



**Metro™**



**Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC)**  
**Thursday, February 12, 2026 – 1:00 PM**

---

**TO JOIN THE VIRTUAL MEETING, LOG ON TO  
THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS THROUGH YOUR  
PREFERRED BROWSER:**

**<https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1608154748>**

**FOR TELEPHONE ACCESS DIAL**  
**(669) 900 9128**

**When prompted enter Meeting ID:**  
**160 815 4748**

**CAPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE THROUGH ZOOM LIVE  
CAPTIONING**

**TO ACCESS REAL TIME LIVE CAPTIONS PLEASE LOG ON  
TO:**

**[https://www.streamtext.net/player?event=Metro\\_AAC](https://www.streamtext.net/player?event=Metro_AAC)**



## AGENDA

### Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC)

1	Member and Staff Introductions Housekeeping Items	1:00 – 1:10 pm Kathleen Barajas, Chair
2	<b>ACTION:</b> Approval of Minutes	1:10 – 1:15 pm Kathleen Barajas, Chair
3	<b>INFORMATION:</b> TAP Updates	1:15 – 1:30 pm Allison Higgins, Metro
4	<b>INFORMATION:</b> Butterfli Access for All Information	1:30 – 1:45 pm Hilary Norton, FastLink DTLA
5	<b>INFORMATION:</b> SB707 Updates	1:45 – 2:00 pm Armando Roman, Metro
6	<b>INFORMATION:</b> Committee Updates	2:00 – 2:30 pm Kathleen Barajas, Chair



7	<b>PUBLIC COMMENT</b>	2:30 – 2:40 pm Kathleen Barajas, Chair
8	<b>NEW BUSINESS:</b> Raised Subsequent to the Posting of the Agenda	2:40 – 2:50 pm Kathleen Barajas, Chair
9	<b>ADJOURNMENT</b>	2:55 – 3:00 pm Kathleen Barajas, Chair

**TO REQUEST ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
AGENDAS IN ALTERNATIVE FORMATS, PLEASE CALL  
213.922.4067. LIVE CAPTION IS PROVIDED AT EVERY  
COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Meeting Minutes for December 11, 2025**  
Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority  
Accessibility Advisory Committee

**Members in Attendance:**

Kathleen Barajas (Chair)  
Jared Rimer (Executive Member)



**Metro™**

Deaka McClain  
Arlene Descargar  
Ellen Blackman  
Greg Kuhl  
Karen Esquivel-Mayes  
Mark Panitz  
Blanca Angulo  
Olga Parra  
Cynde Soto (First Vice-Chair)  
Fernando Roldan  
Fran Sereseres



**Excused:**

Antonio Mendez  
Raul Tafoya

**Absent:**

John Mavis  
Kevin Dixon

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Kathleen Barajas called the meeting to order at approximately 1:01 p.m. The Chair reminded members to keep questions concise and noted that presenters were available for follow-up questions by email.

Roll call was conducted by Armando Roman.

Members present included Chair Kathleen Barajas, Deaka McClain, Jared Rimer, Ellen Blackman, Greg Kuhl, Karen Mayes, Olga Parra, Cynde Soto, Fernando Roldan, Fran



**Metro™**



Sereseres, Arlene Descargar, Ellen Blackman, and Blanca Angulo, who participated via Spanish interpretation. A quorum was confirmed with 13 members present.

## **2. ACTION: Approval of November 12, 2025 meeting Minutes**

A motion to approve the previous meeting minutes was made by Fernando Roldan and seconded by Deaka McClain.

A vote to approve the meeting minutes was conducted via roll call. The motion carried unanimously. Minutes were approved.

## **3. INFORMATION: Access Services Q&A**

Mike Greenwood, Chief Operations Officer, Access Services attended the meeting to discuss questions gathered at the November 2025 AAC meeting and forwarded to Access Services for consideration. Mr. Greenwood responded to the list of questions submitted by AAC members in advance. Discussion focused on excessively long paratransit trip times, Access performance standards, and comparisons to fixed-route travel times. Members raised concerns about shared rides, contractor accountability, late pickups, and communication failures. Additional discussion addressed Access to Work program eligibility, restroom break requests during trips, medical appointment reliability including dialysis trips, and



**Metro™**



the handling of rider complaints and investigations. Members also discussed fare payment failures, address-based booking requirements, driver training and familiarity with locations, safety issues for blind and low-vision riders, vehicle design concerns such as step height, odors, window placement, and the availability of vehicles capable of securing two wheelchairs. Limitations of the online reservation system and challenges at large or complex pickup and drop-off locations were also discussed. Members shared personal experiences highlighting the impacts of these issues on daily life, medical access, and safety.

Mr. Greenwood committed to following up individually on reported incidents, reviewing Access to Work eligibility language, investigating navigation and GPS-related drop-off errors, and continuing to evaluate vehicle designs and technology improvements.

A caller asked whether Access Services would consider quarterly public forums for riders to submit questions and receive responses. Mr. Greenwood noted that Access holds a Community Advisory Committee meeting on the second Tuesday of every month where public comment is accepted.

#### **4. INFORMATION: Hyperlegible Font**

The hyperlegible font team was unable to attend the meeting.



## **5. INFORMATION: Weapons Detection Pilot Follow-up**

Mr. Jose Cenuse provided an update on Metro's weapons detection pilot, reporting that two illegal firearms had been detected to date and that hundreds of prohibited items had been prevented from entering the system. He explained the magnetic detection technology used, described staffing and coordination needs, and noted that the pilot is planned as a 12-month program with four additional stations included. Members asked questions regarding the program's safety impacts, expansion plans, effectiveness, and coordination with Metro's developing police department.

## **6. ACTION: Recap of AAC Work Undertaken in 2025**

Armando Roman provided a year-end recap of AAC-related accomplishments, highlighting Union Station walk audits and resulting accessibility improvements, HR4000 rail car reviews and feedback integration, participation in the Bus Stop Community Engagement Panel, feedback from the Open and Slow Streets workshop, the ADA 35th Anniversary employee panel, the LAX/Metro Transit Center site visit and subsequent corrections, Waymap accessible navigation testing, CEO engagement during Disability Employment Awareness Month, and Foothill Extension station reviews. Members acknowledged progress while noting that continued effort and oversight remain necessary.



## **7. Action: Goal Setting for 2026**

Members discussed priorities for 2026, including involvement in major international events and continued collaboration with Metro departments.

Members recognized Jared Rimer for establishing the AAC listserv and website, noting the value of improved communication and information sharing. Discussion also included future observances such as Disability Pride Month, ADA milestones, and the International Day of Persons with Disabilities. Members reflected on long-term improvements in ADA announcements and overall system accessibility, while emphasizing the need for continued improvements.

## **8. PUBLIC COMMENT**

No Public Comment

## **9. NEW BUSINESS: Raised Subsequent to the Posting of the Agenda**

No New Business

## **10. Holiday Activity**

Cancelled due to lack of time



**Metro™**

## **11. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:01 p.m.

