

COMMISSION OF THE DEAF MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 2026, 5:30 P.M.
3900 MAIN STREET, RIVERSIDE, CA 92522

City of Arts & Innovation

PRESENT: Chair Visco, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioners Garcia, Reynolds, Rasmus, and Price

ABSENT: Commissioners Wadler and Sacchetti

STAFF PRESENT: Donesia Gause

Chair Visco called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Kevin Bernadt spoke regarding the Blue Zones Project Moai Launch Party.

CONSENT CALENDAR

It was moved by Commissioner Reynolds and seconded by Commissioner Price to approve the Consent Calendar as amended with revisions to the minutes. The motion carried unanimously with Commissioners Wadler and Sacchetti absent and Commissioner Friend abstaining.

MINUTES

The minutes of March 11, 2026, were approved.

REFER COMMISSION NAME CHANGE TO SAFETY, WELLNESS, AND YOUTH COMMITTEE

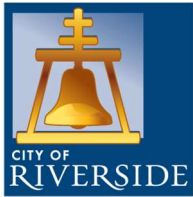
Refer to the Safety, Wellness, and Youth Committee for consideration of an ordinance amending Riverside Municipal Code Chapter 2.100 to change the name from 'Commission of the Deaf' to 'Deaf Commission'.

ATTENDANCE

Commission of the Deaf excused the absence of Commissioners Sacchetti and Friend from the meeting on March 11, 2026, regular meeting

PRESENTATION

The Commission of the Deaf received a presentation by Civil Rights Institute Inland Southern California Executive Director Sabrina Gonzalez on the Black Deaf Project.



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DISCUSSION CALENDAR

COMMISSION OF THE DEAF 2026 ANNUAL WORKPLAN

Following discussion and without formal motion, the matter was continued to May 13, 2026, regular meeting.

DESIGNATE COMMISSIONER(S) TO REPRESENT AT 2026 DEAF CONFERENCE AND OTHER EVENTS

Following discussion, it was moved by Commissioner Price and seconded by Commissioner Reynolds to designate Commissioner Rasmus to represent the Commission at the National 2026 Deaf Conference. The motion carried unanimously with Commissioners Wadler and Sacchetti absent.

COMMUNICATIONS

COMMISSION OF THE DEAF AD HOC COMMITTEE UPDATES

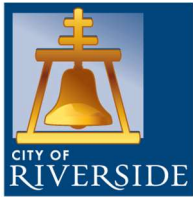
Vice Chair Anderson reported on an update on outreach.

STAFF UPDATES

There were no staff updates reported at this time.

BRIEF REPORTS ON CONFERENCES, SEMINARS, FUTURE EVENTS, AND EVENTS OR MEETINGS ATTENDED BY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Price reported on her attendance at a Wellness event with UCR Behavior Health. Vice Chair Anderson reported on Code of Ethics training, the deaf awareness training hosted by Riverside Police Department, deaf townhall date change, lunch with the Mayor, various schools attending the Track and Field competition at Martin Luther King High School, and an upcoming Riverside Health and Wellness Fair. Commissioner Friend reported on Disaster Emotional and Spiritual Care Academy, interpretive services provided at No Kings gathering, and an Mark Takano event at Cheech Marin Center for Chicano Art and Culture where she discussed deaf community center. Commissioner Reynolds reported on meetings with Congressman Mark Takano, Councilmember Steve Robillard, and County Supervisor Jose Medina, attendance at the board and commission training, and the deaf education at UCR. Commissioner Rasmus reported on Center on Deafness Inland Empire events and a meeting with Councilmember Robillard. Chair Visco report on the Deaf Education Summit hosted by Riverside Office of Education and the ASL Improv night.



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ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION AS REQUESTED BY THE COMMISSION MEMBERS
Vice Chair Anderson requested an outreach powerpoint brought back for discussion.
Commissioner Garcia requested discussion on letter submitted by Kevin Bernadt.

The next regular COTD meeting is Wednesday, May 13, 2026.

Chair Visco adjourned the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

DONESIA GAUSE
CITY CLERK