

Pueblo ADA Advisory Committee  
Minutes of the Meeting  
May 5, 2011

Present: Terry Skinner, guest; George Chintala, SRDA Transportation; John Madrid, member; Ralph McPherson, member; Ron Burke, member; Vickie Weeks, member; George O'Brien, member; Pat Manzanares, Pueblo Transit; Sharon Campbell, Chair; Bella Trujillo, ADA Coordinator; Kip Morphew, Facilities Manager; Don Bruestle, member; Brenda Broyles, Pueblo Transit; Kristen Castor, Secretary; Jean Benfield, Vice-Chair

**Transit Update: Brenda Broyles and Pat Manzanares**

Colorado Association of Transit (CASTA) will meet here from May 10-14 hosted by Pueblo Transit with a dinner at Angelo's. Kids Ride Free in June, July, August and on Saturdays. Last year there were 40,000 rides as a result of this campaign. The motto is "Protecting the Future for the Future". Public Works Day at the Park and Library Days are also times people can ride free.

On Monday City Council was updated on the trolley project. Pueblo Transit has received 9 million dollars from FASTER to purchase the trolleys. There will be two loops: one starting on 5<sup>th</sup> and grand up to South Union and another from the Mesa Junction to Parkview. We will have 4 trolleys when the project is all ramped up. There is no fee and no funding for operations, but there are ideas about partnerships and sponsorships with Parkview, business associations and Pueblo Community College.

There are tax incentives for businesses to provide transportation for their employees. There may be an Inter Governmental Agreement with Pueblo Community College for parking and transportation. Pueblo Transit is considering a possible increase in the 35 day unlimited passes to cover the cost. The dollar a day rates would be the same and the 22 ride passes would be the same, so the ridership does have options for keeping fares low.

The total cost of the trolley project is about \$350,000 for operation, so the idea is to start with the large loop. Pueblo Transit has de-obligated about \$100,000 a year for the last two years because of lack of match, so this project allows them to pull down the full match.

George O'Brien pointed out that addresses on buildings at campuses are not visible and this creates difficulties for CitiLift drivers. This is also true of the many strip malls and shopping centers around town.

Kip Morpew said Regional Building has the authority to do something about businesses that do not post addresses in clear view of the parking lot or street access. Don Bruestle identified Dave Vaughn, JD Potter, Janet Kelly as Office Manager, as contacts for Regional Building.

The discussion moved to consideration for a Park and Ride for Chili Fest. Businesses can advertise, perhaps adopt a bus. There was a question of extending service hours past 5:00 pm, but this would have to include CitiLift, which means costs triple after hours and there is no money to cover this expense.

Ron Burke asked about Park and Ride for PCC which could support the trolley. Pat is not sure where it would be. The college really wants employees and students to ride. There is actually 15 minute service there now, looking at both ends of the campus. The trolley will add service.

Jean Benfield asked if she would be able to ride the trolley and Pat said it is wheelchair accessible.

Sharon Campbell said we should talk to the County about parking for the Justice Center.

Don Bruestle said we have to change people's attitudes about riding busses. He noted that people often go home for lunch, causing traffic congestion and wants to encourage people to stay near the workplace or take a bus. He suggested they demonstrate the cost effectiveness of transit. Main Street Parking is also not fully utilized so that is another shuttle opportunity.

Pat Manzanares will firm up PCC's needs and then make a proposal to the county.

On February 15, Greyhound started service from the Transit Center. The is revenue above expectations. Parking is \$12.00 a day at the parking garage. Ridership is up 8% because of the economy. District 60 wants to subsidize some bus passes and cut out Middle School busses.

CitiLift is going through its three year certification with paperwork due May 31. This may be causing concern among riders who think they are being terminated. If we know of anyone who is upset, we need to explain that this is a routine process of re-affirming who is eligible and still using service.

