

CoD Strategic Plan 2023 Update

Create, Educate, Advocate and Celebrate!

CoD 2023 Strategic Plan Vision

- *Create*
- *Educate*
- *Advocate*
- *Celebrate!*

Each CoD goal or objective falls under at least one of these actions.

Create

- Create a structure that allows the CoD to operate at optimum levels.
- Create an environment within the County that is fully inclusive and accessible.
- Create opportunities for the disabled community to have a voice in public policy development within the County.
- Create a dialogue with leaders within the County to increase greater awareness of issues impacting the disabled community in San Mateo County.

Educate

- Educate ourselves about the issues and concerns of the disabled community.
- Educate the County and general public regarding the issues and concerns of the disabled community.
- Educate the County and general public about programs and services that assist people with disabilities to live independently as possible in the community.
- Serve as a resource in the County and community.

Advocate

- Advocate within the County for a fully inclusive and accessible environment.
- Advocate across all-disabilities for better and improved programs and services serving the disabled community.
- Advocate within the County and beyond to empower the disabled community to have a voice on what happens to them (“Not about us without us!”).
- Advocate to address systemic issues/problems that negatively impact the disabled community in San Mateo County and beyond.

Agenda

1. ADA Committee Goals and Objectives
2. Legislative, Advocacy, and Outreach Committee
3. Youth and Family Committee
4. Accessible Transportation Committee
5. Special Events Committee
6. Executive Committee
7. Other

ADA

Accessible County Facilities & Programs

- **Working on updating San Mateo County's ADA Transition Plan:**
- The County made a significant investment (approx. \$500,000) in 2018 to have Disability Access Consultants (DAC) update the County's ADA Transition Plan which included **81** facilities and **160 miles** of public sidewalks in unincorporated San Mateo County.
- The Committee is currently working closely with the Department of Public Works to begin prioritizing ADA projects based on the findings of the DAC report

ADA

2022-2023 Accomplishments

- **Summary of Work Year-to-Date**
- October 2022 - Recommended Child Care Facilities “Pal Care” and “Our Place” for use of ADA funds
- November 2022 – Provided accessibility feedback on “Realize Flood Park Project” by FitzGerald Planning
- November 2022 – Provided accessibility feedback on temporary site for relocated Vital Statistics Office
- December 12th held a retreat with County Executive Office, DPW, County Parks, Human Resources, Department of Housing, Real Property and various CoD Commissioners to better coordinate work within group
- August 2023 – Committee adopted resolution to recommend prioritization of Youth Service Center Receiving Home at 31 Tower Road

ADA

Committee Goals

1. Advise the County's Commission on Disabilities and the Board of Supervisors on the accessibility needs of County-owned, or leased property and facilities. To work with all the departments within the County to assure equal public access to facilities and programs as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
2. Help educate County employees about the ADA.

ADA

Committee Objectives

1. Continue partnering and fostering a reciprocal relationship with the various County divisions in removing barriers throughout the County, these divisions include but are not limited to:
 1. Department of Public Works
 2. Health System
 3. Human Services
 4. Elections Office
 5. County Executive Office (including Chief Equity Officer)
 6. County Parks
2. Update the countywide priority list for removal of barriers
3. Partner with the new Title II coordinator to draft a Transition Plan

Legislation Advocacy Outreach

Hate Crimes & Abuse Against People with Disabilities

2022-2023 Updates:

- Abuse Roundtable Group, created in 2019 to address abuse against individuals with disabilities, established a workgroup to explore creating a statewide Abusive Caregiver Registry
- The workgroup for establishing an Abusive Caregiver Registry continues to meet
- The workgroup created an online survey addressing many aspects of a statewide registry (e.g., criteria for placement, appeals process, etc.)
- Data from the survey were collected from individuals with disabilities and people who work in agencies or organizations that serve disabled communities
- The Legislation Advocacy and Outreach Committee supports and organizes the registry workgroup with the ultimate goal of having Disability Rights California (DRC) and other advocates for the disabled community propose its establishment to the state legislature

Legislation Advocacy Outreach

2022-2023
Updates

- April 2023 – Committee penned letter to the Board of Supervisors in support of keeping the Mickelson Pool open
- April 2023 – Committee began collecting information on local CERT readiness to accommodate individuals with disabilities during major disasters
- June 2023 – Committee recommended to the CoD an appointee to the Emergency Services Council
- June 2023 – Committee penned letter to the Board of Supervisors encouraging their continued support of AB 817

Legislation Advocacy Outreach

Committee Goals

1. Empower the disabled community through emergency responder training, supporting victims and allies in reporting abuse, & continuing to educate direct service providers about signs of abuse and mandated reporting.
2. Continue to advocate for programs and policies that increase safety for individuals with disabilities.

