

**Pueblo ADA Advisory Committee  
Annual Report  
June 2010 to June 2011**

**PURPOSE**

This report describes the activities of the Pueblo Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Advisory Committee from June 2010 through June 2011.

**BACKGROUND**

The Committee was established in 2004 under Ordinance #10097 as part of the Settlement Agreement between the Department of Justice (DOJ) and the City of Pueblo to monitor compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Voting members are all citizens with disabilities who live within the city limits. Members are appointed by the City Manager for renewable terms of four years and can include subject matter experts or advocates for those with disabilities (See Amended bylaws in the Appendix A). The Committee can have up to 15 members and there is a continuing outreach plan to reach this goal. We invite all of our City Council members to encourage constituents to apply. Disability does not discriminate and we need members with a range of experiences to represent this population effectively.

**ACHIEVEMENTS**

The Pueblo ADA Advisory Committee is extremely grateful for the information and support it gets from City departments and staff. There are regular updates from Public Works and Pueblo Transit, and from other departments as issues come up.

**Our primary goal is to monitor the city's compliance with current ADA standards.**

This includes access to services as well as facilities. We have had regular reviews of curb ramp and trail improvements from Public Works and also input into the ongoing improvements to the City's bathhouses, all of which are complete except for the City Park Bathhouse. This amenity was not listed in the DOJ review, but the City has always expressed the intention to include it, using funding from Great Outdoors Colorado. The Committee supports the vision of an accessible indoor pool at City Park, should funding become available, making this pool a public attraction for everyone all year. We do want to emphasize that the bathhouse must be made accessible at the earliest opportunity whatever the final design is.

Our proudest achievement has been our participation in the re-design of both City Hall and Memorial Hall. We were consulted at every stage in the process and were able to give practical suggestions, which were incorporated into the projects. It is extremely gratifying to see ramps up to the stage and dressing rooms and down to the pit. Now, not only do people with disabilities watch from the audience, they can participate without working around major obstacles.

We also worked closely with the HARP Authority and the Veterans Council on the design of the Veterans Bridge. This piece of architecture is groundbreaking in that handicapped access is central to the design, not an afterthought. Having argued strenuously for ramps because our experience with elevators is that they require expensive maintenance and can strand passengers, we would support the addition of an elevator as funds permit if this can be incorporated into the design to accommodate people who cannot walk far.

While we advocate strongly for full compliance with access standards, we recognize that sometimes this goal is not achievable or reasonable. We consistently supported the City in negotiations with the Justice Department about wheelchair seating in Memorial Hall. The final design reflects the compromise we arrived at years ago, placing wheelchair users in the back and front as the slope and construction of the Hall make truly dispersed seating impossible. The Hall is small enough that the seating provides good lines of sight, which is a key factor in accessible design.

Another example of this is a project we dubbed, "Walk and Roll on the Yellow Brick Road." We have long wrestled with the fact that the bathrooms in the Boathouse Gazebo at the HARP are only accessible when the elevator is operable. Our plan was to sell bricks for a bridge that would memorialize the common citizen, but the engineering proved far too impractical. There simply is not enough space to achieve the correct slope and we had to accept assurances that the elevator is rarely out of service and better access is actively sought when new businesses go in along the channel.

We also sent a letter of support for a waiver to the access requirements at Fire Station #4. In all honesty, our members feel that no one with a mobility impairment should be residing in the firefighters quarters. The consultant we spoke with at the Rocky Mountain ADA Center said that while he agreed with our assessment, the Department of Justice was unlikely to grant a waiver because it would open the door to an avalanche of such requests.

One of the services Pueblo chooses to offer its citizens is a Volunteer Handicapped Parking Patrol, which has been in operation since 1998 when it was established by

ordinance. This year has been a difficult one with changes both in the line of command at the Pueblo Police Department and in the membership of the patrol. Earlier in the year, volunteers were presented with a liability waiver that most found unacceptable. The ADA Coordinator suggested a return to the original ordinance and the Patrol was able to continue. We have met with Chief Velez and he has expressed continuing support for the Patrol, which we appreciate. We understand that the Patrol is in a holding pattern until the PPD has completed its reorganization, but we are confident it will flourish and look forward to working with Chief Velez in the future

We take a proactive approach when opportunities outside our anticipated goals arise. In addition to advising the city on access issues, we also feel it is important to alert City Council when there are pending issues. Such is the case with our presentation on the need for a sidewalk maintenance and repair plan. Citizens have regularly requested curb ramp improvements in addition to the \$400,000 City Council sets aside from Community Development Block Grants, but these are scattered throughout the city as people request them and do not systematically address access to paths of travel. This will require more thorough planning with a wide range of approaches to include trails, pedestrian lanes and bus routes among other variables. This is a proactive approach, rather than a reactive one of simply approving requests as they come in and we will continue working toward this goal

Access isn't always a ramp. Another valuable service that the City offers to its citizens is televising these very City Council meetings. We are extremely pleased to see that these broadcasts are now close captioned and appreciate the extensive efforts it took to accomplish this. We can now follow your activities on the Internet, which gives your citizens almost universal access.

