

DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITY AND AGING SERVICES (DAS) COMMISSION

MINUTES September 3, 2025

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME/ President Spears

President Janet Y. Spears called our hybrid meeting to order in City Hall room 416 and virtually and stated that the DAS Commission acknowledged they are using the unceded homeland of the Ramaytush Ohlone peoples of the San Francisco Peninsula.

The (DAS) Commission Secretary called the roll:

Present: Commissioners Martha Knutzen, President Janet Y. Spears, Vice President Nelson Lum, Barbara Sklar, Wanda Jung, Linda Parker Pennington, and Sascha Bittner

Communications:

Commission Secretary Ravi Durbeej provided instructions for any members of the public that would like to submit a public comment to the DAS Commission.

Approval of Minutes:

No public comment.

Motion from Commissioner Jung

A motion to approve the July 2, 2025 Commission Meeting Minutes from
The motion was unanimously approved.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT/ Kelly Dearman

DAS Director Kelly Dearman welcomed everyone back from the Summer Recess. On the federal level the Big Bill HR-1 passed, and we are awaiting the outcome. We have been working with City Attorney's office to see how this will affect us.

On the local level we are working on the Community Needs Assessment through in-person forums in all districts and then 1 online. I have attended 5 so far and they have all been well

attended. We are working with a new consultant that has generated topics and questions for us to speak on. Attendees can ask questions, and these were great. Population survey from our consultant Clarity which is online or in multiple languages. We've also been doing focus groups. 14 total focus groups to help all facets of our population. Thanked the OCP team and the planning team for all their hard work on this as it is important to DAS as we prepare our resources for the next 4 years.

After the passage of Proposition E, the Commission Streamlining Task Force was established. Goal of this was to look at all the commissions and advisory bodies across San Francisco and they will look to make recommendations of streamlining these bodies. We decided it was best to give them our recommendation which we felt consolidation of the Dignity Fund Oversight and Advisory Council and Advisory Council can be put into one body.

In July we hosted the Disability Roundtable Discussion at the Disability Cultural Center. It was an amazing event and spoke on many issues and the mayor asked to come back in 6 months to see where we can make improvements. It was a wonderful event and felt really proud and the Mayor and Mayor's office was happy to see how organized the event was.

DAS Dep Director Jill Nielsen left and now introducing Megan Elliot as acting deputy director of DAS Programs. Megan spoke and introduced herself to the commissioners and was a former DAS employee and has a Masters in Public Administration. She has studied how DAS combined with DPH to start HSA and now is back and very happy to be back and looking forward to working with everyone again.

Commissioner Knutzen asked if there's anything we can do in terms of calls for the National Bill for outreach and thanked for informing us of strategies and things we can do.

Commissioner Pennington thanked the entire department for all the outreach and all the challenges they encountered for doing the assessment and how important it is. Director Dearman also wanted to thank the Intake department as well and reminded everyone of how much of a team effort this is.

President Spears asked if there is an end date for these assessments processes and Dearman did not have the exact date, but they are looking to wrap it up in the next few weeks. The information gathering will be completed by end of October and surveys end in September.

DAS EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH September 2025 JESUS DIAZ who is an Intake Social Worker at the DAS Benefits and Resources Hub.

- Director Dearman spoke on Jesus' ability to connect with coworkers and clients alike! He is a shining example of a great team member who always goes above and beyond.

- Jesus thanked the commissioners, Kelly, and all of his coworkers and team for being so supportive throughout the years. Thanked his family, his partner, and thanked everyone for this honor.

CASE REPORT/ presented this month by Fiona Hinze

Presenter Hinze thanked the commission and has a few announcements: CASE is announcing a new co-chair and Fiona will be stepping down as co-chair and will stay on the CASE board. Spoke on advocacy on the new federal bill and just like Director Dearman, they will not know how exactly it will affect them until it unfolds later.

For the September meeting we will have an expert on AI speak on the risks and concerns of AI in the future. Update on our grant, CASE has hired a strategic planner and a strategic project management consultant with outreach and stakeholder engagement. Also, in the middle of doing a SWAT analysis and working on surveys for stakeholders.

Commissioner Pennington asked for clarification on the assessment feedback and if CASE is using data from the needs assessment and Hinze responded that CASE reports separately as they have received funding from Metta Fund Grant to strengthen their own capacity.

