjNO9WTXMnMJRDGoiO.1
Meeting ID: 897 0164 4840 **Passcode:** 922524

Committee Members attending in-person: Sana Shooshtari, Emily Witkin, Florence Wong.

Committee Members attending on Zoom: Eyan Gilder.

Committee Members absent: Kevin Mintz, Kerry Rich.

Council Members attending in-person: Bob Twomey

SCDD Staff: Valerie Buell, Greg Gonzalez, Gabriela Solval.

Accessibility Assistance: Captioner Carilyn, Captioner Savannah.

Legislative office representation on Zoom: Donna Browne from Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan's office, Eric Cortez from Assemblymember Lori D. Wilson's office.

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

Guests attending on Zoom: Laurel Benjamin, Frank Noz, Jennifer Walsh, Anne Wei, Ara Lopez.

5:34p Emily Witkin called the meeting to order. Valerie Buell took roll call of RAC members and confirmed there is a quorum.

5:35p Approval of meeting minutes for the June 2026 minutes:
Moved: Sana Shooshtari Seconded: Florence Wong

Roll Call Vote:

- Not Present for Vote: Eyan Gilder
- Aye: Sana Shooshtari, Emily Witkin, Florence Wong

Due to a RAC member stepping away before this vote, the RAC temporarily lost quorum. These minutes will again be voted on in December.

Public Comments: Emily Witkin asked for public comments.

- Anne Wei shared in the chat:
  - After years in student services at community colleges, I have witnessed how genuine access is achieved through care. Supporting students with developmental disabilities is a daily priority in my department. For instance, when a student needs assistance crossing campus, we ensure immediate support, with campus security arriving promptly to facilitate their transport. This proactive approach should be standard in all educational institutions. Investing in compassionate services empowers students to focus on their education and independence. I urge the council to advocate for inclusive and dignified campus experiences for all students.
- Laurel Benjamin shared some slides about a research study that aims to incorporate perspectives from neurodivergent parents, service providers, and coordinators involved in adult or early intervention support.
- Eric Cortes from Assemblymember Lori D. Wilson's office shared three bills that have been signed into law. AB431, AB912, AB1731, AB2059 and AB643. And volunteered to share more information if anyone would like to reach out to him.
- Donna Browne from Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan's office introduced herself and their office is available if anyone wants to reach out.
- Frank Noz presented Tandem Design Co developed a tactile color system for sticky notes to enhance inclusivity for low-vision and color-blind individuals. Each note features high-contrast colors and pre-braille to facilitate usage. A preliminary study involving 20 educators across seven states, including California, found that the use of these accessible notes significantly improved feelings of belonging among students in inclusive classroom settings. This effort addresses the disability gap and encourages fostering inclusive cultures in educational and workplace environments. The initiative seeks engagement from educators and organizations focused on inclusion and independent living.
- Jerry Grace asked to be connected to Laurel Benjamin to learn more about her presentation.

- Sara Desumala shared it has been difficult to recruit new members to Bay Area People First.

Member Reports: RAC Members and Councilmembers reported on their regional and statewide advocacy work and priorities.
One or two highlights include:

- **Eyan Gilder:**
  - One positive aspect of my educational experience is the emphasis on ADA compliance and accessibility, with staff providing scheduled accommodations. I attended two disability awareness events: the California State University, East Bay (CSUEB) Sankofa Scholars Program and the CSUEB Club Fair, which helped build community. However, inadequate transportation and maintenance remain concerns, as seen with a peer's elevator malfunction affecting access for three weeks. Upcoming local events include accessible rock climbing with the Para Cliff Hangers, Berkeley IronWorks sessions on Fridays, and Diablo Rock Gym events in Contra Costa County every second Tuesday.
- **Kevin Mintz:** Valerie Buell read his report
  - I've been absent due to my involvement in disability research conferences and have been elected Chair of the Adapted Sports and Recreation Committee. After a minor surgery, I reflected on healthcare challenges in our community. I organized an ADA Day Celebration in San Francisco with 83 attendees, highlighting the need for better wheelchair access. The Working Group on Intergenerational Trauma is progressing but needs help with recruitment. This period has had its challenges and achievements, and I look forward to reconnecting in December.
- **Sana Shooshtari:**
  - Several community resources have been identified since the last RAC meeting, including home delivery services from Berkeley Public Library, adaptive sports by Bay Area Outreach and Recreation Program, accommodation assistance from the Center for Accessible Technology, and urgent wheelchair repair from the Center for Independent Living. The California Association of Child Life Professionals conference highlighted the need for improved psychosocial support for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Additionally, there are ongoing accessibility barriers in academia and careers, particularly related to assistive technology. Upcoming events in Alameda County include a Deaf and ASL brunch on October 25, 2026, an ASL open stage

on November 20, 2026, and a Dine and Dialogue Neuro Init on November 7, 2026.

