

Minutes from the June 24, 2026 meeting of the IRC Executive Committee

Date and Time

June 24, 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: 2664 258 2662 / 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.

Agenda items

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Souza called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

Present: Chair Souza, Commissioner Paz.

Not present: Vice Chair Chaudhary, Commissioner Kennelly.

Also present: Commissioners Abdou (5:39 p.m.), Fara (5:34 p.m.), Ng, Ratanapakdee (5:34p.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 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 May 27, 2026 Executive Committee meeting.

[IRC Executive Committee meeting minutes – May 27, 2026](#)

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.

5. Discussion Item: Immigrant Leadership Awards (Commissioners Fara and Obregon)

(Discussion)

This item allows Chair Souza to thank Awards Co-Chairs Fara and Obregon, members Vice Chair Chaudhary, Commissioner How, and Commissioner Paz, and OCEIA staff for the 2026 Immigrant Leadership Awards.

Director Rivas and Commissioner Fara provided an overview of the Immigrant Leadership Awards and thanked OCEIA staff and Commissioners for their work.

6. Discussion/Action Item: Follow-up Actions from Letter on Immigrant Priorities, Letter on SFUSD, October Resolution Recommendations

(Discussion/Action)

This item allows Chair Souza and the Executive Committee to discuss strategic outreach to Supervisors as a follow-up to the letter the Commission sent to City leadership on immigrant priorities, the letter the Commission sent on SFUSD, and the IRC's 2025 [resolution](#) reaffirming San Francisco's sanctuary commitments.

Chair Souza and Director Rivas met with the Mayor's Office regarding immigrants' priorities and the IRC's work. Director Rivas can follow up with Commissioner Padilla on the SFUSD letter, and with Commissioners Chaudhary and Obregon on recommendations to strengthen sanctuary policies.

7. Discussion/Action Item: Planning for Workforce Policy Presentation at Full Commission Meeting (Commissioner How)

(Discussion/Action)

This item allows Commissioner How to discuss plans for a policy presentation at the Full Commission meeting on the local impact of DACA delays and loss of TPS on San Francisco's workforce.

Commissioner How was unable to attend today's meeting and has asked Commissioner Padilla to assist with planning. Director Rivas can follow up with Commissioners How and Padilla.

Commissioner Ng also volunteered to support. Director Rivas can reshare the IRC's recommendations from its October 2023 hearing on workforce development and the IRC's subsequent letter to the City's Department of Human Resources. Chair Souza called for public comment and there was no comment on this item.

8. Discussion/Action Item: IRC Hearing on Public Health (Commissioners Padilla and Paz)

(Discussion/Action)

This item allows Commissioners Padilla and 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. Chair Souza called for public comment and there was no comment on this item.

Commissioner Paz provided an overview of planning for the hearing. Chair Souza called for public comment and there was no comment on this item.

9. Discussion/Action Item: Acknowledging the Community Ambassadors Program at IRC Full Commission Meeting (Commissioner Abdou)

(Discussion/Action)

This item allows Commissioner Abdou to propose acknowledging the Community Ambassadors Program at the IRC Full Commission meeting, and allows the Executive Committee to discuss and take possible action.

Commissioners discussed recognizing the Community Ambassadors Program (CAP). Chair Souza made a motion to add a recognition of CAP to a future Full Commission meeting agenda, and to invite all former ambassadors to attend. Commissioner Paz seconded the motion. Chair Souza called for public comment and there was no comment on this item. The motion was approved.

10. Discussion/Action Item: Proposed Statement or Letter in Support of Sanctuary Policy at San Francisco Colleges (Commissioner Fara)

(Discussion/Action)

This item allows Commissioner Fara to propose a letter or statement in support of a sanctuary policy at San Francisco colleges and universities, and allows the Executive Committee to discuss and take possible action.

Commissioner Fara provided an update on his conversation with a student at San Francisco State University. Commissioner Paz noted that CSU campuses have a sanctuary policy as well as Dream Centers. Commissioner Ng added that the California Attorney General has issued detailed guidance. Commissioner Ng expressed concerns about sharing unverified information, which could cause more fear. Director Rivas can connect Commissioner Fara with the SFSU administration before deciding whether to move forward with a statement. Chair Souza continued the item and asked Commissioner Fara to report back to the Executive Committee. Chair Souza called for public comment and there was no comment on this item.

11. Information/Discussion/Action Item: Follow-Up from Overview of the S.F. City Attorney’s Political Activity Memo and Potential Legal Implications of Adding a Presentation and Discussion Regarding a Pending Local Ballot Measure to a Future IRC Agenda (Director Rivas)

(Information/Discussion/Action)

This item allows the Executive Committee to discuss whether to schedule a presentation at the Full Commission meeting on the impact of Proposition D, which did not pass in the June 2026 local elections.

Chair Souza stated that she did not support scheduling a presentation on this topic. Director Rivas stated that no motion was needed. He also noted that the Controller’s Office has released a report on the economic impact of the ballot measure. Chair Souza called for public comment and there was no comment on this item.

12. Discussion/Action Item: Proposed Resolution on Multilingual Support for Immigrants in Light of Federal Policy Changes (Commissioner Ratanapakdee)

(Discussion/Action)

This item allows Commissioner Ratanapakdee to propose a resolution on multilingual support for immigrant communities in light of federal policy changes.

[Draft proposed resolution on multilingual support for immigrant communities](#)

Commissioner Ratanapakdee provided an overview of the proposed resolution. Commissioner Ng suggested that the Commission wait until after its policy hearing to determine recommendations for the City. Commissioner Paz suggested incorporating questions about multilingual information into the hearing on health care. He also noted that hearings have a greater impact than resolutions. Director Rivas suggested tabling the item to think about what avenues already exist. He can work with Commissioner Ratanapakdee to identify the gaps that are preventing her community from accessing City services and information. Chair Souza recommended that the item not be brought forward as a resolution and chose to continue it. Chair Souza called for public comment and there was no comment on this item.

13. 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 announcements on the City budget and other updates. He met with Chair Souza about guidance for Commissioners and will update the IRC retreat to clarify how to take action and add an item to the agenda. Commissioner Aljiran did not seek reappointment, and the Mayor's Office has appointed a new Commissioner, David Reyes. Director Rivas will share the updated Brown Act with Commissioners. He thanked Commissioner Ng for the IRC statement on birthright citizenship, and will send out the IRC letter on SFO. The next San Francisco Pathways to Citizenship Initiative workshop is scheduled for Saturday.

Commissioner Paz thanked OCEIA staff for their work amid staff reductions. He expressed concern about staff capacity and the need for the IRC to be strategic, and Chair Souza agreed.

Commissioner Ng asked how the IRC can be helpful, and noted the proposed rule increasing the naturalization fee and eliminating the fee waiver.

Director Rivas said Commissioners are invited to attend the San Francisco Immigrant Forum webinars every two months, and the Immigrant Legal Resources Center (ILRC) webinars every two weeks for policy updates. He can also meet with Commissioners individually to inform them about what is happening in the office.

14. 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.

Commissioner Ng asked if OCEIA is planning a press event to publicize Vietnamese as a certified language in San Francisco.

Commissioner Ratanapakdee proposed supporting Southeast Asian immigrants and refugees affected by the Thai-Cambodian border conflict, including support for mental health resources.

Commissioner Abdou proposed monthly commendations for community members.

In response to a question, Chair Souza said she plans to share an update on the SFO letter under Chair's Reports.

City and County of San Francisco
Immigrant Rights Commission

15. Adjournment

Chair Souza adjourned the meeting at 6:47 p.m.