



MINUTES

IRVINE ADVISORY COMMISSION FOR OLDER ADULTS REGULAR MEETING

April 16, 2026
City Council Chamber
1 Civic Center Plaza
Irvine, CA 92606

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Irvine Advisory Commission for Older Adults (Commission) was called to order at 9:00 a.m. on April 16, 2026, in Council Chamber, Irvine Civic Center, 1 Civic Center Plaza, Irvine, California; Chair Wong presiding.

ROLL CALL

Present:	7	Commissioner	Susan F. Anderson
		Commissioner	Mike C. Chen
		Commissioner	Greta Jacobs
		Commissioner	Rachel Owens
		Commissioner	Bill Sandlin
		Vice Chair	Preeti Singh
		Chair	Ray S. Wong, PharmD, MBA

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Wong led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PARTICIPATION IN COMMISSION MEETING

Athena Martinez, Recording Secretary, provided instructions on how to participate in the Commission meeting for those attending via Zoom or in person.

INTRODUCTIONS

There were no introductions.

PRESENTATION

1. OLDER ADULT SERVICES UPDATE

Amber Castrey and Hee Jin Lee, Community Services Supervisors, provided a presentation and responded to Commission inquiries.

Discussion included: evaluation of 5-year plan accomplishments; creation of cultural resource directory; transportation services daily ridership goals; volunteer recruitment; rider survey opportunities; results from recent marketing efforts; funding sources for facility projects.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS

There were no public comments.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/REPORTS

Staff Announcements

Supervisor Castrey made the following announcements:

- An Open Space Celebration recognizing Earth Day will be held on April 18 at Quail Hill Community Park, beginning with a free pancake breakfast at 9 a.m. and a guided hike at 10:30 a.m. The 1.8 mile hike is family-friendly, and participants are encouraged to wear closed-toe shoes and comfortable clothing.
- May is National Older Americans Month and a chance to acknowledge the contributions and achievements of older adults and strengthen our commitment to honoring them. A variety of activities will be offered throughout the month of May. More information available at irvineolderadults.org.
- The third annual CicloIrvine event will be on May 2 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. along a 1.3 mile stretch of Irvine Boulevard, between Culver Drive and Parkwood. Street closures will begin May 1 and remain in place through May 2. Access to The Groves will remain available via Parkwood, off of Irvine Boulevard.
- Jazz in the Palm Court will occur on May 17 filling the Great Park Palm Court with live music from 1 to 3 p.m. Guests are encouraged to bring folding chairs or blankets as seating around the Palm Court.
- A handout was provided summarizing Older Adult Services past events, upcoming programs and services, and participation data from the previous month.

Commissioner Announcements

Commissioner Jacobs announced the Irvine Global Village Festival planning committee has started to meet and plan for the October 10 event, celebrating the festival's 25th anniversary.

Clubs/Groups

Friends of Outreach (FOO)

Starla Fogerty, President, reported the following:

- The mesh Bingo banner has been replaced with a new vinyl banner.
- Senior centers have recycling and used battery collection bins.

- FOO hosting a jewelry fundraiser on July 25, all three centers are accepting donations.
- A new projector has been purchased for the Bingo program.
- Working with staff on displaying art program participants' art in the lobbies of Rancho Senior Center and Trabuco Center.
- FOO continues to provide support to Irvine Adult Day Health Services, Inc and City Older Adult Services programs.

Irvine Adult Day Health Services, Inc. (IADHS)

Jill Upton, Lead Social Worker, reported the following:

- Continued increase to enrollment each month.
- Participants coming from as far north as Brea and Buena Park, and south as San Clemente, due to elevated level of service provided.
- Caregiver Support Group meetings have resumed.
- Expanding programming to include educational sessions for families providing home care.

Irvine Evergreen Chinese Senior Association (IECSA)

Jerry Chang, Co-President, reported the following:

- Membership remains strong at 350 members with Saturday event attendance averaging 150 members.
- All programs are impacted and have waitlists due to space limitations.
- Monthly general membership meeting will be held on April 18 and will include performances by Healthy Aging group and a student street dance team.
- Will have representation at the April 17 Volunteer Recognition event.
- Members attended the Peking Opera on April 4 at the Laguna Woods Village arts festival.
- Will participate on the Irvine Global Village Festival Planning Committee.

NEDA-Association of Iranian American Seniors (NEDA)

Nasser Fathi, President, reported the following:

- Monthly membership events are held 5-9 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month and include current event discussions, poetry readings, and dancing. Regular attendance of 80-90 participants.
- Weekly socials are held each Thursday from 2-5 p.m. Regular attendance of 50-60 participants.
- Members participate in regular phone tree calls to reach out and check on one another.
- Expressed gratitude to staff for supporting NEDA for the past 30 years.

South Asian Senior Association (SASA)

SASA Chair and Commission Vice Chair Singh reported the following:

- Offering biweekly educational sessions on the second and fourth Friday of each month.
- Free programs at Lakeview Senior Center and Trabuco Center.

- All programs currently at capacity with waitlists due to space limitations at centers.
- Working to add Bridge instructional classes in other languages.
- Participating in the Earth Day celebration on April 24 at Lakeview Senior Center featuring Master Gardener Michele Jacknik, and a plant exchange.
- Irvine Multicultural Association is presenting Exploring Our World-Rajasthan on May 6 from 5-7 p.m.
- A cultural cooking class is planned to highlight a vegetarian Indian meal.
- Expressed gratitude to staff for continued support of SASA's efforts.

Orange County Older Adults Advisory Commission (OAAC) – April 10 Meeting

Vice Chair Singh reported a presentation was provided by the nonprofit organization Front Porch on its Home Share program. The program:

- Is a free service connecting older adults with rooms for rent to those in need of affordable housing.
- Is an opportunity for seniors with rooms to rent remain in their homes, providing an additional source of income and may help to address isolation.
- Is primarily offered in Northern California, with hopes to expand to Orange County.

OAAC Chair and Commissioner Owens reported the following:

- One of the OAAC housing goals for fiscal year 2026-27 is to explore types of housing that could be available and promoted through the county.
- Existing grant programs are heavily utilized to provide affordable housing resources and support.
- The county is researching how to establish a program that might provide "roommate match" services through local medical staff or student housing services to help make connections.
- Programs such as Home Share are considered "high touch" staff models with navigators to help older adults through the process and avoid issues/problems as most older adults with rooms to rent are over the age of 80.
- The County may issue a Request for Proposal to contract with a nonprofit to establish and offer a home share program.
- The Office on Aging is required to provide an annual report on grants received and programs offered. A Public Hearing was held on April 10 to present the draft report and public comments are now being accepted. Public comments can be emailed to areaagencyonaging@occr.ocgov.com. The final report will be posted on the Office on Aging website when ready.

Nutrition Subcommittee – No report.

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

COMMISSION BUSINESS

1. MINUTES

ACTION:

Moved by Commissioner Sandlin, seconded by Commissioner Anderson, and unanimously carried by all members present to approve the minutes of the Irvine Advisory Commission for Older Adults regular meeting held March 19, 2026.

END OF COUNCIL BUSINESS

ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

Requested presentations:

- Capital Improvement Projects – facility expansions
- Scams targeting older adults
- Orange County Transportation Authority 211 ride demonstration

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Commissioner Owens, seconded by Commissioner Anderson, and unanimously carried by those members present, to adjourn the regular meeting of the Commission at 9:50 a.m.


Athena Martinez, Recording Secretary


CHAIR


Date Approved