



Alameda County Commission on the Status of Women  
Special Meeting Agenda  
Wednesday, March 11, 2026 6:30 P.M. to 8:30 P.M.



The **Alameda County Commission on the Status of Women** works to support fair and equal treatment for women of all ages in Alameda County.

The Commission focuses on improving access and outcomes in important areas such as housing, jobs, health care, child and elder care, education, transportation, financial services, legal protections, and community programs.

Through community outreach, policy recommendations, and advocacy, the Commission aims to make Alameda County a more inclusive and equitable place for women.

**In Person Attendance Location**

Gail Steele Multi Service Center

[24100 Amador St – 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, California Poppy Room](#)  
[Hayward CA, 94544](#)

**Virtual Attendance on Microsoft Teams**

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 258 508 624 555 44

Passcode: vS76Vk9v

**Instructions for joining the meeting using Microsoft Teams**

1. Select the **“Join the meeting now”** link above.

You will then see these options:

- Join on the web using your internet browser.
- Download the Microsoft Teams app and join from the app.
- Enter your name and join as a guest, if guest access is available.

If you already use Microsoft Teams:

- Sign in to your Teams account to use features such as chat and the participant list.
- You may join the meeting right away or wait in the virtual lobby until the meeting host admits you.

[Additional help signing in to a Teams meeting](#)

### **Commission Members:**

Shewee Yohannes, Chair – District 3

Sonia Salwan, Vice Chair – District 1

Kathryn Lybarger, Secretary – District 5

Guadalupe Angula, Treasurer – District 2

Veena Kaul – District 1

Ilham Malick – District 2

Angela Pedrigal – District 2

Gwyneth Hutchinson – District 3

Lauren Powe – District 3

Carlotta Brown – District 4

Shannon Holbrook – District 5

Noor Dharni – Conference of Mayors

Vacant – District 1

Vacant – District 4

Vacant – District 4

Vacant – District 5

### **Welcome to the Commission on the Status of Women**

Members of the public may provide comments after each agenda item and during the open public comment period for items not on the agenda.

### **Guidelines for addressing the Commission**

When you speak, please follow these guidelines:

- State your full name for the record before you begin speaking.
- For items not on the agenda, wait for the Chair to open the public comment period during the Regular Calendar.
- Comments must relate to matters within the Commission's authority.
- The Chair will set and enforce time limits for each speaker.

# Meeting Agenda

## 1. Opening and Welcome

**Presenter:** Chair

**Purpose:** Information

**Start Time:** 6:30 p.m.

- Call to Order
- Roll Call and Establishment of Quorum
- Welcome and Opening Remarks
- Includes a review of the Community Agreements

## 2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

**Presenters:** Chair

**Purpose:** Action

- Review of Draft Minutes
- Motion and Vote to Approve Minutes

## 3. Commissioner Announcements and Updates

**Presenters:** Commissioners and Social Services Agency Staff

**Purpose:** Information

- Commissioner and District Announcements and Updates
- Presentation to Board of Supervisors in March (*email sent 02/25/2026*)
  - Presentation due **Friday, March 13, 2026**
  - Names of who will be attending **Monday, March 23, 2026**, meeting
- Mandatory AB 1234 Ethics Training Requirement (*email sent from Clerk of the Board 02/20/2026*)

## 4. COSW Committee Reports and Updates

**Presenters:** Commissioners

**Purpose:** Information

- Policy and Advocacy Committee
- COSW 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Ad Hoc Committee

## 5. Presentation: Implementing the CEDAW Ordinance in Alameda County

**Presenters:** Bardha Celaj

**Purpose:** Information

- Presentation on research and recommendations for framework on advancing gender equity in Alameda County
  - Committee vice-chairs

## 6. Fiscal Year 2026 – 2027 COSW Budget Planning

**Presenters:** Chair, Commissioners, and Social Services Agency Staff

**Purpose:** Information and Action

- Discussion of proposed priorities and funding needs for Fiscal Year 2026–2027
- Review of potential program, event, and operational costs (e.g., Women’s Hall of Fame, community engagement events, outreach materials)
- Development of proposed budget recommendations for submission to the Social Services Agency
- Commissioner discussion and vote on 2026 – 2027 budget funding request

## 7. Agenda Building

**Presenters:** Commissioners

**Purpose:** Information

- Commissioners may propose topics, presentations, or items for consideration on future Commission agendas.

## 8. Public Comment

**Presenters:** Members of the public

- Public Comment on agenda items or matters within the Commission’s jurisdiction

## 9. Appreciations, Closing, and Adjournment

**Presenters:** Commissioners

- Commissioner appreciations and closing remarks
- Formal adjournment of the meeting

# Commission on the Status of Women

## Community Agreements

**Focus on our common goal** which is to help eliminate discrimination and prejudice against women of all ages.

**Make decisions with integrity and ethics** in mind while respecting everyone.

**Value relationships.** Work to build trust and community with an awareness of power dynamics both inside and outside the Commission.

**Seek clarity and ask for clarity.** Clarity is important for communicating with each other and our stakeholders, including the Board of Supervisors and the communities we serve.

**Express your opinions.** Have courageous conversations during meetings, when possible, rather than later.

**Be brave when talking about inequities** and recognize power, privilege, and intersectionality. Work to be explicit with your language about race, class/income, sex, gender, sexuality, age, ability, religion, nationality, citizenship status, and all forms of discrimination and oppression.

**Notice power dynamics.** Be aware of how you show up and take space. Share airtime and engage with each other.

**Follow through** if you commit to an action item. Ask for help and offer help.

**Be responsive.** Respond to communications, including emails, as quickly as reasonably possible. Provide deadlines and follow up when you don't receive responses.

**Communicate your involvement and set boundaries.** If you decide not to participate in all activities or decisions, communicate this via the appropriate channels to help manage expectations and allow for continued movement. Take time for self-care.

**Assume positive intent and acknowledge harm.** Give each other the benefit of the doubt. Take accountability when harm occurs.