

# Minutes of the March 25, 2026 meeting of the IRC Executive Committee

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## Date and Time

March 25, 2026 at 5:30 p.m.

## Location

- 1145 Market Street, Suite #100, San Francisco, CA 94103
- [View the meeting online](#)
- Call in to listen:
  - 415-655-0001
  - Access code: 2662 891 7822 / Webinar password: 2026

## Overview

Members of the Immigrant Rights 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 time. For each agenda item, there is one comment per person. Members of the public may also submit public comment by email to: [civic.engagement@sfgov.org](mailto:civic.engagement@sfgov.org).

## Agenda items

### 1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Souza called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m.

Present: Chair Souza, Commissioners Paz and Kennelly.

Not present: Vice Chair Chaudhary (excused).

Also present: Commissioners Aljiran (5:45 p.m.), Padilla (5:58 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 acknowledgement statement.

### **3. General Public Comment**

This item allows 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 February 25, 2026 Executive Committee meeting.

[February 25, 2026 IRC Executive Committee meeting minutes](#)

Chair Souza motioned to approve the February 25, 2026 minutes, seconded by Commissioner Paz. Chair Souza called for public comment and there was no comment on this item. The minutes were approved.

### **5. Discussion/Action Item: Proposed Letter on Potential SFUSD Cuts to Newcomer Services (Commissioners Padilla and Paz)**

(Discussion/Action)

This item allows Commissioners Padilla and Paz to present a draft letter on potential cuts to SFUSD's newcomer services, and allows Commissioners to discuss, make edits, and take possible action to move to the Full Commission for a vote.

[DRAFT IRC SFUSD Letter of Support](#)

Commissioner Paz presented an overview of the draft letter and Commissioners made suggested edits. Director Rivas can send the letter to the City Attorney before it goes to the Full Commission. Chair Souza made a motion to amend the letter and move it to the Full Commission after the City Attorney's review. Commissioner Paz seconded the motion. Chair Souza called for public comment and there was no comment on this item. The motion was approved.

## **6. Discussion/Action Item: Follow-Up on October Resolution Recommendations (Vice Chair Chaudhary and Commissioner Obregon)**

(Discussion/Action)

This item allows Vice Chair Chaudhary and Commissioner Obregon to identify which recommendations from the IRC's October [resolution](#) to prioritize.

Director Rivas met with Vice Chair Chaudhary to understand which recommendations need to be prioritized. Vice Chair Chaudhary or Commissioner Obregon can present their priorities to the Executive Committee. The next step is to determine who will lead each priority area.

## **7. Discussion/Action Item: Strategic Outreach to Supervisors: Follow-up to Letter on Immigrant Priorities (Director Rivas)**

(Discussion/Action)

This item allows Director Rivas to discuss strategic outreach to Supervisors as a follow-up to the letter the Commission approved on immigrant priorities. This is a continuation of the strategic outreach discussion led by Vice Chair Chaudhary during the February Executive Committee meeting.

Director Rivas asked the Executive Committee to think about next steps for the letter on immigrant priorities as an example, and Commissioners discussed protocols for outreach to Supervisors. Director Rivas will work with Vice Chair Chaudhary to develop guidelines for Commissioners. This item was continued to the next meeting.

## **8. Discussion/Action Item: IRC Hearing on Public Health (Commissioner Paz)**

(Discussion/Action)

This item allows Commissioner Paz to discuss plans for the hearing on access to health care, including the timeline and suggested speakers, and allows Commissioners to discuss and provide feedback.

Commissioners Paz and Padilla provided an update on planning for the health care hearing and Commissioners discussed possible venues.

## **9. Discussion/Action Item: Proposed Statement or Resolution on War in West Asia (Commissioner Aljiran)**

(Discussion/Action)

This item allows Commissioner Aljiran to propose a statement, resolution or other action denouncing the war in West Asia and reaffirming immigrant rights and resources.

Commissioner Aljiran asked why the other two new business items (the 'Overpaid CEO' tax and the

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'Billionaire Tax') she proposed were not on today's agenda. Director Rivas noted several ways an item can be added: by bringing it up under New Business for the Commission Chair's consideration, or bringing the item to a vote on whether to add it to a future agenda. When the Commission Chair decides not to agendize an item, it can be brought for a vote.

Director Rivas noted that the statement on the war in West Asia aligns with actions the IRC has previously taken. Director Rivas and the Commission Chair did not feel comfortable adding the other two items (the 'Overpaid CEO tax' and the 'Billionaire tax') to the agenda, but they can still be brought to a vote. Chair Souza noted that the City Attorney's Office has advised that they not include a candidate or ballot measure on the agenda.

Commissioner Aljiran suggested educational programming on what the measure (CEO tax) means and its impacts on immigrants. Director Rivas suggested that the Commission learn about the potential risks of such an item and vote on whether to add the item to a future agenda. Chair Souza proposed adding an item to the agenda asking the Commission if they want to proceed with an education presentation.

Commissioner Aljiran raised questions about the Commission Chair's potential conflict of interest related to affiliation with labor groups that support the CEO tax measure. Chair Souza stated that she had no such affiliations.

Director Rivas suggested that the Commission agendize an informational item with the City Attorney's Office on the risks of having such a conversation.

Chair Souza asked Commissioner Aljiran if she had an update on the statement denouncing the war. Commissioner Aljiran did not have an update at this time. Chair Souza continued the item and asked Commissioner Aljiran to send a draft.

## **10. Discussion/Action Item: Follow-up from Travel Ban Resolution (Commissioner Fara)**

(Discussion/Action)

This item allows Commissioner Fara to discuss continuing to explore partnerships to support immigrants at SFO as a follow-up to the IRC [resolution](#) on travel bans and allows Director Rivas to provide updates on the work.

Director Rivas presented Commissioner Fara's draft letter on working with SFO and recommended continuing this item to get clarity from Commissioner Fara on what an immigrant hub would look like. Chair Souza continued the item.

### **11. Staff Reports: Director's Updates**

(Information)

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 updates on the budget and lessons learned from the incident at SFO.

### **12. Staff Reports: Rescheduling April Executive Committee meeting**

(Information)

This item allows Director Rivas to provide an update on rescheduling the Executive Committee meeting for April 29, 2026 in order to schedule the Awards Committee meeting for April 22, 2026. The Awards Committee is co-chaired by Commissioners Fara and Obregon, with Vice Chair Chaudhary, Commissioner How, and Commissioner Paz serving as members. All Commissioners are invited to submit nominations by the deadline of April 10, 2026.

Director Rivas noted that the next Executive Committee meeting has been rescheduled to April 29.

### **13. 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.

Chair Souza introduced an item for the Full Commission to invite the City Attorney's Office to explain the impact and potential risks of holding an educational hearing on the CEO tax and billionaire tax measures. Commissioner Aljiran suggested that it focus on the CEO tax since that is more urgent. Chair Souza amended her item to focus on the potential risks of holding an educational hearing on the CEO tax ballot measure.

Commissioner Aljiran asked the Commission Chair to disclose on the public record any potential conflict of interest she may have related to her affiliation with various organizations that support the CEO tax and to potentially recuse herself.

Vice Chair Chaudhary, who was not present at the meeting, submitted a new business item to discuss the SFO incident.

Vice Chair Chaudhary also submitted a new business item related to supporting the implementation of SB-580 (Durazo) Attorney General: immigration enforcement policies.

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**14. Adjournment**

Chair Souza adjourned the meeting at 7:19 p.m.