- **Emily Witkin:**
  - Recently, I participated in an interview for a Stanford research study focused on emergency room services for people with autism. I was pleased that the study includes adults, as autism research often concentrates primarily on children. This inclusion is significant since adults over 22 spend the majority of their lives in need of such services. The study aims to develop educational modules for healthcare workers in emergency settings to enhance service quality.
- **Florence Wong:**
  - In July, the San Mateo County hosted an inclusion festival that was well-attended, receiving positive feedback from county employees for its joyful atmosphere. At the event, the disability pride flag was raised prominently for the first time, enhancing visibility for the community. In August, the commission on disabilities added four new commissioners, filling fourteen out of fifteen seats and leaving one vacancy for interested applicants.
  - On June 28th, the county began a book club featuring "Demystifying Disability" by Emily Ladau, recommended by the Commission on Disabilities to educate staff about working with people with disabilities. October marks Disability Employment Awareness Month, during which the Commission plans to present its annual report, likely on October 6th. Additionally, from October 1 to 30, the county will host a disability art showcase at the Center for Creativity, with an artist reception on October 16.
- **Bob Twomey:**
  - Thank you for a wonderful experience at the San Mateo event. Greg and Gaby effectively managed our booth, contributing to the event's success, along with excellent entertainment from Florence. The event flowed smoothly, bolstered by a warm atmosphere and continuous engagement at our table. I felt honored to be part of this well-represented gathering. Thank you for your hard work.
  - Yesterday's State Council meeting in Sacramento was the second in-person, focusing on legislative updates and the launch of the Statewide Special Education Parent Action Network (SEPAN).
  - Additionally, I serve on the CA Department of Industrial Relations (DIR) Interagency Advisory Committee on apprenticeship, with the next

meeting scheduled for November 6th from 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM on Zoom.

Community Reports:

Bay Area People First Report (BAPF) Highlights:

- Patrick McKay gave the report:
    - The BAPF had their meeting on September 23rd and discussed potential donations and allocations of BAPF funds. The next meeting will be on December 16th from 4:30-5:45 PM on Zoom. Patrick will be stepping back from BAPF duties at this time.

Regional Center Reports Highlights:

- Eric Zigman gave the report for Golden Gate Regional Center (GGRC):
    - Some state-level trailer bill provisions have been enacted, requiring regional centers to adapt. Notably, remote services, authorized until December 2028, permit flexibility in service delivery, allowing both in-person and online options to assess user preferences and engagement. A significant bill, AB2324, supports high school youth caregivers for individuals with disabilities or seniors, enabling them to receive credits and pursue careers as direct support professionals. This bill has been signed into law and aims to integrate with the Department of Education, addressing high school dropout rates linked to caregiving.
    - GGRC will celebrate its 60th anniversary on Friday, October 23rd, with hopes that Senator Wiener will present Senate Resolution SER174 in support of this milestone.
- Dr. Rebecca Nanyonjo gave the report for Regional Center of the East Bay (RCEB):
    - The ARCA held its annual board academy, focusing on good governance amidst upcoming bylaw changes. The meeting also noted the retirement of community services director Steve Robinson, with Mike Minton succeeding him next week to ensure continuity. Jen Castaneda will join RCEB as the new equity director, and a communications specialist will be hired to improve accessibility of information. Positive feedback emerged from the Stanford Neurodiversity Summit regarding community involvement, and RCEB will attend the annual autism society meeting in Foster City. A board meeting was postponed to October 5th, while RCEB's first all-staff meeting in seven years saw about 700 attendees. Recruitment for the RCEB community advisory

committee is ongoing, inviting board members and residents from Alameda or Contra Costa counties to apply.

Developmental Disabilities (DD) Councils Report Highlights:

- Valerie Buell read the report from Vi Ibarra for the Contra Costa County DD Council:
    - On October 23, 2026, from 9:00 AM to noon, the Open House Center will offer a Pop-Up Vaccination Clinic for adults with disabilities, their family members, and staff to receive seasonal vaccines in a sensory-friendly environment. A second clinic is scheduled for October 30, from 10:00 to 11:00 AM, depending on registrations.
    - The In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Advisory Committee in Contra Costa County is recruiting members, comprising current or former users of personal assistance services and community professionals.
    - The next Contra Costa DD Council meeting will be on October 28, 2026.
- Valerie Buell read the report from Ben Chen for the Alameda County DD Council:
    - We are informing that Sabreena Sahota, our DD Coordinator, is stepping back for health reasons; Ben Chen is available for inquiries. The DD Council has completed our strategic plan for the year, thanks to Greg's support. We are also planning our annual Transition Conference for students with disabilities transitioning to adult services in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties; interested parties can reach Ben.
    - There will be a virtual candidate forum on Monday, October 5, from 11 AM to 12 PM, featuring candidates Linda Price and Sean Sakakihara, with registration encouraged for residents of Senate District 10 that include the cities of Union City, Fremont, Hayward, and parts of San Leandro.

