



Commission of the Deaf Memorandum

City of Arts & Innovation

TO: COMMISSION OF THE DEAF **DATE: APRIL 8, 2026**

FROM: CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE **WARDS: ALL**

SUBJECT: COMMUNITY OUTREACH

ISSUE:

Designation of Commissioner(s) to represent the Commission of the Deaf at the 2026 Deaf Conference and any other community outreach events.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Commission of the Deaf:

1. Designate Commissioner(s) represents the Commission of the Deaf at the 2026 Deaf Conference; and
2. Designate Commissioner(s) to any other community outreach events.

BACKGROUND:

On January 24th, 2023, the City Council voted to establish the Model Deaf Community Committee as a recognized commission. Pursuant to Sections 800 and 803 of the Riverside City Charter, the Commission of the Deaf shall be comprised of thirteen (13) members appointed by the Mayor and City Council.

The Commission of the Deaf (COTD) shall serve in an advisory capacity to help create an integrated community that promotes full participation in society, education and employment, effective communication, deaf community outreach and cultural awareness.

DISCUSSION:

On March 11, 2026, during the COTD regular meeting, members requested that the city provide funding to support member attendance at the 2026 Deaf Conference. The request was reviewed as part of the City's broader budget considerations; however, the City Manager determined that it could not be approved due to a citywide reduction in training and travel expenditure.

Accordingly, any attendees wishing to participate in the conference will be responsible for covering their own travel expenses.

In addition, the Commission should also consider designating members to other events as deemed appropriate that will support the COTD community outreach efforts.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this report.

Prepared by: Rene Goldman, HR Director