



**City of Richmond
Human Rights and
Human Relations Commission**

MEETING AGENDA

Victoria Sawicki, Chair
Reza Yazdi, Vice Chair
Jeff Ritterman, Commissioner
Jason Woody, Commissioner
Megan Sanchez, Commissioner

Sofia V. Lopez, Commissioner
Najari Smith, Commissioner
Berna Watson, Commissioner
Ellen Siskin, Commissioner

Sr. Assistant City Attorney, TBD

Charice M. Duckworth, Staff Liaison

Monday, February 27, 2023, at 6:30 pm
Virtual Meeting

ALL COMMISSIONER MEMBERS WILL PARTICIPATE VIA TELECONFERENCE

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19) ADVISORY

Due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, Contra Costa County and Governor Gavin Newsom have issued multiple orders requiring sheltering in place, social distancing, and reduction of person-to-person contact. Accordingly, Governor Gavin Newsom has issued executive orders that allow cities to hold public meetings via teleconferencing (Executive Order N-29-20). Both <https://www.coronavirus.cchealth.org> and <http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/3914/Richmond-Coronavirus-Info> provide updated coronavirus information.

DUE TO THE SHELTER IN PLACE ORDERS, participation in the Human Rights Human Relations Commission will be by teleconference only. Public comment will be confined to items appearing on the agenda and will be limited to the method provided below. Consistent with Executive Order N-29-20, this meeting will utilize teleconferencing only. The following provides information on how the public can participate in this meeting.

How to watch the meeting from home:

Here's the Zoom info:
Topic: HRHRC

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

1. <https://zoom.us/j/91777805878?pwd=UmFkVklrbjRZWWTZucU9ubkdzanc1Zz09>
2. Webinar ID: 917 7780 5878
3. Passcode: 937307

Or One tap mobile:

1. US: +1 669 900 6833, 9 177 780 5878# or +1 253 215 8782, 9 177 780 5878#

By Telephone:

Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

1. US: +1 669 900 6833 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 929 205 6099 or +1 301 715 8592 or + 1 312 626 6799
2. Webinar ID: **917 7780 5878**

International numbers available: <https://zoom.us/j/adRnrycj5k>

The City cannot guarantee that its network and/or the site will be uninterrupted.

Record of all public comments:

All public comments will be considered a public record, put into the official meeting record, and considered before Commission action. All public comments will be available after the meeting as supplemental materials and will be posted as an attachment to the meeting minutes when the minutes are posted.

Accessibility for Individuals with Disabilities:

Upon request, the City will provide for written agenda materials in appropriate alternative formats, or disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services and sign language interpreters, to enable individuals with disabilities to participate in and provide comments at/related to public meetings. Please submit a request, including your name, phone number and/or email address, and a description of the modification, accommodation, auxiliary aid, service or alternative format requested at least two days before the meeting. Requests should be emailed to charice_duckworth@ci.richmond.ca.us or submitted by phone at (510) 412-2052. Requests will be granted whenever possible and resolved in favor of accessibility.

Effect of Advisory on In-person public participation:

During the pendency of the Executive Order N-29-20, the language in this Advisory portion of the agenda supersedes any language below in the meeting procedures contemplating in-person public comment.

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. ROLL CALL

C. AGENDA REVIEW

At the discretion of the Chair, items on the Agenda may be heard in an order different from that which appears on the Agenda.

D. MEETING PROCEDURES

E. OPEN FORUM #1

F. CORRESPONDENCE

G. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Meeting Recording Uploaded in City Website

H. CITY COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT

The City Council member serving as liaison to the Commission may make a report on City Council actions of interest to the Commission.

I. COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

J CHAIR'S REPORT

K. STAFF REPORTS

L. DISCUSSION ITEMS

The Commission may take direct action, make recommendations to the City Council or provide direction to staff.

L. Resolution asking the City Council to adopt Convention of Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)

Commissioner Reza Yazdi

L.2 Discussion on HRHRC meeting in person

Commissioner Victoria Sawicki

M. REPORTS

None.

N. OPEN FORUM #2 (At approximately 8:30 P.M.)

O. COMMISSION BUSINESS

A. CALL FOR AGENDA ITEMS

P. ADJOURNMENT

The next convening of the City of Richmond Human Rights and Human Relations Commission is scheduled for **March 27, 2023**. Virtual Meeting

Q. MEETING PROCEDURES

Speaker Registration

Anyone who wishes to address the Human Rights and Human Relations Commission (HRHRC) on a topic that is not on the Agenda and is relevant to the Commission's purpose may speak once in either of the two OPEN FORUM sessions, but not both. Please file a Speaker Form with staff PRIOR to the announcement of that section of OPEN FORUM.

Persons wishing to speak on a particular Item on the Agenda must file a Speaker's Form with the staff PRIOR to the Commission's consideration of the Item. Once discussion on the Agenda Item begins, only those persons who have previously submitted Speaker's Forms will be permitted to speak on the Item.

Time Limits

Individual public speakers shall have a maximum of two (2) minutes to address the Commission.

If all Agenda Items are not completed by 9:30 pm, the Items remaining shall be continued to the next Regular Meeting, unless the Commission votes to extend the meeting.

Cell Phones

Please silence all cell phones, pagers, and other electronic devices during the meeting.

Persons with disabilities, who require auxiliary aids or services in using City facilities, services, or programs, or who would like information on the City's compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 may contact (510) 620-6509 for assistance.

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA, IN SUPPORT OF ADOPTING THE PRINCIPLES OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN (CEDAW)

WHEREAS, as the city of Richmond is committed to equality, justice, and the advancement of human rights for all its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) is an international treaty adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1979, which sets out a comprehensive and legally binding framework for the promotion and protection of women's rights; and

WHEREAS, the United States has not yet ratified CEDAW, but most countries have signed and ratified CEDAW; and

WHEREAS, President Jimmy Carter signed the CEDAW in 1980, but the United States along with Sudan, Somalia, Tonga, Iran, and Palau have not ratified the treaty yet, and when CEDAW ratification stalled again in 2002, then-Senator Joseph Biden lamented that "Time is a-wasting;" and

WHEREAS, our neighboring city, San Francisco, became the first city to adopt CEDAW in 1998 and changed its political atmosphere, which led to bringing gender to the forefront and balancing the number of men and women in leadership positions, including at some of San Francisco's highest budgeted departments, such as the Fire Department, Police Department, and Port Authority, which are all led by women; and

WHEREAS, the City of Richmond has the authority and the responsibility to adopt and implement policies and laws that promote and protect the rights of its citizens, including the rights of women; and

WHEREAS, the City of Richmond initiated in 2008 an annual International Women's Day event, which has become known as the Sisters in Solidarity event, to honor the rights and leadership of women; and

WHEREAS, the City of Richmond became one of the nation's first Human Rights Cities in 2009 by adopting Resolution 126-09, which adopted the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights as a guiding principle with a commitment to setting human rights for all as a priority, and at this point in time the City Council desires to further this commitment, specifically for women's rights.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Richmond City Council firmly supports CEDAW and directs the following:

1. The Adoption of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and expresses its commitment to the promotion of women's rights within the city; and

2. The city attorney to review and report back to the city council on the feasibility and legal implications of adopting and implementing the provisions of CEDAW into the laws and policies of the city; and
3. The city manager to work with relevant city departments and agencies to develop and implement a plan to promote and protect the rights of women in the city, based on the provisions of CEDAW and in consultation with relevant stakeholders; and
4. The city clerk to transmit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, the United States Congress, the Governor and Congresspersons of the State of California, and the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors to encourage the United States to ratify CEDAW as soon as possible.