



City of Davis
Human Relations Commission Meeting Minutes
Community Chambers, 23 Russell Boulevard, Davis, CA 95616
Thursday, February 26, 2026
6:30 P.M.

Commission Members: Kevin Baker (Co-Chair), Ellie Kaplan, Hilda Khairallah (arrived at 6:34p.m.), Leonie Pickett (Co-Chair), Deema Tamimi

Commission Members Absent: Felix Alvarez, Amir Kol

Commission Ex-Officio Members: Kate Snow (Davis Joint Unified School District Administration Member)

Staff: Community Relations Program Manager Carrie Dyer

1. Call to Order & Roll Call. Co-Chair Baker called the meeting to order at 6:31p.m.
2. Approval of Agenda. D. Tamimi moved, seconded by E. Kaplan, to approve the agenda. Motion passed by the following vote:
AYES: Baker, Kaplan, Tamimi, Pickett
NOES: None
ABSENT: Alvarez, Khairallah, Kol
3. Brief Announcements from Staff, Commissioners, and Council Liaisons

K. Baker: Attended "The Sankofa Experience" held at the Veterans Memorial Theater on February 1, event related to Black History Month. Inspirational and entertaining event.

K. Snow: DJUSD recognized Day of Remembrance of Japanese American Incarceration during World War II on February 19 through various activities across campuses.
4. Public Comment
 - Natalia Deeb-Sossa and Speer: Proposed sanctuary city ordinance does not include enough provisions for community safety.
 - Ximena Diez-Jackson: Need community alerting system for immigration enforcement and other public safety activities.
 - Ning Wan: Questioned if proposed sanctuary city ordinance will conflict with federal law.
 - Alan Miller: Recent protests on UC Davis campus regarding immigration activity.

5. Consent Calendar

A. Minutes from the Human Relations Commission Meeting of January 22, 2026.
Approve.

B. Annual Thong Hy Huynh Awards Process

Follow the established Thong Hy Huynh Nomination Review process for the 2026 awards:

1. Nominations are submitted to the City Manager's Office.
2. City staff compile all nominations received by the deadline and provide them to the committee for review.
3. The committee meets to review the nominations and determine proposed recipients.
4. The committee presents its proposed recipients to the full Commission for consideration.
5. The Commission reviews the committee's proposed recipients and takes action on which nominations to forward to the City Council for ratification.
6. Recipients are notified and invited to an awards presentation at a City Council meeting.

L. Pickett moved, seconded by D. Tamimi, to approve the consent calendar as listed above. Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Baker, Kaplan, Khairallah, Tamimi, Pickett

NOES: None

ABSENT: Alvarez, Kol

6. Regular Items

A. Sanctuary City Ordinance Review and Recommendations

K. Baker, E. Kaplan, and L. Pickett: At the February 3, 2026 City Council meeting, City Council directed staff to work with the Human Relations Commission on a staff-led draft ordinance to memorialize SB54 (California Values Act) and to research other jurisdictions' ordinances for potential additional provisions, provided they do not conflict with state or federal law. Subcommittee has prepared 10 principles regarding city interactions with immigration authorities, derived from researching other California jurisdictions' ordinances and feedback heard from the Commission's forum on January 22, 2026.

City Attorney Inder Khalsa: Proposed ordinance references/mirrors SB54, which prohibits the use of local resources or local law enforcement for federal immigration enforcement. Provided an overview of federal preemption issues and legal and policy considerations. Local law enforcement and staff have no obligation to assist with federal law enforcement, and local law enforcement cannot interfere with or obstruct the enforcement of federal law. Main goal of ordinance is to not conflict with State and federal law, but expanding in certain circumstances.

Commission asked clarifying questions regarding the revisions pertaining to community notifications and annual reporting requirements, similarities and differences between SB54 and the proposed staff ordinance, and police practices regarding communications with immigration authorities and when/what information is disclosed.

