

ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

June 23, 2005

2:00 P.M.



MINUTES

I. Welcome/Roll Call

The meeting is called to order at 2:05 pm. Willie Padilla was introduced as the newest member from District 2.

COMMITTEE MEMBER	PRESENT	ABSENT	
		Excused	Unexcused
Eric Reed, Dist. 3, Chairperson	X		
Vacant, Mayor's Appt.			
Olivia Chavez, Dist. 1	X		
Willie Padilla, Dist. 2		X	
Donald J. Seeley, Dist 4, Co-Chairperson	X		
Fred Gromand, Dist. 5	X		
Martin Wagner, Dist. 6	X		
Vacant, Dist. 7			
Ernesto Armendariz, Dist. 8	X		
Bill Bennett, ADA Coordinator	X		
Martha Macias, ADA Interpreter	X		
Juan Gonzalez, ADA Secretary	X		
Ruby B. Ransom (Mr. Reed's Assistant)	X		
Steve Burman, Human Resources	X		
Sergio Reyes, Traffic Eng. Div.	X		
James W. Peterson, Sun Metro	X		
Lisa A. Hayes, City Attorney's Office	X		
Bobby Alcala			

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made, seconded, and approved minutes of May 26, 2005.

III. DISCUSSION AND ACTION

A. Audible Pedestrian Signal status

Paisano at Washington and Alameda at Boll have audible pedestrian signals installed and operating. These intersections are located near the Lighthouse for the Blind. The designs for the priority two and three intersections are 50% complete. The equipment is available and is scheduled to be installed at Lomaland and Gateway East & West within the next two weeks. The Paisano at Washington location needs a hand-rail installed. It will take approximately two months to install the handrail. A ribbon cutting ceremony will be held at this intersection after the hand rails are installed.

B. Sensitivity Training for Council Members.

The draft agenda to be used for the training was distributed. It is named The Keys to Disability Awareness and Etiquette. The training will be composed of five sessions and will take about three hours using two facilitators. The first session will be the outline of the program. The second session will be discussing people with disability and what that actually means. The third session will be distinguishing between handicapped and disability. The fourth session will discuss the history of disability and the law as it pertains to disability rights. This session will also deal with disability etiquette and people first language and will have panel discussions at the end. A motion is made, seconded and passed to move on with this training as listed. A copy of the training will be distributed next month.

C. Establish Subcommittees for Goals and Objectives.

Motion is made, seconded, and passed to carry item over to the next meeting. Anyone wanting to be on a particular committee will at that time let the committee know and a chair will be appointed. The goal of moving the ADA coordinator is discussed for action by committee. The recommendation is made to place it to the next regular meeting agenda instead of leaving it with the subcommittee. The ADA coordinator will keep the chair informed of any action the city may be planning. If it appears that something is going to happen before the next meeting, a special meeting may be scheduled. A motion is made, seconded, and passed to close discussion on this item until next meeting.

D. Subcommittees meet following the regular meeting.

Motion is made, seconded, and passed to carry item over to next meeting.

E. Transition plan for the City of El Paso.

An outline to follow in putting the transition plan is being drafted. A memo is being worked on to send to the different departments to review their policies, procedures, and programs for any possible discriminatory practices. The database for all the city streets is also being worked on and when completed, an inventory will be done to complete the data base.

F. 15th Anniversary of the ADA (July 26, 2005).

Frank Lozano asked to have item placed on agenda but is not present. He met with the chair to work on language for a July 26, 2005, City Council proclamation for the 15th anniversary of ADA and the city's pledge to it. No action is taken on this item.

G. Formal complaints regarding ADA/Accessibility Compliance.

Two formal complaints have been received. The first is about a confrontation from a person in a wheelchair with police officers at the County Jail accessible parking. There are two accessible parking spaces that police officers use when transporting prisoners and doing paperwork. The police is notifying its officers that parking at the accessible spaces is not an option. Because similar violations of the accessible parking have been received at other sites, the coordinator will check into these others and make recommendations at the next meeting. The second complaint came from Advocacy Inc. and deals with access to restaurants at an old building on Mills Street in the downtown. Area.

H. Plan Reviews

1. Public Access Facilities

Plans for the Cielo Vista Golf course have not been available to review, but will be looked.

2. Municipal Projects

None.

I. Next Meeting Agenda, Date and Location

The next meeting will be July 28, 2005 at 2:00 pm on the 8th floor conference room at City Hall.

IV ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The Ft. Bliss October event will be on the 27th of October at the Centennial Club.
- A Police Driver Safety course will be given on 25th of June at the County Coliseum from 9 to 3pm.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 3:50pm

Eric Reed, Chairperson

William Bennett, Accessibility Coordinator