Legislation Advocacy Outreach

Committee Objectives

1. Following and advocating for policies/legislation that provide individuals with disabilities fair access and opportunities to fully participate in society.
2. Continued focus on increasing safety for individuals with disabilities, particularly in emergencies/disasters that require evacuation and transportation.
3. Working collaboratively with agencies and organizations to educate emergency responders, including those that provide emergency shelter and transportation, about unique needs of disabled community members.
4. Collaborate with members of the Abuse Roundtable Group to create a statewide abusive caregiver registry

Youth and Family

2022-2023 Updates and Accomplishments

- The Youth and Family Committee, along with several Transition Coordinators from various school districts, non-profit agencies, and state government agencies planned the first Transition to Independence Fair since 2019
- Fair covered many topics, including career training, higher education, and job placement
- Transition to Independence Fair was held at El Camino High School on February 4, 2023
- Fair saw over 200 students, parents, guardians and professionals attend

Youth and Family

2023-2024
Goals

Goal #1

Coordinate, plan and moderate a panel or workshop on mental health and suicide prevention at the Transition to Independence Fair.

Youth and Family

2023-2024
Goals and
Objectives

Goal #2

Advocate for the voices of youth with disabilities to be included in diversity, equity, inclusion and access initiatives, programs, and partnerships in San Mateo County.

Youth and Family

2023-2024
Goals and
Objectives

Goal #3

Share and promote guest speaker information through the CoD instagram account to engage, connect, and invite participation with the disabilities community

Accessible Transportation

2022-2023
Accomplishments

- Developed and distributed Redi-Wheels & Redi-Coast Riders Survey
- Developed and distributed fixed route survey
- Findings determined the need to rethink how the committee should continue advocating moving forward

Accessible Transportation

Goals and Objectives

Goal

- Educate and advocate for improved transit systems, including during disasters

Objectives

- Advocate for the Department of Emergency Management (DEM) to establish a Memorandum of Understanding for paratransit and transportation services during disasters
 - Provide input on DEM plan
- Provide input on the SamTrans Bus Stop Improvement Plan and SamTrans ADA Transition Plan

Special Events

2022-2023
Accomplishments

Highlighted the Disabled Community during two major events of the year:

- 1) July – Disability Pride Month through the 4th Annual Inclusion Festival
- 2) October - Disabilities Awareness Month and Disability Employment Awareness Month through the County’s Disabilities Art Showcase

4th Annual Inclusion Festival

Partnered with the City of Redwood City and Redwood City Parks and Arts Foundation:

- Opening ceremony conducted by the Native Indigenous People's Initiative
- 60 vendors with over 475 attendees
- Food provided by VRS Catering Connection



July 27th, 2023
Photos by Eric Forgaard

Special Events

2023 Art Showcase

- Showcase will be held from October 2nd – 31st at County Center
- Exhibit shown at the Caldwell Gallery in the Hall of Justice
- Exhibit is open and free to the public Monday-Friday from 8AM-5PM
- Featuring artwork of artists with disabilities who live in San Mateo County or work for the County of San Mateo

Special Events

Committee Goal and Objectives

Goal

- To bring visibility to the Commission on Disabilities and celebrate by hosting public events and promote inclusion of the disabled community

Objectives

- Host the 5th Annual Inclusion Festival on July 25, 2024
- Host the Annual Art Showcase again in October 2024
- Assist in planning the Transition to Independence Fair

Executive Committee

Coordination & Oversight

Executive Committee will continue to:


- Assist committees in carrying out their objectives
- Provide direction, guidance and oversight regarding committee activities
- Monitor and evaluate progress of CoD Strategic Plan

Other Work: 2022-2023 Recap

- In July 2022, the CoD officially launched its Instagram (@sanmateocounty_CoD) and Twitter (@ smcCoD)
- As of August 2023, the CoD Instagram Page sits at 547 followers and counting
- All meetings are now available in hybrid format for the public to join virtually

Other Work to consider:

- Recruiting new commissioners, currently there are 9 vacancies
- Addressing issues that fall outside of regular committees via ad-hoc
- Improve accessibility of meetings for commissioners



Thank you to Supervisor
Warren Slocum