

ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes



Date & Time: Thursday, August 24th, 2017 from 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 2:36 pm with following members present. Committee introduced themselves, as well as city employees that were present.

Member	Appointment	Present
Vacant	District 1	
Jorge Diaz	District 2	Present
Michelle Adjemian	District 3	
Lori Vugteveen	District 4	Present
Mary Alice Gary	District 5	Present
Mary Castillo	District 6	
Karl Kevin Glancey	District 7	
Vacant	District 8	
George Zavala	Mayor	Present
Julio Perez	Secretary	
Omar DelaRosa	Legal	Present

II. Call to the Public – Public Comment

- Mr. Omar De La Pena explained how the vacancies in the accessibility advisory committee work.
 - Members are able to continue for up to 30 days after the expiration of the term.

III. Business Items

Approval of June 22, 2017 Minutes: Motion to approve made by Mary Alice and Lori Vugteveen. Motion passed.

IV. Discussion

- A. Recreational Centers ADA Compliance - Update
 - a. Ms. Veronica Myers from the Department of Parks and Recreation presented a

list of recreation centers that are ADA compliant, as well as the ones that are not. She mentioned how the department is working on the centers that are non-compliant to make them accessible to people with disabilities.

- B. Explanation on recreational center grant program
 - a. Ms. Myers presented a Powerpoint presentation regarding the CDBG grant program that is available to people that have a disability. Ms. Myers explained how the program works, the program is currently being held at the Multipurpose Center. She explain the benefits of the program, which includes Special Olympics participation, monthly dances, weight room usage (during program hours) and field trips. She offered information on how a person can qualify for the program. Phone number for more information is 598-1155 (Multipurpose Center).
- C. Update on bus stop enhancement project
 - a. Frank Benavidez and Everett Esparza presented an update on the bus stop enhancement project. Program has begun and they are working on about 100 yards a week. Currently they have 15 out of 112 completed and the team is hopeful that phase one of the program will be completed within the next 2 to 3 months. Then the second phase will begin, Mr. Esparza is currently working on the list.
 - b. Funding for this project is coming from 5307 FTA.
 - c. Phone number to report bus stops is 212-3333.
- D. Update on ADA assessment task force
 - a. City has spent approximately 3 million on ADA improvements
 - b. Three phases
 - i. Assess current state/needs
 - ii. Prioritize and estimate costs
 - iii. Update ADA Transition Plan to be presented to the City Manager to be completed by 2018
 - c. Deliverable not meant to be all-inclusive, subject to change
 - d. Everett explained the task force timeline and the following:
 - Several weeks ago, the City provided an update on our ADA accessibility compliance where it was reported that:
 - o On average, the City has spent over 3m/yr on ADA improvements
 - o Additionally, the City plans on spending an additional 2 million next fiscal year. These improvements include:
 - Street resurfacing, street reconstruction, unpaved alleys, sidewalks, bus stop enhancements, pedestrian audible signals and curb cuts
 - Although a lot has been done, there's more to be done. Citizens of El Paso are asking the City to update its own transition plan and to do more to address deficiencies.
 - As a result, the City Manager has asked to have an ADA task force created to address those citizen concerns – and to go beyond – to also include all the other services/programs that the City offers to the general public. And so it was

done...a task force has been created. It includes resources from the following departments:

- Sun Metro
- Planning and Inspections
- Purchasing
- Legal
- IT
- Clerk's Office
- Airport
- Community Development (to include Fair Housing) and public facilities
- Streets and Maintenance
- Capital Improvements
- Parks and Recreation
- HR
- PIO – Public Information Office

Our Goal is to assign each department to carry out a self-assessment of their own services, programs and facilities, identify what has been done to make them accessible to all citizens and annotate any areas of deficiency. This information will then be used to update the transition plan which will include the identification of all resources needed to implement the plan.

This project has been broken up in three phases:

- 1) Identify/gather information as to where we are on ADA compliance – we call this the 'inventory' phase I.
- 2) Phase II – Gather estimates, resources and needs to be to address deficiencies.
- 3) Phase III – Update Transition Plan and present it to the City Manager and ultimately to City Council and the public.

This is not a project that will address only sidewalks and curb cuts – but it's a holistic view of all of our services and programs. For example, in IT, we will review our websites, mobile applications and all applications that the public has access to for ADA compliance. For public information, we need to make sure all of the documents found on our website are accessible to the general public – including those disabilities. And so on for each department.

As such, this is not going to be a quick project just to have a transition plan updated. We truly want to know where we stand and what areas need improvement. So it will take some time. Our general timeline is to have something ready to present to the City Manager and City Council prior to next year's budgeting process so we can let them know of any resources needed to implement the plan. Working backwards from there, the timeline tentatively looks like this:

- 1) Phase I (Inventory) – To be completed within 2-3 months
- 2) Phase II – Needs Assessment – An additional 2 months
- 3) Phase III – Transition Plan Update – To be completed by end of the first calendar quarter of 2018 – following by a formal presentation and review.

The first kickoff meeting took place on August 8th with all the ADA task force members. It will be followed by individual meetings with each department to coach, train and assist in gathering all the information needed for phase I.

We will be providing regular updates on this project at the AAC and this same forum will be used to solicit input/ideas from the public.

V. Next meeting Location

- Sept 28th, 2017 from 2:30-4:00pm at Sun Metro Operations Center.

VI. Adjournment – 3:55 PM