

Pueblo and PACOG ADA Committee

Meeting Minutes

Date: September 3, 2020

- I. Call to order**
- II. Roll call**
- III. Approval of minutes from last meeting**
- IV. Guest Speakers: Joe O'Brien, PEDCO**

Joe is working on a community of subdivisions looking at ways to promote development. Pueblo is not getting the investment it should. The Long Range Transportation Plan needs to be changed to reflect what is actually happening. Some streets in these subdivisions will go from streets to collectors. The requirement we recommended for residential streets was for directional curb ramps for the safety of the pedestrians and this is making it more expensive to develop, including the additional sidewalk width, going from a 4 ft. width (required by the ADA) to a 5 ft. sidewalk.

The number of building permits is going from about 130 to 145 and it should be at 800. Pueblo West has 250. In 2009 it was 600 in both Pueblo and Pueblo West. Development comes with adding residential units. We have nothing available right now. Development may cost the same anywhere, but land varies and we don't have enough available. Builders and developers want to get more money for their land than we are offering.

It was moved and seconded that we continue this discussion in the work session to address the safety concerns that Ralph McPherson raised about diagonal curb ramps.

v. City Report: Todd Berisford

Todd Berisford said curb ramps at Outlook and Fortino are completed and the streets are now being overlaid. There are lane closures and the work is taking place at night. Upgrades at Greenwood are ongoing. Curb ramps from 18th to 23rd will be in soon and then work will move to 24th and 16th and after that there will be signals at 18th and Greenwood. Then the project will move to 24th along Tuxedo to Pueblo Blvd,

Minnequa, 24th Street have to be prepped and design work is ongoing.

Street rehabilitation funds will be used for Minnequa, Eaglewood and 24th, and Lake to 1-25 and three more for 2020.

Sharon Campbell reminded Mr. Berisford that curb ramps should have been put in at Oxford and Tulane when other work was done there.

Heather Norton asked about saving historical street stamps along Greenwood. Mr. Berisford said that every attempt is made to salvage these stamps but old concrete crumbles and it isn't always possible. Only two were saved and it goes behind the original.

Projects on Hudson and also Prairie are being surveyed for ramps. This is the design phase, so the ramps will go in next year Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) requests are due soon so the city will be putting in curb ramps all year. Most of the CDBG funds are for citizen's requests. We have Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) multimodal funding for the curb ramp and sidewalk work on Prairie and it includes transit stops and pedestrian/school crossing stops. Street Rehabilitation funds were used to match the grant and this makes it so that the concrete work is done with CDOT money.

Don Bruestle asked if there were any comments from neighboring businesses about these improvements. Todd Berisford said comments about Greenwood and about Fortino have been positive.

Public Works is just about ready to train people on using the sidewalk evaluation tool.

vi. County Services: Weston Burrer

Mr. Burrer said the county did its original self-evaluation for ADA compliance in 1993. He found it and is trying to make it accessible. It is now in Preferred Document Format (PDF). There is a time line for reevaluation, which should be done next year. The new Department of Human Services (DHS) tower should be ready for occupancy by the end of October but DHS may not be ready, so it will probably move over by the New Year. Then there will only be two locations, the new tower and the old Baptist Church at 9th and Grand.

Weston Burrer said he is hoping for historic grant funding for a third elevator at the courthouse. Don Bruestle asked if it would reach all levels and he said it could include the roof and lower basement if we want. The grant is due October 1. They are trying to find ways to work around distancing, masks, etc.

vii. Emergency Management: Ron Sasaoka, Charles Bradley

Mr. Sasaoka said the EOC and Health Department are working on consumer based testing. They have contracted with Mako Medical, now testing from 10 to 7 on 2nd and 4th Saturdays to make it available for people who work during the week. They will do the swabbing with a 72 hour maximum turn around. Pueblohealth.org has preregistration available.

Kristen Castor can email Sadie Martinez for invites to her meetings.

Heather Norton asked if the testing would be good enough for the university. Sharon Campbell said she came to the Health Department to drop off a sharps box and the security guard would not drop her mask so that Mrs. Campbell could hear her. Ron Sasaoka said the rules are strict and this was a new employee. Mrs. Campbell had her hold the paper to the glass so she could read the instructions. She was charged for dropping it off, which she expected and paid for.

Ron will look into it.

Lorraine Greenwood said there was a functional needs exercise in August that was very limited. Another is planned in May and we might be able to join in. She has been doing case investigations for positive COVID. No large gatherings. This weekend (Labor Day) is of concern.

viii Chairperson Report

Daisy Jensen is present for Historic Arkansas River Project (HARP) expansion. The Channel and Boat house are being designed and will be ready for construction next year. City Departments have been involved. Sam Vigil thinks it covers all the issues with landscaping. Kristen Castor wondered if it meets cane travel and communication needs. Sam said wayfinding issues need to be treated differently.

Sonja Baker said she got stuck on a crack in the sidewalk. Sam Vigil says they get that all the time. They have recently updated their noticing because they say the city will fix a sidewalk if the owner doesn't and they have never had the manpower to do it. PW is just ready to train people to use the sidewalk rating tool.

Meeting Adjourned at 3:00.