

ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes



Date & Time: Thursday, June 28th, 2018 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 2:40 pm with following members present. Committee introduced themselves, as well as city employees that were present.

Member	Appointment	Present
Marc Salazar	District 1	Present
Jorge Diaz	District 2	Absent
Michelle Adjemian	District 3	Present
Lori Vugteveen	District 4	Present
Vacant	District 5	Absent
Mary Castillo	District 6	Present
Sylvia Stuckey	District 7	Absent
Vacant	District 8	Absent
Vacant	Mayor	Absent
Julio Perez	Secretary	Present
Omar DelaRosa	Legal	Absent

II. Call to the Public – Public Comment

- Jose Martinez from Amistad provided information about a new training position that they have as part of a new grant – the training position also provides a stipend while being trained – anyone interested contact at 915-298-7307

III. Business Items

Approval of Mar 22nd, 2018 Minutes: Michelle Adjemian made a motion to approve and Mary Castillo did second the motion – unanimously approved.

IV. Discussion

A. Bus Stop Enhancement Update

Michael Villa from Sun Metro presented an update:

- 3 phases
- Phase 1 – 116 bus stops
- Phase II – 31 bus stops
- Phase III – Will begin in 2-3 weeks with another 31 stops approx.
- Continue to forward priority bus stops to Julio Perez – either because of a complaint or request
- Mary Castillo complained about certain areas in the Far East that some areas leading to a ramp had a tar bump/lip that makes it difficult for a wheelchair to cross.
- Julio Perez will be passing that information to Streets and Maintenance so they can address. If there's a specific area that needs to be fixed, let the City know.

B. ADA Transition Plan and Self-assessment update

- Julio Perez. Provided a high level summary of the transition plan process, a repeat of previous meetings.
- Assessment has been completed and it's in implementation phase with all other departments.
- About 500K worth of issues were encountered throughout the City – which is minimal when taken into account hundreds of parks and buildings – only averages a few hundred dollars per site and most of them of the issues can be addressed easily by each department.
- When it comes to facilities and services, the City is deemed very accessibility.
- The 500K allocated funding is currently only used for sidewalk and curb cuts but moving forward, it will be used for any accessibility-related project.

C. Discussion and vote on appointment a new Vice and Chairperson

- Michelle self-nominated to be the Chair, seconded by Lori Vugteveen. Unanimously approved.
- Marc Salazar was nominated by Lori Vugteveen to be the Vice-chair and seconded by Mary Castillo. Unanimously approved.

D. Discussion on AAC goals and objectives

- AAC is created by City ordinance but does not have any bylaws.
- Ordinance is given the complete latitude to address and discuss and accessibility needs that relate to the City.
- Goals: To create a public forum for ADA complaints and for appointees to bring forth items of interest from the community – most of those issues can come up through regular meetings with corresponding City representatives or by attending their public meetings.
- The committee is governed by the ordinance itself and by the Open Meetings Act where the agenda needs to be posted and public is invited to attend.

(agenda needs to be posted 72 hours in advance). Only items on agenda can be discussed – no discussion on public comment. Meeting minutes need to be kept, approved and posted for the public to see/review.

- The meeting belongs to the committee – it's your meeting. The agenda should be created by the committee. The meeting should never be cancelled because of lack of agenda items. We need appointees to participate.

E. Demonstration on map showing all sidewalk on-demand requests

- Julio Perez demonstrated the new web page that shows all the projects that are being completed (or are pending) as part of the 500K annual ADA accessibility spending.
- The web page also shows a list of projects for those citizens with visual impairments.
- The site can be found at <https://gis.elpasotexas.gov/adaprojects/>
- And the list of projects is found at <http://www.elpasotexas.gov/~media/files/coep/information%20technology/gis-ada-support/sidewalk%20on-demand%20program.ashx?la=en>
- There were no complaints or issues mentioned.

F. Update on other City accessibility projects

- Scenic Drive Improvements – a new project that will add a park, benches amenities and ADA accessible paths. The project is new and still in design – once it starts, we will provide more updates.
- Abraham Chavez Theater – an onsite inspection was completed with the help of the public to review what has been done to make the building as accessible as possible (the building was built prior to ADA law – in the 1970's).
- Accessible paths and accessible seating was created. The bathrooms close to the theatre will be remodeled to make them ADA-compliant.

G. Discussion and action on whether or not to change the meeting date/time to increase attendance.

- Discussion took place to see if the meeting can be held at an alternate date/time when the meetings are cancelled. Julio Perez said that meetings cannot be changed without first having those date/times approved by the committee during a formal AAC meeting.
- The group also discussed other possible dates/times in order to increase attendance. The group decided to keep the meetings as they are as they seem to be the best for most people.

V. Next meeting Location

- July 26th, 2018 – at the Sun Metro Operations Center from 2:30-4:00pm.

VI. Adjournment – 4:00 PM