

ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
9th Floor ADA Conference Room, City Hall
Thursday, May 22, 2008
2:00 P.M.

The City Accessibility Advisory Committee met at the above place and date. The meeting was called to order at 2:10 P.M. The following committee members answered roll call:

Susan Leech	Arne Schonberger
Rene Jamis	Willie Padilla
Martin Wagner	Manny Razo
Elaine Hengen	William Bennett
Jim Fraser	
Sergio Reyes	

The following visitors were present:

John Eger	Mary Castillo
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The following members were not present:

Rebecca Baca (E)	Sgt. Jack Mathews
Kay Duff	James W. Peterson

AGENDA

- I. WELCOME / ROLL CALL
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF December 20, 2007, and February 28, 2008.
- III. DISCUSSION AND ACTION
 - A. Audible Traffic Control Devices and Curb Ramp on Request Program
 - B. Subcommittee reports for Goals and Objectives
 - Supportive Employment
 - Taxi Ordinance
 - Sensitivity Training
 - Transition Plan for the City
 - Barrier Free Construction
 - C. Formal complaints regarding ADA/Accessibility Compliance
 - D. Plan Reviews
 - E. Next Meeting Agenda, Date, and Location (6-26-2008)
- IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS
- V. ADJOURNMENT

Item 1. Welcome/Roll Call

Roll call was taken and a quorum was confirmed.

Item 2. Approval of Minutes of December 20, 2007 and February 28, 2008.

A motion was made by Willie Padilla, seconded by Rene Jamis, and unanimously approved to accept the Minutes of December 20, 2007, and February 28, 2008.

AYES: Susan Leech, Arne Schonberger, Rene Jamis, Willie Padilla, Martin Wagner, and Manny Razzo.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

Item 3. Discussion and Action.

A. Audible Traffic Control Devices and Curb Ramp on Request Program

Comments were made by Sergio Reyes, William Bennett, Martin Wagner, Elaine Hengen, Susan Leech, and Jim Fraser.

No action was taken on this item.

B. Subcommittee reports for Goals and Objectives

a. Supportive Employment

Comments were made by William Bennett, Susan Leech, Martin Wagner, Arne Schonberger, Elaine Hengen, Mary Castillo, and Jim Fraser.

No action was taken on this item.

b. Taxi Ordinance.

Comments were made by William Bennett and Susan Leech.

No action was taken on this item.

c. Sensitivity Training.

Comments were made by William Bennett, Sergio Reyes, Martin Wagner, Jim Fraser, and Mary Castillo.

No action was taken on this item.

d. Transition Plan for the City

Comments were made by William Bennett, Susan Leech, Elaine Hengen, Martin Wagner, and Jim Fraser.

No action is required on this item.

e. Barrier Free Construction

Comments were made by William Bennett, Susan Leech, Arne Schonberger, Martin Wagner, Jim Fraser, and Elaine Hengen.

A motion was made by Susan Leech, seconded by Arne Schonberger, and unanimously approved to start a recognition program for builders that construct housing using universal design.

AYES: Susan Leech, Arne Schonberger, Rene Jamis, Willie Padilla, Martin Wagner, and Manny Razzo.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

C. Formal complaints regarding ADA/Accessibility Compliance

No formal complaints were received. Comments were made by William Bennett, Susan Leech, and Arne Schonberger.

No action was taken on this Item.

D. Plan Reviews

Comments were made by William Bennett.

No action was taken on this item.

F. Next Meeting Agenda, Date, and Location

The next meeting date will be June 19, 2008.

Item 4. Announcements

Comments were made by Susan Leech, William Bennett, Arne Schonberger, Elaine Hengen, Jim Fraser, and Martin Wagner.

Item 5. Adjournment

A motion was made by Susan Leech, Seconded by Rene Jamis, and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 2:13 P.M.

AYES: Susan Leech, Arne Schonberger, Rene Jamis, Willie Padilla, Martin Wagner, and Manny Razzo.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

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Item 1. Welcome/Roll Call

Roll call was taken and a quorum was confirmed.

