

CALIFORNIA COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ACCESS SUMMER SCOOP CCDA NEWSLETTER

COMMISSION HIGHLIGHTS

All Access to articles, videos, and interviews can be found on our website under “[News](#)”

California Cracks Down on Fraudulent Use of Disabled Parking Placards:

Starting June 30, 2023, there will be changes to the process of renewing permanent disabled parking placards in California. The aim is to crack down on fraudulent usage of these placards across the state.

California Disability Minimum Wage Increase: Starting in 2025, California will ban the practice of paying subminimum wages to individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities.

Honoring Rex Hime: The contributions of Rex Hime were pivotal in establishing the California Commission on Disability Access. The CCDA pledges to honor his legacy by promoting disability access across the state of California.

UPCOMING PUBLIC MEETINGS

Full Commission July 26, 2023 | 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Education and Outreach Committee August 23, 2023 | 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

CCDA Listening Forum in San Jose, CA August 31, 2023 | 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Legislative Committee September 6, 2023 | 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT AWARENESS DAY: CELEBRATING INCLUSION AND ACCESSIBILITY

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Awareness Day, July 26th, celebrates the enactment of the ADA in 1990. The significance of ADA Awareness Day is to focus on the need to create an accessible environment that caters to the diverse needs of individuals with disabilities. The implementation of ADA guidelines required businesses, public spaces, and infrastructure to improve accessibility features such as ramps, elevators, braille signage, and accessible restrooms.

These guidelines provide the ability for individuals with disabilities to navigate more independently.

The ADA has been promoting inclusivity and accessibility by prohibiting discrimination and requiring accommodations in public life. It has enhanced accessibility features in public spaces and infrastructure, created employment opportunities, and challenged societal norms towards disabilities. ADA Awareness Day encourages continued progress in addressing challenges, advancing an inclusive society, and promoting the rights and abilities of all. Let us celebrate with commitment to inclusivity, ensuring that every day becomes a move forward toward diversity and equality.

DISABILITY RIGHTS OF CALIFORNIA: ADVOCATING FOR EQUAL RIGHTS AND INCLUSION

Disability Rights California (DRC) stands as the largest disability rights advocacy agency in the state of California. As a nonprofit organization, their commitment is in protecting and advancing the rights of individuals with disabilities. Through legal representation, advocacy efforts, and education, DRC plays a role in ensuring equal opportunities and access to services, education, employment, housing, and more for the disability community in California.

DRC plays an important role in the protection and advancement in the rights of individuals with disabilities. By highlighting their rights, DRC stands at the forefront of the battle for inclusion and equality, creating a better tomorrow for the disability community in California.

SPEECH RECOGNITION FOR EMPOWERING DISABILITIES

Dragon Speech Recognition Solutions, developed by California-based company Nuance, is a software that empowers individuals with disabilities. It converts spoken words into text, facilitating effective communication and bridging barriers for people with mobility impairments and speech difficulties. This software increases productivity by eliminating manual typing and reducing physical strain. It promotes accessibility and independence by enabling users to operate computers and control functions through voice commands. Dragon Speech Recognition Solutions is a valuable tool, as it can be tailored to individual needs. Overall, the Dragon Speech Recognition Solutions provides a way for individuals with disabilities to enhance communication, productivity, and inclusivity.

COMMISSIONER DILLARD CONSTRUCTING DESTINATION CRENSHAW

Commissioner Drake Dillard, an architect affiliated with the American Institute of Architects (AIA), plays a crucial role in the design team of Destination Crenshaw, a captivating public art and cultural endeavor in the Crenshaw District of Los Angeles. The outdoor museum will feature a variety of art installations, murals, and sculptures that showcase the contributions of Black Angelenos to the city's history and culture. As part of his responsibilities, Commissioner Dillard oversees the architectural aspects of creating the outdoor museum, by employing his expertise and understanding into the principles of inclusivity and accessibility associated with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

During an interview with the CCDA, Commissioner Dillard was asked about the most rewarding aspect of his involvement with this project. He expressed his admiration for the exceptional team members he collaborates with on the project. Commissioner Dillard emphasized the inclusive and advisory nature of their council, where diverse backgrounds came together to generate ideas for Destination Crenshaw. Working on a project of this magnitude allowed him to engage with individuals from various professions, creating an inclusive public space.

Commissioner Dillard's contribution to Destination Crenshaw shines a light on the significance of thoughtful and culturally sensitive design in the creation of public spaces that honor a community's history. Through his work on the project, he ensures that the outdoor museum will reflect the values of the people who call Crenshaw home.

Anticipated to open Fall 2023, Sankofa Park, is the first phase of Destination Crenshaw. The name of the park refers to the Sankofa bird, a traditional African symbol designed into the park to depict it flying toward the future while curving its neck to view the past. The Crenshaw Wall, the Artistic Legacy Project, and the Vision Theatre and Performing Arts Space are key features of Destination Crenshaw that will debut through 2024.

MYTH OR MISCONCEPTION? #3

Misconception: If I comply with the California accessibility requirements, am I in compliance with ADA?

Answer: Not necessarily. It is the sole responsibility of the business owner and/or the landlord to make sure that the facility follows the most restrictive requirements of both the California Accessibility Requirements and the Federal Requirements under the ADA.

Remember that the accessibility requirements are reviewed by the building department only when a project is submitted for permit (meaning when you

design, construct, alter, remodel, add, or change the use of or structurally repair a building or facility). Under the California Business Code (CBC), however, if you change the use of a room or space without submitting for a permit, the accessibility requirements of the CBC still apply.

Though the ADA contains similar construction and use requirements, it is important to remember that the ADA is a civil rights law, not a building code. The ADA applies to all the goods and services you offer to the public and this means that you must address access to your goods and services even though you have never submitted for permit review by the building department.

In addition to physical/architectural access, “program” access is also required by ADA, Unruh Civil Rights Act, California's Disabled Persons Act (CDPA), and California Government Code (GC) 11135. This includes allowing access with service animals and providing reasonable accommodations such as American Sign Language interpreters when necessary to ensure accessibility to a person with a disability.

CCDA LISTENING FORUM

Hosted in the city of San José, CA, panelists will have the opportunity to share their expertise and address questions. This is for local businesses, government, and individuals with disabilities to come together and discuss how to increase access to local business to people with disabilities.

⇒ To RSVP, [please click on this link](#)

CCDA SCOOP RESOURCES

- Disability Rights California
<https://www.disabilityrightsca.org/>
- Nuance – Dragon Speech Recognition Solutions
<https://www.nuance.com/dragon.html>
- Destination Crenshaw
<https://destinationcrenshaw.la/>
- Building Standards Commission (BSC) - Codes
<https://www.dgs.ca.gov/BSC/Codes>

CCDA CONTACT INFORMATION

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