Public comment:

- Natalia Deeb-Sossa, Speer, and unnamed individual: Should provide more protections to community.
- Ann Block: Questioned federal preemption and funding concerns and definition of immigration authorities. Need community notifications.
- Melissa Sedillo, Ximena Diez-Jackson, and unnamed individual: Need to lead locally. Consider concerns and potential impacts to individuals and families.
- Ream Magorsmaley: Should include community notifications.
- Alan Miller: Law enforcement and protestors should not wear masks.
- Angie Reginx: Need an ordinance as soon as possible; can improve it later.

Commission discussion included timeliness of getting a sanctuary city ordinance codified and comparison of proposed principles to current police department policies and State law.

L. Pickett moved, seconded by D. Tamimi, to approve the ten sanctuary city ordinance principles and accompanying explanations (with a correction to Principle #1 bullet point #3: “court decision” should be “court order”) and forward them to the City Council alongside the proposed staff ordinance. Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Baker, Kaplan, Khairallah, Tamimi, Pickett

NOES: None

ABSENT: Alvarez, Kol

D. Tamimi moved, seconded by E. Kaplan, to extend the meeting to 9:30p.m. Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Baker, Kaplan, Khairallah, Tamimi, Pickett

NOES: None

ABSENT: Alvarez, Kol

- B. Recommendations from Immigrant Safety and Solidary Forum & Survey (Sanctuary City Subcommittee on Lived Experiences (F. Alvarez, H. Khairallah, D. Tamimi))

D. Tamimi: Information gathered from surveys, the Commission forum, a virtual whiteboarding brainstorm/workshop, and other conversations with organizations and community members. Summary: City should move beyond statements toward consistent, material, trust-building action in legal protection, housing stability, system navigation/assistance, communication, and visible solidarity.

Developed broad, high-level recommendations and action items, including six priority recommendations/critical first steps that subcommittee believes are starting points that are within City control and responsibility and are designed to move from stated values to practical, accountable implementation.

Subcommittee work is completed with this report/list of recommendations and critical first steps, unless City Council requests the subcommittee/ Commission to work on completing any of the recommendations.

Public comment:

- Unnamed individual, Ann Block, and Speer: Support recommendations.

Commission discussion included what/how the Commission could accomplish from the proposed recommendations (such as Know Your Rights workshops and other forums) and revisiting the approved workplan to continue working on the “theme” of the City’s Sanctuary City status.

L. Pickett moved to approve the subcommittee report on Immigrant Safety & Solidarity in Davis, including the six priority recommendations/critical first steps and forward them to City Council. Motion withdrawn.

D. Tamimi moved, seconded by E. Kaplan, to approve the subcommittee report on Immigrant Safety & Solidarity in Davis (and accompanying presentation) with the six priority recommendations/critical first steps as the leading recommendations ahead of the broad recommendations, with a correction to #4 to read as: Support Know Your Rights Trainings (KYR) + Expand Tenant and Labor Rights Education with an Immigrant Focus. Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Baker, Kaplan, Khairallah, Tamimi, Pickett

NOES: None

ABSENT: Alvarez, Kol

C. Determine March Meeting Date

C. Dyer: Regularly scheduled Commission meeting date falls during both the UCD and DJUSD spring breaks. Need to determine next meeting date, either April 2, 6, or 9.

D. Tamimi moved, seconded by L. Pickett, to schedule the next regular meeting of the Human Relations Commission to April 2. Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Baker, Kaplan, Khairallah, Tamimi, Pickett

NOES: None

ABSENT: Alvarez, Kol

D. Committee and Liaison Updates

i. Hate Free Together (D. Tamimi, H. Khairallah (Alternate))

K. Snow: Executive Committee will be presenting strategic plan at the City of Davis / UC Davis / Yolo County Annual Public Meeting on March 2.

ii. Cesar Chavez Celebration Planning Committee (K. Baker, H. Khairallah, L. Pickett)

C. Dyer: Annual Cesar Chavez Celebration will be held on April 11.

7. Future Agenda Items/Long Range Calendar

C. Dyer: Next meeting tentatively includes: review of approved Commission workplan/discussion of continuing work on the “theme” of the City’s Sanctuary City status, including discussion of subcommittee recommendations from the Immigrant Safety & Solidarity in Davis report.

8. Adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 9:30p.m.