



Deaf Festival 2024 Spotlight

“Mayor Loveridge and the Deaf Community”

(3-minute segment)

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0:00 In the year of 1980's, How Ron Loveridge and Seymour Bernstein got acquainted in Northern California.

Both met in Riverside, California once again.

1997: Mayor Loveridge was a mayor and Seymour Bernstein was an executive director for Center on Deafness Inland Empire. They had a task force about implementing a new “Model Deaf Community Committee”, known as MDCC.

1998: April 28th- City Council voted and approved the standing committee- Model Deaf Community Committee.

Mission:

An integrated community which provides an atmosphere and the facilities to enable all citizens to enjoy the benefits of participating in that community including education, communications, manners, cultural sensitivity, and awareness.

Fast-Forwarded:

Over forty-five Model Deaf Community Committee members became members in a twenty-three year span. Education, Awareness, Communications, Culture and many had thrived dramatically.

Deaf Community population in Riverside rose up approximately 17% today**.

Mayor Loveridge:

Today's questions:

- 1) How do you feel about the growth of strong Deaf communities in Riverside?
- 2) It was an honor to have the Model Deaf Community transformed to Commission of the Deaf- launched January of 2023.
 - a) How do you feel about this new transition?
 - b) What would you encourage the commissioners to know about...
- 3) It has been 25 years since-
 - a) Deaf Awareness
 - b) Public Safety
 - c) Public Services
 - d) Deaf sensitivity: Jobs, cultures, intelligences, and more
- 4) What would you love to see for the next 25 years?

- 5) Commissioners will dedicate their knowledge, ideas, creativities and more for the City of Riverside, along with City Council members..
 - a) Any tips for the Commissioners?

More than what Deaf Communities has been dedicated to:

Riverside Art Museum:

- 1) Collected Deaf arts

Riverside Public Library:

- 1) ASL storytelling programs
- 2) Increase accessibility for the Deaf readers

Riverside Museum:

- 1) Collaborating with the staff to meet Deaf's accessibility
 - a) Video Captions
 - b) Hands-on Virtual program
 - c) Special exhibition: Deaf Story

Riverside Park, Recreation, Community

- 1) More accessible for Deaf young ages to participate (Explore Magazine)
- 2) Accessible for Deaf Seniors
- 3) Special Project: Deaf Cultural Community Center
- 4) Community participations

City Hall

- 1) RiversideTV
 - a) Improved communication access: captions
 - b) ASL Interpreters
- 2) 311 Call Center
 - a) VideoPhone- Direct Call #
- 3) Council Chamber:
 - a) Council meetings
 - b) Commission of the Deaf
 - c) Community Police Review Commission
- 4) One-Stop Shop
 - a) Device (new)#

And California School for the Deaf, Riverside

Plus approximately 23 + different Deaf organizations/Deaf-owned businesses

Special Task Force by communities: (independent)

- Riverside City College
- University of California, Riverside
- Local Hospitals
- Riverside Unified School District

*** statistics by estimate (CODIE)*

new, into recommendations