



CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

IMMIGRANT RIGHTS COMMISSION

**San Francisco Immigrant Rights Commission
Executive Committee Meeting
1145 Market Street, Suite 100
May 28, 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 5:33 p.m.

Present: Chair Souza, Vice Chair Chaudhary, Commissioners Kennelly (5:49 p.m.), Paz.

Also present: Commissioners Ng, Obregon, Ratanapakdee.

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 April 30, 2025 Executive Committee meeting.

Vice Chair Chaudhary motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Paz. Chair Souza called for public comment and there was no public comment on this item. The minutes were approved by the three Executive Committee members present.

5. Discussion/Action Items

- a. Immigrant Leadership Awards (Director Rivas, Vice Chair Chaudhary and Commissioner Obregon)

(Discussion/Action)

This item allows Director Rivas, Vice Chair Chaudhary and Commissioner Obregon to discuss the honorees and plans for the June 9, 2025 Immigrant Leadership Awards event.

This item was heard out of order. Commissioner Obregon and Director Rivas provided updates on the Immigrant Leadership Awards.

- b. Proposed Resolution on Affordable Housing (Chair Souza)

(Discussion/Action)

This item allows Chair Souza to propose issuing a resolution on affordable housing, and allows the Executive Committee to discuss and take possible action. This item was introduced under New Business at the Commission's May 12, 2025 hearing.

Chair Souza discussed her draft resolution and asked for Commissioners' input. Director Rivas suggested that the resolution request that the City prioritize low-income immigrant families in its plans. Commissioners discussed the City's plans and Vice Chair Chaudhary and Commissioner Paz made suggested edits to the draft. Director Rivas suggested that Commissioners email their additional feedback. Chair Souza will rewrite the draft resolution, and the item will be included on the next Executive Committee meeting agenda.

- c. Planning Upcoming IRC Hearings

(Discussion/Action)

This item allows Director Rivas and the Executive Committee to discuss the scheduling of and plans for future meetings.

Commissioner Paz suggested inviting the City Attorney to its Full Commission meeting with law enforcement, and Director Rivas suggested scheduling it in September or October. Commissioner Obregon volunteered to collect questions for speakers, and will meet with OCEIA staff.

Commissioner Paz suggested holding a closed session, and Director Rivas will follow up. The Commission can schedule a closed session during its August Executive Committee meeting, and invite all Commissioners to attend. Director Rivas suggested that Commissioners collect questions to prepare for the closed session, including what the Commission can do and what they should be aware of.

Director Rivas suggested scheduling the Full Commission meeting on transgender immigrants for November during Trans Awareness Month. Chair Souza noted that Commissioner Ruiz can attend the July Executive Committee meeting to plan for the Full Commission meeting.

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 thanked Vice Chair Chaudhary for writing the Commission's sanctuary city statement, and for compiling research on California State Assembly Bill 421. He provided an update on Proposition E, which created a task force to evaluate Commissions. He also provided an update on the San Francisco Pathways to Citizenship Initiative workshop, which the Mayor plans to attend.

b. Reappointment Hearings

This item allows the OCEIA Director to provide an update on the scheduling of IRC reappointment hearings.

Director Rivas reminded Commissioners to reapply for their seats.

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 introduced an item to add to the next Executive Committee meeting on proposing a statement on international students in San Francisco and the termination of student visas.

8. Adjournment

Chair Souza adjourned the meeting at 6:38 p.m.