

ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes



Date & Time: Thursday, October 27th, 2016 at 3:00 P.M.

Location: Sun Metro Transit Operations Center at 10151 Montana

Agenda Minutes

I. Welcome/Roll Call

Meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm with following members present.
Committee introduced themselves, as well as city employees that were present.

Member	Appointment	Present
Frank Lozano	District 1	Absent
Soledad Basoco	District 2	Absent
Michelle Adjemian	District 3	x
Lori Vugteveen	District 4	x
Mary Alice Gary	District 5	x
Mary Castillo	District 6	x
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

- Bob Geyer made the following comments:
 - o Upset at City Mgr. Mr. Gonzalez for adding the ADA coordinator position to Mr. Julio Perez – although he believes he’s fully qualified, it should be a separate full-time position.
 - o Sun Metro is not doing enough to maintain ADA compliance on bus stops – and the bus bench company is placing benches in areas blocking wheelchair accessibility. Example, Arizona and Brown.
 - o Pat O’Rourke Center has a non-compliant rail making it difficult for someone in a wheelchair to go up the ramp.

- City is not enforcing ADA compliance (specifically ADA parking) on new projects. New Walmart location on Montana and Magruder does not have ADA compliant parking spaces.
- Gilda Wilson
 - EPISD school district refuses to enforce ADA parking spaces because they don't want to upset the parents. But people illegally park in those areas to pick up children.
 - Mountain View park does not have an ADA path to the picnic area.
- Mica Levee
 - Reporting situations where veterans with service and emotional/support animals are being discriminated against by not letting the animal accompany the owner. Also some veterans with their 'Disabled Veteran' license plate are not allowed to use the ADA parking spaces.
- Marisela Cabrales
 - Reported discrimination by Uber because she was in a wheelchair – Once Uber found out she was in a wheelchair, they refused service.
- Mr. Raul Zamarripa wants to know the status of his sidewalk request – it was submitted a long time ago and there has been no progress.
- Because committee members cannot comment on public comment, they voted unanimously to add the following agenda items for the next meeting:
 - ADA inspections on new buildings
 - Sun Metro's bus bench and bus stop programs to ensure ADA-compliance
 - Detailed report on the sidewalk request program
 - Discuss service animal law and what the City is doing to train the police department

III. Business Items

Approval of August 25th, 2016 Minutes: Motion to approve minutes made by Kevin Glancey and seconded by May Alice. Motion passed.

IV. Discussion

A. Update on the budget/work being done for sidewalks/curb cuts

- Julio Perez reported that the City has approved an additional 250K for FY 2017 – above and beyond the 500K approved last year – for a total of 750K. Whatever funds that were not spent in FY2016 will be carried over to FY2017. Much progress has been done – although some of the larger projects are taking a little longer because there's an assessment, estimate

and formal inspections that must take place prior to starting the project.
A more detailed report will be provided next month.

B. Discussion on proper signage for ADA parking spaces

- Mr. Julio Perez reported that anyone experiencing an issue with a non ADA-compliant parking space can call the 311 number to report it. A letter of compliance will be issued to the location for immediate correction.

C. Discuss ideas on how to educate the public on illegal ADA parking

- The group discussed several ideas than can be presented to the police department's PIO office:
 - Put up posters throughout – although this one requires a budget, something that individual departments may not have. Mr. Foust recommended instead going after public service announcements – locally and statewide through ADA lobbyists. Mr. Zavala mentioned that the community does have lobbyists in Austin and that it's a good idea.
 - A new campaign by the City to advertise the importance of the proper usage of ADA parking – possibly through the use of a public service announcement.
 - Increase the severity of the ticket/violation when someone parks illegally – either by an increase of a fine or by allowing police officers to tow away the vehicle.
 - An orientation requirement at the time someone obtains a driver's license or renews it.

C. Discussion on what obstacles are faced by individuals with disabilities seeking housing

- a. Due to lack of time – postponed to a future agenda

E. CDBG funding for district 1 and 8 to install sidewalks and curb cuts in residential areas

- a. Due to lack of time – postponed to a future agenda

F. Multi-purpose center access

- a. Due to lack of time – postponed to a future agenda

V. Next meeting Location

- Committee members decided to change the date of November's meeting to Nov 17th – to avoid a conflict with Thanksgiving – also decided to start at 2:30 to allow for a little more time.

VI. Adjournment – 4:07 PM