

ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes



Date & Time: Thursday, Jan 26th, 2017 at 2:30-4:00 P.M.

Location: Sun Metro Transit Operations Center at 10151 Montana

Agenda Minutes

I. Welcome/Roll Call

Meeting was called to order at 2:35 pm with following members present. Committee introduced themselves, as well as city employees that were present.

Member	Appointment	Present
Manuel Corral	District 1	x
Soledad Basoco	District 2	x
Michelle Adjemian	District 3	Absent
Lori Vugteveen	District 4	x
Mary Alice Gary	District 5	x
Mary Castillo	District 6	x
Karl Kevin Glancey	District 7	x
Paul de la Peña	District 8	x
George Zavala	Mayor	x
Julio Perez	Secretary	x

II. Call to the Public – Public Comment

- Paul De la Pena mentioned that there may be changes with the new Trump administration affecting accessibility. Any changes that come up should be brought up in this meeting for discussion.

III. Business Items

Approval of Oct 27th, 2016 Minutes: Motion to approve made by Mary Castillo and seconded by Mary Alice. Motion passed. Kevin Glancey asked for a hard copy of the minutes.

IV. Discussion

A. ADA Parking Public Service Announcement

- The City would like to create a video to be used as a public service announcement to educate the public on the proper use of the ADA accessible parking spaces. Input was solicited from the public as to what content should be included in this video:
 - At the beginning – show what constitutes proper ADA signage and a violation of same (this will also help educate businesses)
 - Video should include the impact on citizens (i.e. being late for Dr. Apts.)
 - No blocking of accessible paths of travel (i.e. ramps, van debording area)
 - Emphasis on showing respect to others with disabilities
 - At the end of the video – it should show the fines when violations occur
 - Parking tags cannot be transferred
 - Citizens from the community that would like to participate (if needed) Lori Vugteveen, Lucy Torres, Kimberly Hale, Kevin Glancey and Paul de la Pena

B. Discussion on Sun Metro's program for bus stop & bench placement ADA compliance

- Frank Benavidez from Sun Metro presented the following:
 - a. Sun Metro has awarded a contract to start brining all bus stops into ADA compliance. Just over 1,400 bus stops are not compliant – they are missing a concrete landing pad for wheelchair access. Elimination of other barriers is included.
 - b. Contractor should be in place late next month
 - c. Sun Metro invests 500K/year for this purpose – and it allows for about 100 sites to be completed. Its goal is to eventually make them all accessible.
 - d. If citizens identify a specific bus stop to have priority – to call 212-3333. Already reported sites by the public and Sun Metro drivers will take priority.
- Everett Esparza from Sun Metro reported the following regarding bus benches.
 - a. The City contracted with a bench franchise to install benches throughout the City to provide more seating for passengers and in turn, it allows them to advertise on the benches.
 - b. The contractor/vendor must follow guidelines to ensure that the bench is not blocking bus stop accessibility – but sometimes, they don't do it and the issue must be fixed.
 - c. If anyone finds a bus stop with a bench blocking access – please call 212-3333 and report it; it will be addressed immediately. Sun Metro also monitors these violations throughout the City but there are too many benches throughout.

C. Discuss process for building inspections on AD compliance

- This item was brought up as a concern that the City was not overseeing ADA compliance.
 - Level 1 – Improvements are very minor (interior floor/wall finish etc.). Existing accessibility cannot be diminished. If the area being improved impacts ADA compliance – it must comply and there's an inspection done. No other inspection of other areas of the building not being improved.
 - Level 2 Improvements – (reconfiguration of space, removal/addition of doors/windows, etc.). The element that is altered must comply with relevant provisions of the Building Code and must be brought to current ADA standards.
 - Level 3 Alterations – defined as alteration of more than 50% of the structure. The entire structure must comply with relevant provisions and must be brought to current ADA standards.
 - In addition, if a construction/remodeling project costs more than 50K, a registered accessibility specialist must oversee the project as well for ADA compliance.
 - So in summary, the City does have various processes in place to ensure ADA compliance. If a building is very old (prior to the passage of ADA standards) and there are no changes to the building, there are no ADA inspections triggered.

C. Detailed update on sidewalk and curb cut improvement program

- a. 53 projects have been completed since the inception of the program at a cost of more than 400k
- b. 48 other projects are in queue to be done
 - i. Out of those, 19 have already been assessed and approved for construction at an estimated cost of 342K
 - ii. Approx. 5 of these projects are in the final stages of completion
- c. Once the current funding of 250K for this fiscal year runs out, the City is prepared to assess and see if we can find additional funds.
- d. The list continues to grow – getting at least 1 or two project requests per week.

E. Presentation of ADA Law: Section on Services Animals

- Starting 2011 – **only** dogs are recognized as service animals, for the exception of miniature horses.
- Service animals are allowed in all public facilities with authorized owner.
- May only ask two questions:
 - Is the dog a service animal required because of your disability?
 - What work or task has the dog been trained to perform?
- No special tags/certification/harness are required.

- a. A service animal can only be removed from the premises if it poses a threat or is not in control of the owner.

F. Discussion on what obstacles/impediments are faced by individuals with disabilities seeking housing. The following impediments/challenges were reported.

- a. Lack of accessible single residential units – someone wanting to buy a home that is accessible is almost impossible.
- b. Insufficient number of units in apartment complexes that are accessible
- c. Difficulty reaching HUD for accessibility issues
- d. Exterior areas of apartment complexes are not fully accessible
- e. Several folks reported having experienced discrimination
- f. Many times, people don't get the help needed to fill out the paperwork/application – Lack of ADA accommodations
- g. Common areas are not accessible
- h. Information on who has accessible units is not readily available – it's difficult to find accessible housing
- i. Affordability is an issue – individuals with disabilities are many times low-income and it's difficult to afford the housing that is available

G. CDBG funding for district 1 and 8 to install sidewalks and curb cuts in residential areas.

- a. District 1:
 - Installation of curb cuts at Joe Santos and Hilary providing accessing to the neighborhood and nearby city services. 6 curb cuts in total.
 - Installation of curb cuts at Ridge and Hilary to allow elderly and individuals with disabilities to have access to nearby services.
 - Installation of sidewalk at Bauxite and Chromite allow the elderly and individuals with disabilities to have access to nearby services. No existing sidewalk currently in place.
- b. District 8
 - Installation of curb cuts in the neighborhood SW of Fonseca and Delta providing accessing to the neighborhood and nearby city services. 30 curb cuts in total.
 - Installation of sidewalk on Delta and Tobin (near the Acosta Center) to allow elderly and individuals with disabilities to have access to nearby services. No existing sidewalk currently in place.
 - Installation of sidewalk on Orchard and Hardesty allow the elderly and individuals with disabilities to have access to nearby services. No existing sidewalk currently in place

V. Next meeting Location

- Feb 23rd from 3:00-4:00pm at Sun Metro Operations Center.

VI. Adjournment – 4:07 PM