Statewide Self Advocacy Network (SSAN):

- Sara Desumala read the report:
    - SSAN is currently going through some changes and in September only had a one-day meeting where they reviewed the new Department of Developmental Services (DDS) Grievance Process, the SCDD update, and an open forum discussion for SSAN members. The next meeting will be in December.
- **National Council on Disabilities (NCD):**
    - No report

6:47p Break – Resumed at 6:58

Legislative Office Comments:

- No comments.

Intergenerational Trauma Update

- Greg Gonzalez gave the update:
    - Efforts to gather survey responses on autism have yielded 10 replies, which are still insufficient for robust data. Participants are encouraged to share flyers with QR codes to solicit more input, particularly from individuals with autism or their families. The project's focus is on the relationship between autism diagnoses and undiagnosed cases and their impact on intergenerational trauma and access to necessary services.

Services On Demand Discussion:

- Sana Shooshtari gave the update:
    - Unfortunately, there has been no opportunity for us to meet since the last RAC meeting. I would like to gauge interest in continuing the workgroup's efforts to tackle transportation barriers faced by individuals needing same-day transportation. The workgroup aims to identify community partners for collaboration to alleviate issues such as Paratransit's transfer requirements that hinder access to medical appointments. Additionally, we need to consider solutions for those relying on mobility equipment who cannot use services like Uber or Lyft, particularly for urgent medical needs and transportation access beyond 5 p.m. the day before.
- Bob Twomey expressed interest in the workgroup.

Future Agenda Items and Other Announcements:

- Greg Gonzalez shared this is his last RAC meeting as the Regional Manager of the Bay Area Office and read the employment opportunity announcement for his position with a final filing date of October 8, 2026.

7:12p Meeting Adjourned.

Same - Day Transportation:

An Overview of Needs & Limitations for Community Members with Disabilities



Sana Shooshtari, Bay Area Regional Advisory Committee, State Council on Developmental Disabilities

CALIFORNIA SCDD
State Council on Developmental Disabilities

Our Discussion Today

- Reasons people need urgent or same day transportation
- Types of same-day transportation available
- Barriers & limitations with existing options
- Potential next steps
- Resources & References

Reasons People Need Urgent or Same-Day Transportation

- Time-sensitive medical needs (e.g.; specialists with same day or new available booking, new or changed pharmacy orders, urgent care).
- Getting called into work unexpectedly.
- Short notice professional or personal opportunities.

Types of Same-Day Transportation Commonly Available

- Buses and shuttles (fixed route)
- BART
- Ride share (e.g.; Uber, Lyft, etc.)
- Emergency or other medical transport

Barriers & Limitations with Existing Options: Bus & Shuttle

Buses and shuttles (fixed route):

- May not be applicable based on your destination or travel time needs.
- Sometimes a bus or shuttle cannot accommodate a wheelchair or other mobility device due to crowded conditions / other passengers taking the limited spots.
- Service outages and delays.

Barriers & Limitations with Existing Options: BART

BART:

- May not be applicable based on your destination or travel time needs.
- Service outages and delays.



Barriers & Limitations with Existing Options: Ride share

Ride share:

- Ride share options that can accommodate mobility devices may not be available, especially power chairs.
- Can be prohibitively expensive.
- Reliance on an app.

Barriers & Limitations with Existing Options: Emergency or Medical Transport

Emergency or Medical Transport:

- Ambulances can be expensive / cost prohibitive.
- Medical transport service coverage varies based on health care plan.
- Requires pre-planning. E.g.; Some require 5 days notice.
- Not all can accommodate power chairs or large mobility devices.
- These services not available for nonmedical travel needs.

Barriers & Limitations with Existing Options: Paratransit

Paratransit:

- Only available for those who meet eligibility.
- Requires notice (usually 1-2 days), and requires requests before 5pm, generally.
- May be late or a no-show. When requesting, no guarantee that a trip can be accommodated.
- Many are not able to cross county lines – ride coordination or ‘regional trip’ planning required for cross-county trips.



Improving Systems to benefit ALL!

Potential Next Steps for Systems Improvement

- Paratransit: Adopt more automated systems for booking after hours, booking with less notice, and for ride coordinator and regional trip planning.
- Buses and shuttles: Secure sustained funding to ensure stable and plentiful routes.
- BART: Secure sustained funding to ensure stable and plentiful routes.
- Monitor execution of AB 1250 (Papan) effective Jan 1, 2027.

