



CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

IMMIGRANT RIGHTS COMMISSION

**San Francisco Immigrant Rights Commission
Executive Committee Meeting
1145 Market Street, Suite 100
October 22, 2025 at 5:30 pm PDT**

Overview: Members of the Commission will attend this meeting in person. Members of the public are invited to observe the meeting in-person or remotely using Webex or by calling the phone number and entering the access code above. Everyone attending the meeting in person is encouraged to wear a mask throughout the meeting. Each member of the public attending in person may address the Commission for up to two minutes. Public speakers using consecutive interpretation assistance will be allowed to speak for twice the amount of the time.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Souza called the meeting to order at 5:37 p.m.

Present: Chair Souza, Vice Chair Chaudhary, Commissioners Kennelly (5:41 p.m.), Paz.

Also present: Commissioners Fara, Obregon, Ng (6:08 p.m.).

OCEIA staff present: Director Rivas, Clerk Shore.

2. Ramaytush Ohlone Land Acknowledgment

We, the San Francisco Immigrant Rights Commission, acknowledge that we are on the unceded ancestral homeland of the Ramaytush Ohlone who are the original inhabitants of the San Francisco Peninsula. As the indigenous stewards of this land and in accordance with their traditions, the Ramaytush Ohlone have never ceded, lost nor forgotten their responsibilities as the caretakers of this place, as well as for all peoples who reside in their traditional territory. As guests, we recognize that we benefit from living and working on their traditional homeland. We wish to pay our respects by acknowledging the ancestors, elders and relatives of the Ramaytush Community and by affirming their sovereign rights as First Peoples.

Chair Souza read the land acknowledgment statement.

3. General Public Comment

This item is to allow members of the public to address the Commission on matters that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission and that do not appear on today's agenda.

There was no public comment.

4. Action Item: Approval of previous minutes

(Discussion/Action)

Discussion and possible action to approve the minutes of the Immigrant Rights Commission's September 24, 2025 Executive Committee meeting.

Commissioner Paz motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Chair Souza. Chair Souza called for public comment and there was no comment on this item. The minutes were approved.

[IRC Executive Committee meeting minutes 9.24.25](#)

5. Discussion Items

- a. Update on Commission Streamlining Task Force Meeting (Director Rivas, Chair Souza, Vice Chair Chaudhary)
(Information)

This item allows Director Rivas, Chair Souza and Vice Chair Chaudhary to provide an update on the Commission Streamlining Task Force meeting.

Chair Souza and Director Rivas provided an update on the Commission Streamlining Task Force. Chair Souza thanked OCEIA staff for completing the questionnaire and thanked Commissioners for their engagement, including voting to write a letter to the Commission Streamlining Task Force and making public comment. The Task Force voted to recommend maintaining the Immigrant Rights Commission as an independent body with no sunset date.

- b. Proposed Resolution on the Detention of Immigrants at the Courthouse (Commissioner Obregon)
(Discussion/Action)

This item allows Commissioner Obregon to present her proposed resolution for discussion and possible action by the Executive Committee. During the August 27 Executive Committee meeting, Commissioners suggested edits and Chair Souza volunteered to update the draft. Commissioners also suggested incorporating the ideas and recommendations from the October sanctuary hearing into the resolution and issuing the resolution as a follow-up to the hearing.

Commissioner Obregon presented her draft resolution, and Commissioners suggested edits. Chair Souza motioned to make the edits to the resolution by Friday, seconded by Commissioner Paz. The motion was approved.

[Proposed IRC resolution on the detention of immigrants at the courthouse \(Updated draft\)](#)

- c. Proposed Statement on H1B Visa Restrictions (Vice Chair Chaudhary)
(Discussion/Action)

This item allows Vice Chair Chaudhary to present her proposed statement on the recently announced fee for H1B visas for discussion and possible action by the Executive Committee.

Vice Chair Chaudhary will update the draft statement.

- d. Follow-Up from IRC Resolution Condemning Travel Bans
(Information/Discussion)

This item was introduced under Old and New Business by Commissioner Fara at the IRC's August 11, 2025 Full Commission meeting. Director Rivas provided updates on OCEIA's meetings with the San Francisco International Airport (SFO) as a follow-up to the [IRC's resolution on travel bans](#) at the August and September Executive Committee meetings and can share the resolution with the SFO director.

Director Rivas provided an update and noted that has shared the Commission's resolution with the SFO director.

- e. Planning for Sanctuary Hearing (Director Rivas, Commissioner Obregon)
(Discussion/Action)

This item allows Director Rivas to provide an update on the upcoming Full Commission hearing on sanctuary city policies led by Commissioner Obregon, and allows Commissioner Obregon to discuss plans for the hearing.

Commissioner Obregon and Director Rivas provided updates on the upcoming hearing and Commissioners discussed plans for the hearing.

- f. Upcoming IRC Meetings and Events
(Information/Discussion)

This item allows Director Rivas to discuss the IRC calendar of meetings and events for the remainder of the year.

Director Rivas provided an update on the November 10 hearing on transgender immigrants and discussed the calendar for the rest of the year. Commissioners suggested rescheduling the Executive Committee meeting to December 10.

6. Staff Reports

(Information)

a. Director's Updates

Report on OCEIA and IRC activities and announcements. This item allows the OCEIA Director to provide brief updates on activities and announcements.

Director Rivas provided an update on San Francisco's local response efforts, including the Mayor's Executive Directive, internal coordination systems, coordination with community, and communications. OCEIA is hosting naturalization workshops as well as workshops to help people apply for remote court hearings. OCEIA's next SF Immigrant Forum webinar is scheduled for December 3.

b. Update on Reappointment Hearing

This item allows the OCEIA Director to provide an update on the IRC reappointment hearing.

Director Rivas provided an update on the reappointment hearing for Board-appointed Commissioners.

7. Old and New Business

(Information)

This item is to allow Commissioners to provide updates on items the Commission has previously discussed, and to introduce new agenda items for future consideration by the Commission.

Vice Chair Chaudhary asked for an update on the statement she wrote on students. The statement has been finalized and approved by the Full Commission, and is now being shared with City Attorney's Office before publication.

Chair Souza brought up two items to discuss at future meetings: language access; and how to support the immigrant workforce.

8. Adjournment

Chair Souza adjourned the meeting at 6:41 p.m.

