



**Los Angeles County**  
**Commission on Disabilities**  
*Celebrating 32 Years of Leadership & Advocacy*  
[www.laccod.org](http://www.laccod.org)



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December 4, 2007

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street, Room 383  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**APPROVE LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION ON  
DISABILITIES (LACCOD) ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS TO ENSURE  
EFFECTIVE COORDINATION OF THE ACCESS AWARDS  
LUNCHEON (ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS AFFECTED)  
(3 VOTES)**

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:**

1. Approve introduction of ordinance changes amending Title 3-  
Advisory Commissions and Committees, of the Los Angeles County  
Code which:
  - a) Authorizes the LACCOD to hold fundraising activities;
  - b) Authorizes the LACCOD to promote activities for people with  
disabilities;
  - c) Authorizes the LACCOD to disburse funds from the  
Commission's Trust Account to pay for scholarships and  
expenses associated with the fundraising activities, such  
as the annual Access Awards Luncheon; and
  - d) Changes the Officer titles of the Chairperson to President  
and Vice Chairperson to Vice President.
2. Instruct County Departments to work with LACCOD to ensure  
effective coordination of the annual Access Awards Luncheon.

### **PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The primary purpose of the proposed amendments is to conform with Board Directives, Synopsis 18 of July 26, 1994, which authorized the LACCOD to host an annual Access Awards Luncheon. Although the Board Directive approved the fundraising event, the ordinance inadvertently remained silent on the authority to raise funds. Additionally, at the LACCOD meeting of June 20, 2007, the Commissioners voted unanimously to change officer titles from Chairperson to President and Vice Chairperson to Vice President.

The annual Access Awards Luncheon is held to honor individuals and corporate and public entities that have made outstanding contributions and/or demonstrated leadership and commitment toward encouraging, facilitating or promoting equality for people with disabilities. Funds generated from the event support the work of the Commission, including the Bill Tainter Scholarships, which financially assist high school students with disabilities in becoming more independent and self sufficient through higher education. Additionally, the event provides a venue for people with disabilities to network with agencies and providers that service the disability community.

Various County Departments, i.e., Internal Services Department, Chief Executive Office, Auditor Controller, and Sheriff's Department, participate in the coordination and implementation of the Access Awards Luncheon at the request of the Executive Office and Commission. The successful execution of the Luncheon is dependent on services provided by other County Departments.

### **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

The recommended actions promote the County Vision's "purpose to improve the quality of life in Los Angeles County by providing responsive, efficient and high quality public services that promote the self-sufficiency, well-being and prosperity of individuals, families, business and communities" and Strategic Plan Goal No. 5 (Children and Families Well-Being) by funding programs such as the Bill Tainter Scholarship program for high school students with disabilities transitioning to higher education.

### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

The Commission receives contributions and sponsorships that support the Annual Access Awards Luncheon and are deposited in the LACCOD Trust Fund Account – SR3-3301 – to cover the majority of the costs associated with the event. Additional funding to cover expenses for services provided by the Internal Services Department, real-time captioners and sign language interpreters is available in the Executive Office operations budget.

**FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

On July 24, 1994, your Honorable Board voted to endorse and authorize all future Annual Access Awards Luncheons held in October as part of the recognition of Disability Awareness Month in the County of Los Angeles. Furthermore, all proceeds from the Luncheon will sustain the Bill Tainter Scholarship program and enable the LACCOD to continue its outreach efforts in the community by educating citizens with disabilities of their rights and responsibilities under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

**IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

The proposed recommendations enhance services provided to the disability community and streamline internal fiscal processes.

Respectfully submitted, *Rosemary Osuna*

*Kecia B Weller*

Kecia B. Weller  
President

KBW:RO

Attachment

c: Chief Executive Office  
County Counsel  
Auditor Controller