Resources & References: AB 1250

AB 1250 (Papan):

On or before January 1, 2027, transit operators… (will) establish a streamlined recertification process for eligible persons... On and after June 1, 2027, transit operators (will) only use the streamlined recertification process for eligible persons unless certain conditions apply. The bill defines “eligible persons” as persons who receive, or who are eligible to receive, paratransit services based on a disability and whose disability cannot reasonably be expected to improve over time, as determined by the person’s qualified licensed medical professional, and whose ability to access the fixed route system cannot reasonably be expected to improve over time...

Resources & References: Transit Rights

Transportation publications from Disability Rights of CA:

- Paratransit
- Discrimination Fact Sheet: Public Transit
- Discrimination Fact Sheet: Amtrak



Resources & References: Transit Resources in the Bay

- Accessible Transportation in the San Francisco Bay Area
- Access Alameda Guide
- Way to Go Contra Costa Conty Guide
- Accessible Transportation in San Francisco and SFMTA Quick Start Guide
- San Mateo Co Peninsula Rides Hub
- Marin County Access Mobility Management Center



RAC Member Discussion

CALIFORNIA SCDD
STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

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.

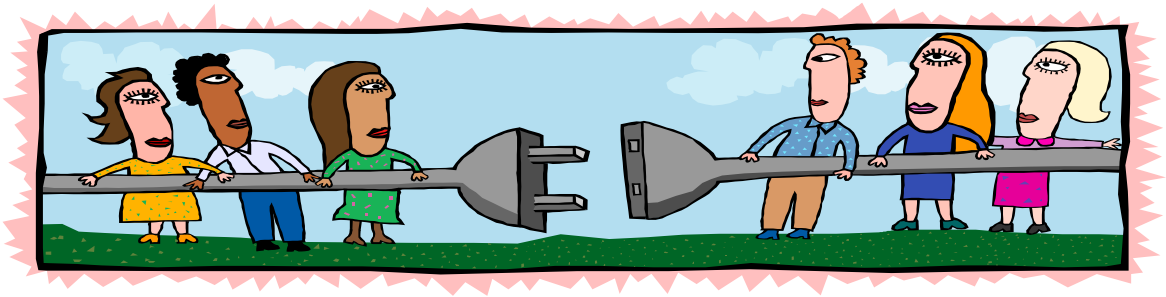
Thank you for your continued efforts in being a voice for the community!

Appointed RAC members:

- Advise SCDD and its Regional Office on local issues in Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, Alameda, and Contras 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**



CALIFORNIA SCDD State Council on Developmental Disabilities

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
Gavin Newsom, Governor

• website • www.scdd.ca.gov • email • bayarea@scdd.ca.gov 1515 Clay Street, Suite 803
Oakland, CA 94612 (510) 286-0439

2026-2027 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.

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

All meetings will be hybrid; In-person and on Zoom.

September 30, 2026: In-person location in Alameda County

December 02, 2026: In-person location in Contra Costa County

February 24, 2027: In-person location in San Mateo County

April 28, 2027: In-person location in Marin County

June 30, 2027: In-person location in San Francisco County

These meetings follow Government Code Sections 11123.1, 11123.2, and 11125(f).

Meeting details and accessible formats of all agenda and materials will be available at least 10 days before the meeting at **www.scdd.ca.gov/bayarea/**. Some members of the public body may receive accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and may be present at different teleconference locations.

For accessible formats or auxiliary aids, contact **bayarea@scdd.ca.gov** or call (**510) 286-0439** at least five business days before the meeting.

"The Council advocates, promotes & implements policies and practices that achieve self-determination, independence, productivity & inclusion in all aspects of community life for Californians with developmental disabilities and their families."

CALIFORNIA SCDD State Council on Developmental Disabilities

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Calendario 2026-2027 del Concilio Estatal Reuniones del Comité Asesor Regional (RAC) del Área de la Bahía (reuniones híbridas)

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.

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

Todas las reuniones serán híbridas; en persona y en Zoom.

9/30/2026: Ubicación presencial en el condado de Alameda

12/2/2026: Ubicación presencial en el condado de Contra Costa

2/24/2027: Ubicación presencial en el condado de San Mateo

4/28/2027: Ubicación presencial en el condado de Marin

6/30/2027: Ubicación presencial en el condado de San Francisco

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Estas reuniones siguen a las secciones 11123.1, 11123.2 y 11125(f) del Código de Gobierno.

Los detalles de la reunión y los formatos accesibles de toda la agenda y los materiales estarán disponibles al menos 10 días antes de la reunión en **www.scdd.ca.gov/bayarea/**. Algunos miembros del organismo público pueden recibir ajustes bajo la Ley de Estadounidenses con Discapacidades (ADA) y pueden estar presentes en diferentes lugares de teleconferencia.

Para formatos accesibles o ayudas auxiliares, póngase en contacto con **bayarea@scdd.ca.gov** o llame al (**510) 286-0439** al menos cinco días hábiles antes de la reunión.