



## COMMITTEE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Janette Shelton  
CHAIR

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Susan Madison  
VICE CHAIR

June 8, 2026

San Diego County Board of Supervisors  
1600 Pacific Highway, Room 335  
San Diego, CA 92101

Dear Chair and Members of the County of San Diego Board of Supervisors,

Please find attached the **Annual Report of the San Diego County Committee for Persons with Disabilities for the fiscal year from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025** in accordance with SEC. 84.85. ANNUAL REPORTS of ARTICLE III in the San Diego County Code of Administrative Ordinances.

The Committee's responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the following: evaluating County Charter provisions, ordinances, and policies to assess their impact on persons with disabilities; identifying and addressing areas of concern related to the lives and needs of persons with disabilities, including health, education, employment, recreation, housing, transportation, and accessibility; organizing workshops for County staff and community groups; participating in public hearings on matters affecting persons with disabilities; gathering and disseminating information to promote awareness and reduce discrimination; developing programs or advocating for legislation to support independence, equal rights, and opportunities for all persons with disabilities; assisting County and community groups working on disability-related issues; seeking grants from government and private sources to further the Committee's mission; and serving as the County's advisory body on matters related to the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and other related legislation;

We are currently focusing on providing advocacy in several areas:

- Housing: normalizing the use of affordable and "accessible" housing and not just affordable,
- Transportation: addressing the ¼ mile gap that exists between where funding will provide transportation for a person with a disability and the location of public transportation which the individual can use,
- Behavioral Health: insuring that all county departments are informed of how to provide reasonable accommodations for clients with disabilities, and
- Emergency Preparedness: insuring that there are processes in place to get all people with disabilities out of county buildings in case of emergency.

We look forward to working with you on these important issues.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Committee Chair or Vice Chair.

Thank you for your attention and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Janette Sheldon". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Janette Sheldon  
Chair  
County of San Diego Committee for Persons with Disabilities

**SAN DIEGO COUNTY COMMITTEE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES  
ANNUAL REPORT TO COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
JULY 1, 2024 - JUNE 30, 2025**

**Introduction**

Article III of the San Diego County Code of Administrative Ordinances states that the Committee for Persons with Disabilities (CPD), a Board of Supervisors-appointed community advisory group, exists to assure the self determination of persons with disabilities; provide persons with disabilities with the resources and educational services necessary to enable them to achieve their fullest potential; and to provide them with an equal opportunity to participate fully in the social and economic benefits to our society.

**The Committee for Persons with Disabilities received presentations from and provided input to the following departments:**

**Behavioral Health Services – Care Court Presentation**

- Guest Speakers: Dr. Michael Krelstein, Amber Irvine and Diane Ashton
- Notes: The committee engaged the speakers in a wide variety of topics of concern and hoped to continue the conversation at a future date.

**Sustainable Land Use Framework – Planning and Development Services**

- Guest Speaker: Jana Schwartz, Senior Planner
- Notes: The committee would like to have further discussion on eliminating barriers to citizens in the unincorporated areas to County programs.

**Enterprise-wide Website Restructure**

- Guest Speaker: Arnold DeGuzman, Technology Manager
- Notes: The committee made a variety of recommendations to improve accessibility to the website related to technology and physical accessibility to the Empathy Lab.

**Office of Emergency Services – Flood Emergency/Fire Preparedness**

- Guest Speaker: Jeff Toney, Director, Office of Emergency Services
- Notes: The committee made recommendations on Emergency preparedness programs for rural east county and inquired about efforts regarding removing AM radio from vehicles.

### **District Attorney Update**

- Guest Speaker: Summer Stephan, District Attorney
- Notes: The items that the Committee worked on with the District Attorney's office, the new, updated cover for the San Diego County Elder and Dependent Adult Blueprint and the video that includes vignettes of several committee members were reviewed.

### **Housing and Community Development Services (HCDS) - Housing Program Accessibility**

- Guest Speakers: HCDS staff
- Notes: HCDS presented an overview of the department and responded to committee questions.

**The Committee for Persons with Disabilities received presentations from and provided input to the following external parties:**

#### **California Commission on Disability Access (CCDA)**

- Guest Speaker: Jacqueline Jackson, State of California's Commission on Disability Access, former member of the County of San Diego's Committee for Persons with Disabilities
- Notes: Recommendations were made to attend Supervisor Board meetings, highlight local agencies and engage with decision makers directly. The committee has discussed these ideas and taken further action as appropriate.

#### **Accessible Community CPR Training**

- Guest Speakers: Lorelee Olejnik and Mikaila Goodridge, Falck Ambulance
- Notes: The committee made some follow up suggestions for Falck to make further community connections and was very appreciative of the program.

### **Accomplishments**

- Developed and approved bylaws for the committee which were approved by the Board of Supervisors in February, 2025.

### **Accomplishments (continued)**

- Voted to create a template for thank you letters, including follow up items, to send to speakers.
  - Elected to fill a position to serve as Committee Secretary
  - Various members completed Mandatory Ethics Training
  - The committee voted to approve Strategic Focus Areas for 2025:
    - Behavioral Health and Crisis Stabilization Accessibility
    - Environmental Emergency Preparedness and Public Safety Accessibility
    - Housing Accessibility
    - Transportation Accessibility
  - Received updates to the County ADA Policy
  - Re-elected the Chair and Secretary and elected a Vice Chair
  - Dr. Smith provided an update on her public comments at the Board of Supervisors meeting on February 11, 2025.
  - Committee Members attended the State of the County event.
  - Committee Members met with their respective Supervisors
  - The committee participated in an active shooter presentation in closed session
  - The committee hosted a booth at the November, 2024 Live Well Conference and School Summit
  - The committee voted to host a panel at the 2025 LiveWell Advance Conference and School Summit. Members prepared the proposal for approval by the LiveWell team.
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