



**ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
4<sup>th</sup> FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM  
May 25, 2006  
2:00 P.M.**

The Accessibility Advisory Committee met at the above place and date. The meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m. Committee Chair Mr. Eric Reed present and presiding and the following committee members answered roll call:

Arne Schonberger	Olivia Chavez
Eric Reed, Chairperson	Susan Leech
Fred Gromand	Elaine Hengen
James W. Peterson	James Fraser
Sergio Reyes	William Bennett

The following visitors were present:

Alma Bebee	Ruby Ransom
Martha Macias	Stephan Happ
Scott Gilliland	

The following members were not present:

Willie Padilla	Enriqueta Natividad
Kay Duff	

## **AGENDA**

### **I. WELCOME / ROLL CALL**

### **II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF March 30, 2006.**

### **III. DISCUSSION AND ACTION**

- A. Audible Traffic Control Devices.
- B. Sensitivity Training for Council Members.
- C. Zoo Expansion Progress and Installations.
- D. Individuals with Disabilities and Law Enforcement.
- E. Subcommittee reports for Goals and Objectives.
- F. Formal complaints regarding ADA/Accessibility Compliance.
- G. Plan Reviews.
  - a. Public Access Facilities.
  - b. Municipal Projects.
- H. Next Meeting Agenda, Date and Location. (6-22-2006)

### **IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **V. ADJOURNMENT**

Item 1: Welcome/ Roll Call

Roll call was taken and a quorum was confirmed.

Item 2: Approval of Minutes of March 30, 2006.

Motion was made by Olivia Chavez, seconded by Fred Gromand, and unanimously approved to accept the minutes.

AYES: Arne Schonberger, Olivia Chavez, Eric Reed, Susan Leech, Fred Gromand

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

Item 3. Discussion and Action

A. Audible Traffic Control Devices

Comments were made by Sergio Reyes, William Bennett, and Eric Reed.

No action was taken.

B. Sensitivity Training for Council Members.

Comments were made by Eric Reed.

No action was taken.

C. Zoo Expansion Progress and Installations.

Comments were made by Eric Reed, Olivia Chavez, Arne Schonberger, Susan Leech, and William Bennett. Scott Gilliland (Zoo Architect) presented a video and information on the proposed expansions at the Zoo.

No action was taken on the item and it will be removed from the agenda.

D. Individuals with Disabilities and Law Enforcement.

Comments were made by Eric Reed, Alma Bebee, Detective Stephan Happ, Elaine Hengen, William Bennett, and Olivia Chavez.

No action was taken on this item, but it will be left on the agenda.

E. Subcommittee Reports for Goals and Objectives.

Sensitivity Training has been discussed.

Volunteer Parking Patrol.

Comments were made by Eric Reed, Fred Gromand.

A motion was made by Fred Gromand to have the subcommittee meetings quarterly, seconded by Olivia Chavez, and unanimously approved.

AYES: Arne Schonberger, Olivia Chavez, Eric Reed, Susan Leech, Fred Gromand

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

Taxi Cab Ordinance

Comments were made by Eric Reed, Jim Fraser, Elaine Hengen, Susan Leech, and William Bennett.

No action was taken.

Sidewalk/Subdivision Ordinance

Comments were made by William Bennett, Eric Reed, and Jim Fraser.

- F. Formal Complaints regarding ADA/Accessibility Compliance.  
Complaints received by the Accessibility office were discussed by William Bennett.  
No Action was taken.

G. Plan Reviews

- a. Public Access Facilities.

None.

- b. Municipal Projects

Several projects were talked about. Plans will be presented next meeting.

No Action Taken.

H. Next Meeting Agenda, Date, and Location (6/22/2006)

A motion was made by Fred Gromand, seconded by Olivia Chavez and unanimously approved to have the next meeting on June 22, 2006 at 2:00 p.m. location to be announced.

AYES: Arne Schonberger, Olivia Chavez, Eric Reed, Susan Leech, Fred Gromand

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

Item 4. Announcements

Susan Leech has been appointed to the Easy Living Board of Texas.

Item 5. Adjournment

A motion was made by Arne Schonberger, seconded by Fred Gromand and unanimously approved to adjourn at 3:58 p.m...

AYES: Arne Schonberger, Olivia Chavez, Eric Reed, Susan Leech, Fred Gromand

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

Approved as to form:

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William Bennett, Accessibility Coordinator



**ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY**  
**4<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM**  
**May 25, 2006**  
**2:00 P.M.**

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Arne Schonberger	Olivia Chavez
Eric Reed, Chairperson	Susan Leech
Fred Gromand	Elaine Hengen
James W. Peterson	James Frazer
Sergio Reyes	William Bennett

The following visitors were present:

Alma Bebee	Ruby Ransom
Martha Macias	Stephan Happ
Scott Gilliland	

The following members were not present:

Willie Padilla	Enriqueta Natividad
Kay Duff	

## AGENDA

### I. WELCOME / ROLL CALL

### II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF March 30, 2006.

### III. DISCUSSION AND ACTION

- A. Audible Traffic Control Devices.
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### IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

### V. ADJOURNMENT

- Item 1: Roll call was taken and a quorum was confirmed.
- Item 2. Discussion and Action

A. Audible Traffic Control Devices (update.)

The funding for the program is going to be split into two phases. The first year funding is for purchase of the equipment and design of the intersections. The second year funding is for the intersection construction. The funding for the first year is for about \$252,000.00 and for the construction phase about \$257,000.00. This will do six to eight intersections. On June 27, 2006, council will approve the Community Development Budget for the audible signals priority IV. The first three priorities have been completed with the exception of two in priority one and two in priority three in the downtown area. Another signal is pending at North Loop and the entrance to the Community College. The list of the next group of priority intersections is being requested from the community.