Item 8 is GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT.

Member of the public Marie Jobling representing the Dignity Fund Coalition and spoke on the Commission Taskforce and let everyone know that their meeting on Oct 15th is open to the public. This process has already begun, and we encourage the DAS Commissioners to understand what the task force is recommending.

Item 9 OLD BUSINESS

No old business.

Item 10 NEW BUSINESS

ITEMS A IS AN INFORMATION ONLY ITEM THAT DOES NOT REQUIRE
A VOTE BY THE COMMISSION

- A. Presentation of the DAS FY 25/26 Schedule for Requests for Proposals.
INFORMATION ONLY (Presented by Maceo Persson and Emmy Miller)

Presenters Miller and Persson spoke on the upcoming schedule for Requests for Proposals in the next fiscal year. 7 RFP's coming out and listed the names, programs, and when they anticipated they will be reaching the commission. The RFP's are for existing programs and they are for a 4-year term.

Commissioner Jung asked to clarify on the renewables, they don't need a new RFP, correct? Presenter said yes, since they are not expired, they can be extended. And the budget will be

Commissioner Pennington asked why last year there were 24 RFP's and this year there are only 7 and they answered that they have consolidated many.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

ITEMS B THROUGH D ARE ACTION ITEMS THAT REQUIRES A VOTE BY THE COMMISSION

- B. Requesting authorization to enter into a new contract agreement with Institute on Aging for the provision of Elder & Dependent Adult Abuse Prevention during the period of September 1, 2025, to June 30, 2029, in the amount of \$2,012,500 plus a 10% contingency for a total amount not to exceed \$2,213,750. (Benjamin Seisdodos will present the item)

Presenter Seisdodos is requesting authorization to enter into a new contract agreement with Institute on Aging for the provision of Elder & Dependent Adult Abuse Prevention during the period of September 1, 2025, to June 30, 2029, in the amount of \$2,012,500 plus a 10% contingency for a total amount not to exceed \$2,213,750.

Commissioner Knutzen asked why this item is not funded by federal funds and presenter replied that the next agenda item will be speaking on the Older Americans Act.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

A motion to approve from Commissioner Pennington

The motion was unanimously approved

- C. Requesting authorization to enter into new grant agreements with Institute on Aging for the provision of Elder Abuse Community Education and Outreach for the period of September 1, 2025, to June 30, 2029, in the amount of \$601,830 plus a 10% contingency for a total amount not to exceed \$662,013. (Benjamin Seisdodos will present the item)

Presenter Seisdodos is requesting authorization to enter into new grant agreements with Institute on Aging for the provision of Elder Abuse Community Education and Outreach for the period of September 1, 2025, to June 30, 2029, in the amount of \$601,830 plus a 10% contingency for a total amount not to exceed \$662,013. (Benjamin Seisdodos will present the item)

Commissioner Jung asked about outreach to the API community and the education difference between items 10B & 10C. This is more public outreach and community-based education.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

A motion to approve from Commissioner Jung

The motion was unanimously approved

- D. Requesting authorization to enter into 2 new contracts with RydeTrans, for the period of September 1, 2025 to June 30, 2029 in the amount of \$715,000 plus a 10% contingency for a total amount not to exceed \$786,500. (Sandra Teixeira will present the item)

Presenter Teixeira is requesting authorization to enter into 2 new contracts with RydeTrans, for the period of September 1, 2025 to June 30, 2029 in the amount of \$715,000 plus a 10% contingency for a total amount not to exceed \$786,500.

Commissioner Jung asked about the ambulatory and medical transportation and it's a 6 month service and will that change? Presenter replied that they will look and then assess after 6 months.

Commissioner Pennington asked about the estimated size of the population that would be eligible for these services and presenter replied that currently they have approximately 700 clients right now and any one of them could be eligible. High risk is determined by clinical assessments and a client's history.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

A motion to approve from Commissioner Pennington

The motion was unanimously approved

Announcements

Vice President Lum spoke on Fleet Week and on Thursday October 9th the Navy band will be performing free on the block party on the 1500 block of Powell Street sponsored by the American Legion Cathay Post 384.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:47am by President Spears