

12-2-21 Minutes DRAFT ADA Committee

Present: Sharon Campbell, CO-chair, Heather Norton, Co-chair, Don Brustle, Kent Tompkins, Transit, Sonja Baker, Canon City Advocates, Regina Renee Ward, Pueblo City-County Library, Susan Lindamen, Center Toward Self-Reliance, Lorraine Greenwood, Chemical Munitions Destruction, Weston Burr, Pueblo County, and Ron Sasaoka, Department of Health,

Due to a lack of minutes of the last meeting, there was no approval of minutes. Nor was there a report from the City of Pueblo on their update as to curb cut and other status.

Weston Burr reported that the Runyon Sports Complex modifications include moving the dugouts to grade to avoid having to put in a ramp, modifications of the center grandstands for some dispersed wheelchair seating; there will be much more in the other field. The press box is being lowered, but will not be accessible because it is so small that it isn't required. Don pointed out that handrails are needed to access bleachers. There will be additional work in the future to improve access further as funding becomes available.

Weston also reported that the Wells Fargo building plans will be available before the end of the year and they will reflect the comments shared by the Committee on its tour. Bariatric accommodations will be included, and room to maneuver motorized chair in the bathrooms. The Elections Department may be on the ground floor, with ballot processing being done behind glass where everyone can see to give the public more confidence in government. Plans for which departments will be where and when are still up in the air, so to speak. There will be

meeting rooms that can be rented out. Full occupancy is not anticipated until 2024 or 2025.

Don suggested that when the initial phases are complete that the County publicize an open house.

Kent Tompkins reported that the new Transit building on Hudson and 18th will be a long-term goal. Another long-term goal is establishing substations on both the North and South sides, starting with using some space from CDOT's acquisition of the North Side K-Mart. A bathroom in that building is a priority that the City may have to agree to maintain. The location of the South Side substation is not yet selected, although Sharon pointed out that there is a perfectly good former K-Mart there, too. Another long-term goal is a bus route to the Industrial/Airport area. That will have to wait until there is a South Side substation.

Two new hybrid buses that eventually can be operated on an all-electric basis will be purchased this year. In the short term, due to low staffing issues, they may have to temporarily cut back services for 3-4 months. They will not be cutting the mall route, as it is the busiest this time of the year. However, the Highland Part, Berkeley, etc. rout would not have the trailing buses, so there would be a one-hour wait between buses.

Strategies to increase staffing that are being looked at include negotiating higher wages and bonus with the Union. Also training employees who wish to get their CDL so they can drive the buses.

Don suggested that some signage telling people waiting at the bus stops when the next bus would come would be good. There are brochures with that information in the front of each bus.

Ron Sasaoka reported something under emergency management, but I have little idea what he said. Something about COVID, and wild fires, and oral vaccines. Heather inquired about overflow hospitals, and the solution would be to bring in FEMA employees if overwhelmed.

Regina Renee Ward reported that contrast striping is finally on each landing in the library. The main entrance and first floor are entirely closed. Patrons need to park at the Church Street entrance, call the number on the employee entrance and an employee will escort them to the 4th floor, where staff and services are, via the employee elevator. For those who cannot wear their mask in the library accommodations such as curbside pickup are still available.

Lorraine Greenwood reported that the full-scale disaster exercise is postponed to 2022 but must be completed by 2023.

Sonja Baker reported that they need to update their website and blog. She will be gone all of December and it will be done in January.

Susan Lindamen reported that the Center Toward Self Reliance is now serving 26% of the state. There are facilities in Walsenburg, Alamosa, Canon City, Lamar, and one being started in Trinidad. .

Sharon, Heather and Don will work on a press release promoting the ADA Committee. We will request the City and County Public Information Officers to edit and submit it to the Chieftain in hopes of getting it published.

The meeting adjourned before 2:30 PM.