Item 2. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to accept the Minutes of December 20, 2007, and February 28, 2008.

Item 3. Discussion and Action

A. Audible Traffic Control Devices and Curb Ramp on Request Program

The Audible Traffic Control Device program was killed. Community Development did not fund any of the Phase V intersections, but they did approve \$430,000 for the Curb Ramp on request program. A question was raised if the Red Light Camera Funds could be spent on the Audible Pedestrian Signals. This will be investigated. The Street Department has funding for replacement and repair of the audible signals. They could possibly install the signals if the intersection is totally ADA compliant. There are a couple of intersections that are close to being complete and possible they could be done. There are a total of 39 signals installed. This item is going to be removed from the Agenda until something new occurs. There are four programs putting curb ramps in. My program, the Street Sun Metro

B. Subcommittee reports for Goals and Objectives

a. Supportive Employment

The City (human services) has been working with Bobby Acala to get some students with disabilities employed in a youth program. He is also working to get a program developed for adults. Funding is still being sought to implement an employment program. There is a way to hire individuals under a contract method where they would not need to test competitively. A question was asked if reasonable accommodation is provided to applicants. The answer is yes, but the applicant must ask for the accommodation. Human Resources does not ask if an applicant needs reasonable accommodation.

No action was taken on this item.

b. Taxi Ordinance

The Taxi Detail was invited last month and came to the meeting that was not held. The ordinance has been worked on and should be about ready to go to council. Javier Banelas with Lulac Project Amistad is looking to install taxi meters on some of their busses to provide equalivancy for the taxi companies.

c. Sensitivity Training

There is not really a report on this item. Training that was provided by the state (Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services Blind Services) was discussed and there is still a possibility the get some additional training set up in addition to what the Committee is trying to get instituted. Sun Metro also is providing sensitivity training for their drivers.

No action was taken on this item.

d. Transition plan for the City

In October or November an annual report on the progress being made in updating the City's Transition Plan. Frank Lozano has requested that the update be given in July around the anniversary of the ADA. The resolution directs that a report be prepared for presentation to the public, but does not require that it be given to City Council. The committee can put together on the Council agenda or the Coordinator working through the City Managers office can put something on the agenda. What is the point of presenting the information to Council? The goal seems to be to maintain the visibility of the plan. No action is required on this item. Annually information needs to be put together showing what progress has been made with the transition plan.

e. Barrier Free Construction

There is not really any new information on this item. Olivia Chavez is purchasing a home in Sunset Heights on the second floor. She noticed that the light switches were lower than usual. Winton Homes has constructed the homes using barrier free construction or universal design. Bobby Bowling is under the impression that the barrier free construction issue had been taken care in that a person wanting universal design just needed to tell the builder or request the type of construction and the builder would construct the home using barrier free construction. If this is true, then possibly a letter could be sent to the builder thanking him for this type of construction. The builders association will be contacted to find out who is building using universal design so that the contractors can be recognized. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to start a recognition program for builders that construct housing using universal design.

C. Formal complaints regarding ADA/Accessibility Compliance

No Formal complaints were received. A complaint was brought up that the shopping center going from Target to the Best Buy on Sunland Park does not have ramps to connect all the facilities. It will be investigated.

D. Plan Reviews

A park was reviewed, the Municipal Service Center has been completed, and the preliminary plans for the new Cielo Vista Library were reviewed.

E. Next Meeting Agenda, Date, and Location (6-26-2008)

June 26, 2008 will not work. The meeting will be changed to June 19, 2008.

Item 4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Texas Ramp Project is moving. The local web site is being worked on so all that needs to be done is log on the Texas Ramp Project site and register for the ramp.

Susan Leech last day as chair of the Committee is Friday, May 23, 2008, because she is leaving town. There will be a going away party at Danny and Rebecca Lopez's house.

The Financial Disclosure statement will be due next month and the notary will be present at the next meeting.

Jim Fraser brought one of the emergency evacuation chairs.

Item 5. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made seconded and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 2:13 P.M.