



# County of San Mateo

## Inter-Departmental Correspondence

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**Department:** BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
**DISTRICT 5**  
**File #:** 21-518

Board Meeting Date: 6/29/2021

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**Special Notice / Hearing:** None  
**Vote Required:** Majority

**To:** Honorable Board of Supervisors  
**From:** Supervisor David J. Canepa, District 5  
**Subject:** Reappointments to the Commission on Disabilities

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Recommendation for reappointments to the Commission on Disabilities, each for a term ending June 30, 2024:

- A) Ashley Roehm, for a third term; and
- B) Colleen Shannon, for a second term.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Commission on Disabilities is an advisory body to the Board of Supervisors, providing opportunities for people with disabilities to participate in, and influence the development of, public policy that promotes the full integration of people with disabilities in their communities. Members of the Commission are dedicated and committed to improving the quality of life for people with disabilities through San Mateo County.

**DISCUSSION:**

As per commission bylaws, the terms of members are 3 years, for a maximum of 12 years.

Ashley Roehm has served on the Commission on Disabilities since 2015 and is being recommended for reappointment for a third term. Colleen Shannon began serving in 2018 and is being recommended to serve a second term.

Since joining the Commission on Disabilities, Ashley Roehm has made it her goal to help educate the public on the barriers that the community of persons with disabilities face daily. While serving on the commission, Ashley has demonstrated this through her involvement in planning the Annual Inclusion Festival, Art Showcase, and 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the ADA. Ashley's wealth of knowledge through her lived experience is of great value to the commission and the community. Her enthusiasm, hard work,

dedication, and shining personality make it a pleasure to work with her.

After studying biology at UC San Diego, Colleen Shannon began her career at the San Diego Supercomputer Center studying how computer viruses spread across the Internet. Thirteen years ago, her family moved north to Redwood City where she now works as a software engineer at Google and is a mother of two teen students at Carlmont High.

As a commissioner Colleen is fearless in advocating for the community of persons with disabilities. Colleen is never afraid to ask the tough questions and is a voice of leadership for the commission. In her time serving on the Commission on Disabilities, Colleen has served on the ADA Compliance Committee, Officer Nominating Committee, and presented on the various barriers children with disabilities face in the education system. Her ability to lead and take charge of situations are what makes her an asset to the commission.

In addition to serving on the Commission on Disabilities, Colleen volunteers with Girl Scouts of Northern California and Canine Companions for Independence, and when she can find a free moment, she loves to read, cook, and kayak.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

None.