We're so proud of Pueblo we've made it an example for emergency preparedness. The Justice Department requires the City to have an emergency plan for citizens with disabilities. Various disasters, most notably Hurricane Katrina, reinforced the urgent need for comprehensive plans. To that end, the ADA Advisory Committee has been working with the Pueblo Police Department and City and County. We are very pleased that the City and County websites now list utility registry numbers so that people who will be seriously harmed if they lose power or heat can notify Black Hills and Xcel to get priority service during an outage. Without those numbers on the website, it is very difficult for people to know whom to contact.

The Pueblo Police Department Dispatch department is developing a state of the art registry system for people who would need assistance in an emergency, and particularly in an evacuation, to let emergency responders know of pertinent health or disability issues. Dispatch is also working on a way to provide effective emergency

communications for people who are deaf. This community has embraced new technology quickly and communicates almost exclusively with texting, as do an increasing number of hearing people. There are also situations where the ability to text as opposed to speak with 911 is the difference between life and death. Direct communication by texting isn't possible, but Dispatch is working on a viable alternative.

We also have regular representation at the Local Emergency Planning Commission. Because of our participation, meetings have been moved to an accessible venue at the Health Department, and are much better attended and the LEPC has become much more aware of disability issues.

**Our second goal this year is to develop a plan for a Regional Transportation Authority.**

Because of the ongoing recession, we are pleased to simply have kept this idea alive. In fact, with several city staff members assuming the responsibilities of the Metropolitan Planning Organization, we now stand a better chance of achieving this long range goal than ever before. Our members have been invited to attend several consumer advisory committees that will have input into a comprehensive transportation plan, including possible changes along 4<sup>th</sup> Street. We are also developing allies in this effort, such as Pueblo Active Community Environments. Where the RTA concept has succeeded, it has involved the entire community and has helped improve the economy.

We have also gotten regular updates from Pueblo Transit and SRDA about changes in service. We have given support and input to the current fare plan and use of automatic tickets as well as adjustments in the route structure. We are thrilled with the partnership between Pueblo Transit and Greyhound, where access has been sorely lacking in past years. 2012 is the deadline by which all over the road buses must be fully accessible. We look forward to developing the plans for the remodeling and expansion of the Pueblo Transit administration building.

**Our third goal is to increase participation with the County.**

We have developed relationships with County staff who will attend when there are issues pertaining directly to them. We hope to build on this in the coming year with the construction of the Justice Center, which we have just been invited to review, and the new Emergency Operations Center. Some of our members have also approached the County Commission with an access policy for rallies at the Statue of Liberty on 10<sup>th</sup> Street.

**Our fourth goal is to conduct an extensive outreach campaign to build awareness in the community about our role and to attract new membership.**

To this end, the City approved business cards and brochures, which we will now have to update because we have moved from SRDA to the El Pueblo History Museum. We have also added two new members who are not part of our veteran group. We would like to develop successors to our leadership and will continue to seek out younger community leaders whose barriers are likely to be quite different from the ones we have faced. We are also very grateful to the City webmaster for promptly posting just about anything we have requested.

## **FUTURE PLANS**

To wrap it all up, we've just scheduled a training with the Rocky Mountain ADA Center for review of several important updates that went into effect on March 15, 2011. It takes place on July 26<sup>th</sup>, the anniversary of the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Several communities around the state will be celebrating with picnics. We take action. Our future plans are to continue monitoring your compliance with the ADA, to alert you to any issues as they arise, and to engage in the community in any way we can to make Pueblo the most accessible city in Colorado. One very important benefit of relocating our meetings is that we have direct access to Chamber of Commerce staff through the visitors' center. It has always been one of our goals to engage the business community—the final frontier of access is employment—and now we have the opportunity to build those relationships.