B. Sensitivity Training for the Mayor and Council.

Bill has been requested to get with the City Manager's office to get the training rescheduled for 30 to 60 days. When the training has been set up the members of the committee will be notified. It will be the same training as has been discussed in the past.

C. Zoo Expansion Progress and Installations.

Eric Reed had been to the zoo about three weeks ago and had seen one of the statues that was made to resemble the elephant. Eric Reed asked Olivia Chavez to check out the statue. The statue is 10 inches tall and about 12 inches in length. Scott Gilliland the Zoo Architect was introduced and he showed a video on the upcoming Zoo expansion projects. Bids for construction are going out within the next couple of weeks. Two short videos were shown about the water utilities partnership with the zoo and the future plans for the zoo expansions. Walking surfaces were addressed in the future elements. Scott Gilliland answered questions from the committee.

D. Individuals with Disabilities and Law Enforcement.

A pamphlet that was sent out by the Governor's Committee, on how to communicate with individuals that have hearing impairments, was given out. Alma Bebee with Communication Services for the Deaf was present and they have a contract with DARS that has a hard of hearing division. She has been training the Police department for the last two or three years and goes to the Police Academy monthly. It is not ongoing training. An interpreter is not always required. The training should be given as a refresher. It is a statewide issue. The disabled community also needs to be trained when an interpreter is required. The pamphlet needs to be expanded on. Ms. Bebee can work with the Fire and Police Department to develop additional procedures. The department has a 3 page document on how to deal with hearing impaired individuals. If there are complaints, the police department wants them to come forward so that if there is a pattern it can be protected. A training video for law enforcement from the Department of Justice is being copied and sent to all the Regional Command Centers. It contains eight - eight minute parts to be used for shift training. One segment of the video was shown. Detective Happ stated that every officer is a State Certified Mental Health Officer in recognizing and dealing with individuals with mental impairments. This is the only big department in Texas that has this training, and every officer goes through 40 hours of training. If there are

specific complaints, please bring them forward as soon as possible so that they can be taken care of. There are Community Service Officers and PAR Officers that are available to give presentations to the disabled community. They would need a couple of weeks to put the training together. If there is anything that the committee needs, they can also contact Alma Bebee at 866-793-1076, and she can set up training. The pamphlet can be expanded on so that law enforcement can know how deal better deal with hearing impaired individuals. Ms. Bebee will check with the Department of Justice to see if they have better information and will get back to committee next meeting.

- E. Subcommittee reports for Goals and Objectives.  
Sensitivity Training has already been covered.

Volunteer Parking Patrol Subcommittee.

Eric sat in on the Volunteer Parking Patrol Subcommittee meeting. They wanted the committee to decide if the subcommittee should be sun-setted or go to quarterly meetings because things are going along so well. They have 20 volunteers and they subcommittee members do not feel that it is necessary to meet every other month. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to allow the subcommittee to meet quarterly.

Taxi Cab Ordinance

Last Tuesday the Taxi Cab Companies went before City Council to request a rate increase. Eric Reed made a comment at the hearing that the companies were not in compliance with Ordinance # 9779 and with the ADA and should be required to have accessible taxis. Mr. Reed requested that this item be placed on the Legislative Review Committee and the council granted the request. The Legislative Review Committee will meet on June 9, 2006. No action was taken.

Sidewalk /Subdivision Ordinance

The Sidewalk Ordinance was sent out so the committee could begin reviewing the ordinance. The Sidewalk and Subdivision Ordinance are going to be modified and Eric Reed has been invited to be on the committee. The ordinance will focus on "Smart Growth." No action was taken.

- F. Formal complaints regarding ADA/Accessibility Compliance.  
A complaint was received about a limb and brace business, and they are going to remodel to make an accessible bathroom.  
Complaints were received about two doctor's offices. One was visited and they are going to install a new bathroom.  
Another complaint was received about a Spinal Treatment Center.  
A lady fell at an uneven location at the Kress Building Downtown. The whole was filled in and there should no longer be a problem.  
Sun Metro had a complaint about denial for lift service. The lady is appealing the decision.

Curb ramp and sidewalk requests have been made for Todd Ware Park. The curb ramps are being put on the curb ramp on demand program and the sidewalks are about to be installed by the parks Department.

The representatives have submitted several complaints.

One other complaint was about the elevators in City Hall.

G. Plan Reviews.

Several plans have been submitted. One is a street and drainage project. The other is on the San Juan Senior Center. The plans will be shown next meeting.

H. Next meeting Agenda, Date, and Location. (6/22/2006)

The next meeting will be held on June 22, 2006 at 2:00 p.m. location to be announced.

Item 4. Announcements

Susan Leech has been appointed to the Easy Living Board of Texas.

Item 5. Adjournment

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to adjourn at 3:58 p.m.

Approved as to form:

William Bennett  
Accessibility and ADA Coordinator