**SRDA Transportation: George Chintala**

Pueblo West ridership is increasing. About 42% of the riders are over 60 and the rest are disabled. This service is funded with federal money from the Transit Cooperative Research Program (TCRP), known as 5313. Trip purposes are limited to medical need with some grocery shopping around 11:00-1:00 as scheduling permits. Pueblo West is a very extensive area to serve. SRDA tries bundling rides. Northside Dialysis has a clinic at Walmart. Some trips are also bringing people in to the Transit Center to connect with the bus service.

The SRDA service has 17 drivers and also provides transport to Total Longterm Care (TLC). George Chintala has ordered 3 vans from CDOT, but hasn't procured them yet. One is for replacement and two are for expansion. Personnel changes at CDOT are slowing processes.

### **PACOG Transportation**

Kristen Castor was appointed to the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) of the Transportation Advisory Commission (TAC) which deals with transportation plans for the county. This is where a Rural Transportation Authority would be discussed, so it is important to have membership even though it has a much broader focus than transit.

### **City Special Events: Bella Trujillo**

Bella Trujillo is taking Mary Beth Roth's role as stand in for the ADA Coordinator.

She will check for information on the schedule of Walk and Roll events for May and June. Kristen Castor will email this to the Committee.
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

The Annual Report is slated for June 20<sup>th</sup>.

### **City Hall Update: Kip Morphew**

Three architects came for the pre-bid meeting for the City Hall re-modeling project. The chances are good that only the ADA work will be done: the elevators, restrooms, council meeting rooms, and manager's office.

Memorial Hall is ready for 100% review. There will be a chair lift on both sides from the street level plus the elevator, which is fire proof, and has a back up elevator. There are also a line of restrooms in the basement. The seats are wider and have more leg room. Seats are \$350.00 apiece for 1600 seats, which is a major expense.

Ralph McPherson asked if there would be an overhead projection screen. It would help audience members to read the lines. The box seating may serve to hold viewing screens. There is some concern that this is changing the historic nature of the building, but it would leave the boxes intact and this technology is increasingly expected by the public.

Kip Morphey will look into screens or text boxes.

Next week, Public Works will start working on the accessible restrooms at Mineral Palace Park. They are going in between the swing sets, the play ground, and the old restrooms.

## **New Business**

### **Access at Union Depot**

Kristen Castor informed the Committee about a complaint lodged against the Union Depot by Democrats with Disabilities, a Denver based group. On April 9, the state democratic party held a meeting at the Depot and complaints were made about the grade and surface of the parking lot and the lack of a bathroom that meets current ADA standards. There is one that uses the Section 504 plan, resulting in a longer stall that does not allow for full turn around or lateral transfers. Dems with Disabilities has asked the Democratic Party not to use this facility until it is updated. Kristen Castor wrote two letters to the Konciljas about this and has not heard directly about changes, although the property manager did indicate the bathroom would be updated.

### **Handicapped Parking on B Street**

Ron Burke said that the handicapped parking along B Street was not put back in when the parking was removed for streetscaping. He is not sure about whether there is or was a curb ramp.

Kip will look into the curb ramp/parking issue on B Street

## **PACOG**

Kristen Castor will email Jeannie Benfield with The PACOG meeting schedule.

Don Bruestle asked all members to come to the meetings to improve our visibility.

Ron Burke asked when Regional Building meets and Kristen Castor will find out.

Don Bruesltle talked to Tony Knopp of Vestas about volunteer involvement and will be meeting with the People and Community director. George O'Brien said companies can make participation something they value.

Ralph McPherson will invite Cindy Montanez from the Chamber of Commerce to our next meeting.

**April minutes amended to include John Madrid as present and were accepted unanimously.**

The Work Session will be May 19 at 3124 Fairmount from noon to 2:00 and will focus on the Annual Report.

**The next Pueblo ADA Advisory Committee meeting is Thursday June 2 from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm at El Pueblo Museum at 301 North Union Ave.**