**CITY of PUEBLO**  
**2010 A.D.A. CURB RAMP CONSTRUCTION**

Funding: CDBG - Community Development Block Grant. CIF - Capital Improvement Fund.  
 CDOT - Colo. Dept. of Transp., ARRA - American Recovery & Reinvestment Act

<u>PROJECT NUMBER, NAME &amp; FUNDING SOURCE</u>	<u>COR'S</u>	<u>RAMPS / COR</u>
<u>LOCATION</u>		
<b>2010-050 CONCRETE CROSSPAN REPLACEMENT - (CIF)</b>		
1 28TH & CHEYENNE - NW, NE	2	2
2 CONSTITUTION AND CONCORD - NW, NE	2	3
3 HOLLYWOOD & FAIRFIELD - NW, SW, SE	3	6
4 MOHAWK & GLENMORE - NE, SE	2	2
5 SOUTH DR & PEAKVIEW - NW, NE	2	2
	<u>11</u>	<u>15</u>
<b>2010-054 CARTERET STORM SEWER - (CIF)</b>		
6 CARTERET & SMITH - SW, SE	2	4
7 CARTERET & JONES - SW	1	2
	<u>3</u>	<u>6</u>
<b>2010-056 PUEBLO BLVD STORM SEWER - (CIF)</b>		
8 PUEBLO BLVD & AZALEA - SE, SW	2	4
9 PUEBLO BLVD & ASTER - SE, SW	2	4
10 FAIRFIELD & ASTER - SE, SW	2	4
	<u>6</u>	<u>12</u>
<b>2010 MISC (CIF)</b>		
11 8TH & TROY - NW COR	1	2
12 TALON & TIERRA BERIENDA - NW, NE, SW	3	4
13 TALON & AQUILA - NW, SW, SE	3	4
14 UNION & RICHMOND - SW	1	1
	<u>8</u>	<u>11</u>
<b>2010-022 ADA CURB RAMPS 09 PH 2 - (CDBG)</b>		
15 12TH & QUEENS - ALL 4 COR'S	4	8
16 CHESTNUT & SANDS - ALL 4 COR'S	4	4
17 CHESTNUT & SOLAR - ALL 4 COR'S	4	4
18 CLARK & B ST - NW, SW, SE	3	6
19 HIGHLAND & ORMAN - ALL 4 COR'S	4	8
20 JONES & EDEN - NW, NE	2	4
21 14TH & SANTA FE - SW, SE	2	3
22 BAYSTATE & WABASH - ALL 4 COR'S	4	8
23 4TH & QUEENS - ALL 4 COR'S	4	8
24 VAN BUREN & VETA - NW, NE, SE	3	5
	<u>34</u>	<u>58</u>

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<u>LOCATION</u>		<u>COR</u>	
<b>2010-052 DEANE LN ST IMP'S - (CDBG)</b>			
25 12TH & DEANE	2	2	
26 13TH & DEANE	2	2	
	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	
<b>2010-085 BESSEMER SIDEWALK &amp; CURB &amp; GUTTER (CDBG)</b>			
27 CEDAR & JONES - ALL 4 CORNERS	4	8	
28 CEDAR & LOGAN - NW, SW	2	4	
	<u>6</u>	<u>12</u>	
<b>2010-003 NORTHERN AVE STREETScape &amp; TRAIL REPLACEMENT (ARRA)</b>			
29 NORTHERN & VINEWOOD - SW, SE	2	2	
30 NORTHERN & CLEMSON - NW, NE, SE	3	4	
31 NORTHERN & LEHIGH - NW, NE	2	4	
32 NORTHERN & HOLLYWOOD - SW, SE	2	4	
	<u>9</u>	<u>14</u>	
<b>TOTAL FOR 2010 (CIF)</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>COR'S</b>	<b>44</b> <b>RAMPS</b>
<b>TOTAL FOR 2010 (CDBG)</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>COR'S</b>	<b>74</b> <b>RAMPS</b>
<b>TOTAL FOR 2010 (ARRA)</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>COR'S</b>	<b>14</b> <b>RAMPS</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL FOR 2010 (CIF), (CDBG) &amp; (ARRA)</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>COR'S</b>	<b>132</b> <b>RAMPS</b>

June 17,2011

### CITY of PUEBLO CURB RAMP CONSTRUCTION

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>CDBG Corners</b>	<b>CIF &amp; ARRA Corners</b>	<b>% Non- CDBG Corners</b>	<b>CDBG Ramps</b>	<b>CIF &amp; ARRA Ramps</b>	<b>% Non- CDBG Ramps</b>
<b>2010</b>	44	37	<b>46%</b>	74	58	<b>44%</b>
<b>2009</b>	77	43	<b>36%</b>	144	59	<b>29%</b>
<b>2008</b>	139	20	<b>13%</b>	229	25	<b>10%</b>
<b>2007</b>	122	16	<b>12%</b>	228	22	<b>9%</b>

