



SAN FRANCISCO HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
**Department of Disability
and Aging Services**

Mayor's Disability Council

Eli Gelardin, Director

Office on Disability and Accessibility

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Image: Wheelchair users protesting outside of San Francisco City Hall in 1977. One protester has a hand-made “We Shall Overcome” sign on the back of his wheelchair (black and white. Credit: Anthony Tusler)

Director's Report

This report provides an overview of key issues and initiatives that the Office on Disability and Accessibility has been engaged with since the last MDC meeting. The Council is encouraged to follow up on any of these topics.

For public engagement, contact **ODA@sfgov.org** or call **415-554-6789** or visit our website. [Office on Disability and Accessibility | sfhsa.org](#).

ODA's Purpose

The San Francisco **Office on Disability & Accessibility (ODA)** helps ensure that the City's programs, services, facilities and digital information are accessible to people with disabilities of all ages and backgrounds. As the City's overall ADA Coordinator, ODA leads compliance with **Title II of the ADA** and other federal, state, and local disability access laws.

Key Functions:

- Oversees the City's **ADA Transition Plan**, including capital planning and the City's ADA grievance and appeals procedures
- Provides **technical assistance** and **policy guidance** to City leadership and departments
- Supports the **Mayor's Disability Council**
- Serves as a **liaison to the disability community**
- Advises the **Mayor, Board of Supervisors, and City departments** on disability rights and accessibility

Office on Disability & Accessibility: Programs and Initiatives

Access

Architectural Access

Provide citywide technical assistance on architectural accessibility requirements, including plan reviews and site inspections, as needed

Programmatic Access

Provide citywide technical assistance on accessibility requirements for program and service offerings.

Digital Access

Advise City's Committee on Information Technology on Digital Accessibility and Inclusion Standards.

ADA Compliance

ADA Transition Planning

Support departments in developing and managing regular architectural and programmatic self-evaluations.

ADA Grievance

Oversee and manage the citywide ADA grievance and appeals procedures and data system

Community of Practice

Facilitate trainings and knowledge sharing opportunities for ADA Coordinators which highlight best practices and provide opportunities for peer support.

Strategic Planning

Disaster Planning

Support and advises DEM on emergency efforts, sheltering sights, and general disaster planning.

Mayor's Disability Council

A bi-monthly public forum for the disability community to provide input on city wide accessibility and inclusion

Public Policy

Technical assistance and policy advisor to City leadership on disability and access related legislation and initiatives



Remembering Alice Wong~ in her own words

"Hi everyone, it looks like I ran out of time. I have so many dreams that I wanted to fulfill and plans to create new stories for you. There are a few in progress that might come to fruition in a few years if things work out. I did not ever imagine I would live to this age and end up a writer, editor, activist, and more. As a kid riddled with insecurity and internalized ableism, I could not see a path forward. It was thanks to friendships and some great teachers who believed in me that I was able to fight my way out of miserable situations into a place where I finally felt comfortable in my skin. We need more stories about us and our culture. You all, we all, deserve the everything and more in such a hostile, ableist environment. Our wisdom is incisive and unflinching. I'm honored to be your ancestor and believe disabled oracles like us will light the way to the future. Don't let the bastards grind you down. I love you all."~ Alice Wong



2: Remembering Alice Wong~ in her own words

Access is Love

“Access Is Love aims to help build a world where accessibility is understood as an act of love.”

Transition Planning & Capital Projects

- Hallidie Plaza
- Wheelchair Charging Stations
- SOMARTS

Expand Architectural Access Knowledge

- New ODA Design Bulletins

Citywide Grievance database

- Pilot Update/evaluation



3: Remembering Alice Wong~ in her own words

Disability Justice

“One principle of disability justice is recognizing the inherent value and wholeness of people regardless of their ability to produce.”

Interdepartmental Collaborations

- National Disability Employment Awareness Month (DHR/DAS)

Disability Engagement

- Disability Forward Housing Futures Summit (The Kelsey)



4: Remembering Alice Wong~ in her own words

Disabled Joy

“You matter, you belong, we see you.”



Reflections





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Thank you



www.sfhsa.org