

Behind the Scenes



Dear Access Stakeholders:

I hope you are well and staying safe!

30th Anniversary of the ADA

Thirty years ago this Sunday, President George H.W. Bush signed the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) into law. This landmark civil rights legislation helped open up society to people with disabilities and led to the creation of “complementary paratransit” agencies like Access throughout the United States. As we reflect on this profound legislative achievement, I would encourage you to read President Bush’s remarks at the bill’s signing: https://www.ada.gov/ghw_bush_ada_remarks.html.

July Board Meeting Recap

The Access Services Board of Directors met on July 20, 2020.

The Board elected officers for the upcoming year. The officers are Dolores Nason, Chair; Martin Gombert, Vice Chair; Doran Barnes, Treasurer; and Theresa De Vera, Secretary.

The Board approved the Consent Calendar, which included an item for software licensing and services that will implement on-line reservations in the Northern (San Fernando Valley) region.

The Board approved a modified Parents with Disabilities program that will be implemented county-wide when the COVID-19 pandemic subsides.

The Board also approved a funding request of \$180,264,052 (inclusive of a 10% reserve) for FY21 to be submitted to the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro).

The Board heard presentations from staff on a recent DOT grant award of \$330,000 for the enhancement of the “Where’s My Ride” app along with an update on COVID-19 operations.

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be on September 21, 2020. There will be no meeting in August.

Access Board Appointments

Chair Dolores Nason has been reappointed to the Access Board for another two-year term by County Supervisor Janice Hahn and the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors.

Secretary Theresa De Vera has been reappointed to the Access Board for another two-year term by Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti.

Congratulations Dolores and Theresa!



Dolores Nason, Chair



Theresa De Vera, Secretary

COVID-19 Update

A video highlighting Access' and its contractors' response was shown at the Board meeting and can be seen here - [VIDEO](#). Continued thanks to everyone at Access for assisting our communities during this difficult time, particularly the dedicated and heroic Access drivers, Access Road Safety Inspectors and other frontline staff.

For additional information about Access' response to the COVID-19 emergency, please go to <https://accessla.org/covid-19-updates.html> or contact me at any time with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Andre Colaiace

Executive Director

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