



CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

IMMIGRANT RIGHTS COMMISSION

San Francisco Immigrant Rights Commission
Full Commission Meeting
San Francisco City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 416
February 9, 2026 at 5:30 pm PT
[Watch the meeting online](#)

Phone: 1-415-655-0001 / **Access code:** 2663 059 9407 / **Webinar password:** 2026

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 5:30 p.m.

Present: Chair Souza, Vice Chair Chaudhary (5:45 p.m.), Commissioners Abdou (5:47 p.m.), Aljiran (5:54 p.m.), Fara, How, Ng, Obregon (5:33 p.m.), Padilla, Paz, Ratanapakdee (5:39 p.m.), Traore (5:56 p.m.), and Wang.

Not present: Commissioners Kennelly (excused) and Ruiz (excused).

OCEIA staff present: Director Rivas, Clerk Sarabia.

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 agreement.

3. **Announcements (Director Rivas)** *(Information)*

This item allows Director Rivas to provide a brief announcement on community resources.

Director Rivas shared the San Francisco Immigrant Forum as a resource.

4. 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.

5. Action Item: Approval of previous minutes

(Discussion/Action)

Discussion and possible action to approve the minutes of the Immigrant Rights Commission's Full Commission meetings of December 8, 2025 and January 12, 2026.

a. IRC Full Commission meeting minutes - December 8, 2025

b. IRC Full Commission meeting minutes - January 12, 2026

[IRC Full Commission meeting minutes – December 8, 2025](#)

[IRC Full Commission meeting minutes – January 12, 2026](#)

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

6. Chair's Updates

(Information)

a. IRC Awards Committee

This item allows Chair Souza to appoint and confirm co-chairs and members of the IRC Awards Committee, as a continuation of the discussion at the January 28, 2026 Executive Committee meeting.

Chair Souza has appointed Commissioners Fara and Obregon as co-chairs of the Awards Committee. Co-chairs Fara and Obregon will send updates on how to engage and dates for the Awards Committee meetings.

b. Updates on IRC Action Plan

This item allows Chair Souza and Vice Chair Chaudhary to provide updates on the Executive

Committee's January 28, 2026 meeting on follow-up actions from the action plan approved at the IRC strategic planning retreat.

Chair Souza shared that the Executive Committee's local response efforts include following up on the October resolution to identify priorities and strategic outreach to supervisors. Commissioner Obregon will meet with Vice Chair Chaudhury to explore how all Commissioners can help address aspects of the resolution.

Commissioner Ng will provide an update on the IRC letter on the budget priorities at the next meeting.

Commissioner Paz will prepare an outline for a hearing around the community impact of cuts to health care, including a potential list of speakers.

Chair Souza wrote a letter to the City Administrator regarding the public comment received at the last two meetings about the dismissal of Richard Whipple. Chair Souza sent the letter to the City Administrator and forwarded it to members of the public.

7. Language Access Ordinance Compliance Presentation (OCEIA)

a. Language Access Ordinance Compliance Summary Report (Ana De Carolis)

(Information/Discussion)

This item allows OCEIA Language Access and Policy Manager Ana De Carolis to provide the Commission with an overview of the [2026 Language Access Compliance Summary Report](#), which evaluates City departments' compliance with the Language Access Ordinance. The report was sent to the Immigrant Rights Commission on January 30, 2026.

OCEIA Language Access and Policy Manager Ana De Carolis provided an overview of the 2026 Language Access Compliance Summary Report and answered questions from Commissioners.

b. Language Access Ordinance Quarterly Complaint Report (Ana De Carolis)

(Information/Discussion)

Information and discussion on the quarterly Language Access Ordinance complaint report. This item allows OCEIA Language Access and Policy Manager Ana De Carolis to provide the Commission with an overview of the complaints OCEIA has received and investigated from members of the public regarding the City's language services.

[LAO Quarterly Report 2.9.26](#)

OCEIA Language Access and Policy Manager Ana De Carolis provided an overview of the complaint OCEIA received and investigated from a member of the public regarding the City's language services and answered questions from Commissioners.

8. Action Item: Annual Officer Elections (Director Rivas)

(Action)

a. Election of Commission Chair

Director Rivas provided an overview of election procedures. OCEIA staff did not receive any nominations for Commission Chair. Director Rivas asked Commissioners if they would like to make any nominations from the floor. Commissioner How nominated Chair Souza. Director Rivas asked Chair Souza if she accepted the nomination, and she accepted. Commissioner Chaudhary motioned to elect Sarah Souza as chair, seconded by Commissioner Paz. The motion was approved by all 13 Commissioners present.

b. Election of Commission Vice Chair

Director Rivas provided an overview of election procedures for the election of vice chair. OCEIA staff received two nominations for Commission Vice Chair: Kudrat Chaudhary and Aseel Fara. Director Rivas asked the nominees if they accepted their nominations, and they accepted. Director Rivas asked Commissioners if they would like to make any other nominations from the floor, and no other nominations were made. In the Commission's first roll-call vote for Commission Vice Chair, Kudrat Chaudhary was elected Vice Chair with 9 votes to Aseel Fara's 4.

9. Staff Reports

Director's Updates

(Information)

This item allows Director Rivas to provide brief updates on activities and announcements.

Director Rivas provided an overview of the application launch for the DreamSF Fellowship program. Director Rivas encouraged the Commission to share with their networks about the upcoming San Francisco Pathways to Citizenship Initiative workshop on February 28.

10. 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 How asked how the IRC can support California state Assembly Bill 1633 (Haney), establishing the Private Detention Facility Tax Law, which would impose an annual tax on each private detention facility operator.

11. Adjournment

Chair Souza adjourned the meeting at 7:28 p.m.