

# ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## Minutes



**Date & Time:** Sept 24, 2015 at 2:00 P.M.

**Location:** Sun Metro Transit Operations Center at 10151 Montana

---

### Agenda Minutes

#### I. Welcome/Roll Call

Meeting was called to order at 2:07 with following members present.

Member	Appointment	Present
Frank Lozano	District 1	x
Soledad Basoco	District 2	x
Michelle Adjemian	District 3	
Vacant	District 4	
Vacant	District 5	
Pending	District 6	
Karl Kevin Glancey	District 7	x
Paul de la Peña	District 8	x
George Zavala	Mayor	x
Julio Perez	Secretary	x

#### II. Call to the Public – Public Comment

No public comments

#### III. Business Items

Approval of May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Minutes: Motion made, seconded and unanimously accepted.

#### IV. Discussion

#### V.

A. Accessibility and ADA Coordinator's position within the City –

1. Mr. Zavala: Issue has been addressed. At the time, the ADA coordinator was assigned to CID but now the ADA coordinator is not within CID and is independent.
- B. Citizens' requests for ADA improvements on City facilities – AAC members
1. Mr. Zavala: There are still some components within the websites – Sun Metro, audio catpcha, applications for employments – that need to be fully ADA-compliant. Julio Perez to follow up.
  2. Facility Issues: Mr. Frank Lozano requests that the City continues to address city-wide transition issues with facilities, pedestrian pathways, ramps, sidewalks – and to include funding to address more promptly.
  3. Bill Bennett – the city updated a city-wide plan for the cities buildings.
  4. Julio Perez: City is in the process of doing a re-inventory of all facilities and will provide progress as it occurs.
- C. Citizen's requests for ADA improvements on private property
1. Julio Perez: The city has no jurisdiction or enforcement authority over the private sector – the end-user (customer) needs to approach the business directly to see if they can accommodate the requests. The city will assist in providing informational guidance and support to the citizens as they attempt to resolve issues with businesses.
  2. Mr. Lara reported accessibility issues with the following:
    - i. Golden Corral on Mesa, Great American Yarborough, El Taco Tote on Montana
    - ii. Others: Restrooms are not accessible – you can get in but the door cannot be closed - Cheddars at Tinseltown, Peek and Garden on Traewood and Yarborough, Village Inn on Traewood.
- D. Monetary compensation for parking enforcement volunteers. AAC Members
1. Julio Perez: El Paso Police Department has a volunteer program that they use to augment the ADA parking enforcement. Volunteers go through considerable training and background checks. Volunteers issues tickets to the vehicles, take pictures and the owners are subpoenaed to court.
  2. Mr. Zavala: The City needs to consider paying the volunteers to parking enforcement. This will increase the number of volunteers that come forward.

3. Mr. Bill Bennett: There may be a violation of state law to pay volunteers or once they get paid, they cannot be considered volunteers. Julio Perez to get more information.
- E. Funding resources for business owners in regards to the recently amended ordinance allowing business owners to make the necessary ADA modifications to their establishments –

1. Mr. George Zavala:
  - i. We need to inform the business owners that funding is available (loans) to business owners to make their entities ADA compliant.

F. Available Funding (if any) to address city-wide accessibility issues

Mr. George Zavala:

1. There are too many requests related to sidewalks but there isn't sufficient funding to cover all issues. The City needs to look into additional funding so that the ADA coordinator can have the resources to address all issues.
2. Committee members need to approach their City Representative, City Manager and Mayor to allocate more funding.
3. Committee needs to make quarterly recommendations to the City as it relates to funding.
4. Chairperson asked for a vote to create a subcommittee to research funding ideas and come up with recommendations. Motion made, seconded and approved.

Julio Perez: There are four main sources of funding through which accessibility issues can be addressed:

5. The Parkway Gap Project (681K) – this funding addresses sidewalk and curb ramp issues throughout the city. Addressed by priority and by requests. There's a long list of issues pending.
6. Sun Metro – 500K/yr. This section addresses accessibility issues leading to/from a bus stop, shelter or Sun Metro facility.
7. CDBG – Community Development Block Grant. This funding targets specific areas within 2 districts per year. This fiscal year has no funding allocation until FY 2017.
8. Neighborhood Association Programs – These programs are specific to the neighborhood associations throughout the city and are subject to availability and approval. Citizens approach their neighborhood associations to address issues within their community.

9. Mr. Zavala: Even with the funding above, the City does not have enough resources to make enough progress – If more money is not allocated, the City will find itself in the same situation years from now.

G. Formal Complaints/grievances regarding ADA Accessibility.

1. None reported.
2. A question came up as to whether or not there's a separate committee to address grievances.
  - i. Bill Bennett: The grievance committee was combined with the Accessibility Advisory Committee years ago because there were not enough members to volunteer. It then became a standing item on the agenda.
  - ii. AAC members agreed that this is the best format and agreed to have it as a standing item. If enough ADA complaints/grievances come up, another committee can be formed for just that purpose.
  - iii. Julio Perez will check with legal to make sure this is allowed.
  - iv. Bill Bennett: A form is also available on-line and it goes to the ADA coordinator to research and respond to.

H. AAC member vacancies

1. Julio Perez: Three districts are vacant (4,5,6) – but soon they will be filled as we have enough volunteers who have contacted their respective representatives.

5. Approval on the Next Meeting Date

- A. Setup a recurring schedule for the meeting.

Committee members discussed and agreed that the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month at 4:00pm is the best date/time to meet.

November and December will change due to the holidays.

November – 19<sup>th</sup> – Mission Valley Command Center –

December 17<sup>th</sup> – Westside regional command center – Mesa and Osborn

6. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn, seconded and approved at 3:33pm