**George E. Chintala  
SRDA Transportation  
230 N. Union Ave.  
Pueblo, Colorado 81003**

**June 17, 2011**

**The SRDA Transportation Program provides service to persons that are sixty years of age or older in the city and county of Pueblo – To persons of any age in the rural county which includes Avondale, Boone, Beulah, Colorado City and Rye – To persons of any age with disabilities in the small urbanized areas of Pueblo West, Blende and Vineland.**

**January 1 through December 31 2010 SRDA Transportation provided 22,537 one-way trips**

- **(48%) 10,802 one-way trips to Disabled over the age of sixty**
- **(22%) 4,973 one-way trips to Disabled under the age of sixty**
- **(7%) one-way trips to Non-Elderly Non-Disabled**
- **(23%) one-way trips to Non-Disabled Elderly**

**Trip Types**

- **(69%) 15,551 Medical**
- **(15%) 3,381 Employment**
- **(11%) 2,479 Center Related**
- **(4%) 901 Grocery Shopping**
- **(1%) 225 Other type Trips (Legal, Social Service ...)**

**(53%) 11,976 were wheelchair trips**

**419 Unduplicated Clients**

- **174 (42%) Low-Income (Below Federal Poverty Guidelines)**
  - **34% Low-Income Minority**
  - **66% Low-Income Non-Minority**

CITI LIFT DATA

**2010**

Riders	Revenue	
	Hours	Avg
4126	1698.20	2.43
4086	1603.02	2.55
4360	1812.32	2.41
4558	1728.22	2.64
4069	1644.30	2.47
4329	1823.34	2.37
4169	1749.26	2.38
4527	1798.50	2.52
4640	1793.34	2.59
4378	1546.75	2.83
4360	1648.10	2.65
3921	1535.37	2.55
51523	20380.72	2.53
4294	1698	

**2010**

Mileage	Revenue	
	Hours	Avg
23293	1698.20	13.72
23255	1603.02	14.51
25765	1812.32	14.22
24686	1728.22	14.28
22017	1644.30	13.39
24964	1823.34	13.69
24176	1749.26	13.82
24938	1798.50	13.87
24398	1793.34	13.60
22673	1546.75	14.66
24512	1648.10	14.87
22329	1535.37	14.54
287006	20380.72	14.08
23917	1698	

## PUEBLO ADA COMMITTEE BY-LAWS

### A. NAME

The name of this organization is "Pueblo ADA Committee" as established by City Ordinance # 10097 on April 12th 2004, hereafter referred to as the "Committee"

### B. PURPOSE

The Committee will serve as an active resource to the City Council, City Management/employees, businesses and residents of the City of Pueblo on issues concerning people with disabilities. The Committee will develop and implement a work plan to:

1. Review City building projects and plans during planning stages;
2. Review and monitor existing facilities and services for compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 as amended;
3. Provide information and resources to the community about compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and other important legislation;
4. Facilitate negotiations of grievances or suggestions from citizens and other entities about access to facilities and services;
5. Identify barriers that hinder citizen participation in all aspects of City life;
6. Recommend to the City Manager and City Council plans for ADA compliance.

### C. COMMITTEE MEETINGS

1. Regular Meeting
  - a. Are held once a month, or as scheduled with advanced notice, to complete the work of the Committee
  - b. Must be held during business hours in a location that is accessible to all people with disabilities, and include "supports" such text in Braille and large print, communication aids, interpreters, assisted listening devices, and speaker phones with 24 hours advanced notice.
2. Voting
  - a. All Committee members may vote, except for representatives of the City.
  - b. Proxy votes will be accepted in writing, via email or telephonically for excused absences.
  - c. 51% of the membership constitutes a quorum for purpose of voting.
  - d. In the event that there is no quorum when a critical decision needs to be made, the chairperson or his/her designee may poll members by phone or email, provided that all members are contacted.
3. The Executive Committee with the approval of the Chairperson may call special meetings.

4. Agenda
  - a. The Chairperson and/or Executive Committee will generate agenda items.
  - b. The agenda will include time for public comment.
  - c. Unscheduled presentations are limited to 10 minutes, unless extended at the discretion of the Chairperson or by a majority vote of the Committee.
  
