



Commission of the Deaf

Memorandum

City of Arts & Innovation

TO: HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS **DATE: NOVEMBER 12, 2025**

FROM: HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION **WARDS: ALL**

SUBJECT: DISSOLVE BYLAW AD HOC COMMITTEE & REESTABLISH A NEW BYLAW AD HOC COMMITTEE.

ISSUE:

That the Commission of the Deaf dissolve the Bylaw Ad Hoc Committee and reestablish a new Bylaw Ad Hoc Committee.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Commission of the Deaf dissolve the Bylaw Ad Hoc Committee and reestablish a new Bylaw Ad Hoc Committee.

BACKGROUND:

The purpose of the Commission of the Deaf is to advise the City Council on matters affecting members of the deaf community. The powers and duties of the Commission as listed in the Bylaws are to:

- Serve in an advisory capacity to help create an integrated community that promotes full participation in society, education and employment, effective communication, and cultural awareness.
- Review community policies, programs, and actions which affect persons within the deaf community and make appropriate recommendations to City Council.
- Render advice and assistance as requested to other City boards and commissions, and to City departments on matters affecting members of the deaf community.
- Perform other functions, community outreach, and duties as may be directed by the City Council.

The existing bylaws were adopted on November 8, 2023.

DISCUSSION:

Pursuant to the Brown Act, Boards and Commissions may form Ad Hoc Committee's provided that the ad hoc be (i) created for a specific purpose, (ii) with a specified time frame to complete that purpose, and (iii) the ad hoc is dissolved once that purpose has been timely accomplished.

During the February 12, 2025, meeting the Commission of the Deaf established an ad hoc to review the commission Bylaws. The ad hoc committee was composed of two members, Chair Anderson and Commissioner Wadler.

In order to conduct business in an official matter, the Commission of the Deaf must adopt Rules and Regulations of Procedure and Order of Business (Bylaws). The Bylaws provide rules for the transaction of business and the conduct of meetings as well as detailing the powers, duties, and functions of the Commission as approved by the City Council.

The existing attached Bylaws were prepared by staff with legal counsel and with input from the City Clerk. Following review and discussion of the existing Rules, the Commission may vote to make updates or to keep the Bylaws as-is with no changes going forward.

Prepared by: Rene Goldman, HR Director