5. City Liaison - Record Keeping and Dissemination of Information
  - a. The City Liaison (ADA Coordinator) will distribute minutes and meeting agendas and disseminate information on behalf of the Committee as directed by the Chairperson.
  - b. The City Liaison will also act as staff assistant to the Committee in managing action items; scheduling work sessions with the City Council and otherwise facilitating Committee work with the various City departments.
  - c. The Committee with the assistance of the City Liaison will provide a written annual report to the City Council before a scheduled work session. Such annual report will also include plans for the upcoming year.

#### D. MEMBERSHIP

Membership on the Committee is limited to 15 appointments. No fewer than 51% of those members must be people with significant disabilities who have access to a network of other people with significant disabilities and may include the parent or guardian of a child or children with disabilities.

1. In order to assure that the Committee represents a broad range of needs, membership may be drawn, but not limited to the following categories (People who):
  - a. Are mobility impaired, use manual or motorized wheelchairs
  - b. Have significant quadriplegia
  - c. Are deaf
  - d. Are hearing impaired
  - e. Are visually impaired
  - f. Are blind
  - g. Have a significant mental illness
  - h. Experience speech or communication barriers
  - i. Have cognitive impairments, including traumatic brain injury
  - j. Have a developmental disability
  - k. Are extremely sensitive to toxins and electro/magnetic fields
  - l. Or who face significant barriers performing activities of everyday life.
  
2. Membership may also include someone with direct, detailed knowledge of ADA accessibility guidelines and requirements or other disability-related legislation.

3. Membership may also include builders, contractors, or people from other professions who are directly involved with implementing ADA standards

#### E. MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Must have direct personal knowledge of the barriers faced by people with disabilities.
2. Must be able to serve as a liaison between the Committee and the community about issues and activities affecting people with disabilities.
3. Must consult with the Chairperson, Vice Chairperson or Secretary, and City Liaison before making statements or representing the Committee on any project or activity.
4. Must be able to participate in at least one subcommittee or other activity on a continuing basis.
5. Are expected to attend all regularly scheduled meetings and must notify the Chairperson or Secretary of any absence in advance. Membership will be terminated after three (3) consecutive unexcused absences.
6. Vacancies to be reviewed by Committee and names of proposed members will be forwarded to the City Liaison to present to the City Manager for acceptance.

#### F. TERM OF OFFICE/ELECTIONS

1. Members will be appointed by the City Manager for terms of four (4) years. The initial appointment will allow for staggered terms.
2. Members are limited to two (2) consecutive terms unless the committee recommends additional term(s).
3. Members must serve for one year, except for the initial appointment, before becoming Chairperson.
4. Officers will be elected annually each January.
5. Vacancies of the Executive Committee will be elected by the full Committee

#### G. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee shall consist of three (3) members and the City Liaison, including the Chairperson, the Vice Chairperson, and the Secretary/Historian chosen by the full membership at the January meeting.

## H. RESPONSIBILITIES OF CHAIRPERSON

1. Preside at Committee Meetings
2. Preside at Executive Committee meetings
3. Develop agenda items in coordination with the Executive Committee
4. Assure that Committee meetings adhere to the agenda
5. Assure that the Vice Chairperson or Secretary/Historian is prepared to preside in the Chairperson's absence.
6. Be available for consultation at request of the Committee members, City of Pueblo employees & management, City Council and residents
7. Report to the Committee regarding all communication s/he has received or delivered as Chairperson for the Committee
8. Maintain contacts with the City Liaison
9. Oversee the development of any reports to City Management and the City Council
10. Assist with sub-committees and/or task forces of the Committee

## I. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE VICE CHAIRPERSON

1. Preside at Committee meetings and Executive Committee meetings in the Chairperson's absence.
2. Assist with developing agenda items
3. Assist with sub-committee and/or task forces
4. Assist in writing reports to City Management/City Council
5. Participate in new-member orientation

## J. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SECRETARY/HISTORIAN

1. Preside at meetings in absence of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson
2. Assist with developing agenda items
3. Assist with preparing minutes/action register for distribution to Committee members
4. Assist with sub-committees and/or task forces
5. Assists with writing reports to City Management/City Council
6. Assist the Committee with project timelines, meeting and project planning
7. Collect and organize newspaper articles and other publicity events/initiatives concerning the Committee
8. Prepares and maintains a Committee history scrap/log book

## K. SUB-COMMITTEES/TASK FORCES

1. Sub-committees and/or task forces are appointed by the Committee and reports to the Committee
2. They may call on outside experts or other persons who can facilitate the work of the Committee.

## L. AMENDING BY-LAWS

1. The by-laws will be reviewed by the full membership after being approved by the Executive Committee
2. Changes to the by-laws must be approved by a simple majority vote of the Committee.