

ADA April 4 2024 meeting

Attendees:

Sharon Campbell member, Tura Cowan Vice Chair, Robert Long member, Rita Gonzales member, Chris Kregel Pueblo Transit, Olivia Leyva Pueblo Department of Public Health and Environment, Ron Sasaoka Pueblo Department of Public Health and Environment Emergency Preparedness and Response, Don Bruestle member, Mary Leonard member, Deborah MacIlroy member, Lexi Romero Stewart City of Pueblo Housing Department Program Coordinator, Chuck Roy Pueblo ADA Coordinator, Todd Berisford City of Pueblo Public Works, Laura Leyba Committee Chair

Zoom:

Weston Burrer Pueblo County, Josh Johnson Pueblo County Sheriff Department Emergency Management Coordinator, Dylan Goodman MPO Transportation Planner, Christy Roque Pueblo Library District, Kent Tompkins Pueblo Transit, Dr. Justin Hiniker CSUP

Meeting called to order 1:00 by committee chair, Laura Leyba.

No public comments.

Motion to approve Minutes from the March 2024 committee meeting was proposed by Don Bristle and seconded by Mary Lenard. The March minutes were approved by verbal vote of the majority of the committee members.

Guest speaker, Olivia Leyva Pueblo Department of Public Health and Environment and Engagement Initiative Coordinator Equity

Ms. Leyva started her presentation with a brief introduction of herself including a physical description for People who are visually impaired including her background information.

Mission of health department: to promote and protect the health and environment of Pueblo County

Vision : thriving, healthy and safe Pueblo County

Quality accountability and performance guide the department's work for this year.

Her work includes Diversity equity and inclusion with an internal and external focus.

She explained the department's focus in more detail.

She assists with grant writing to ensure the accessibility piece is included.

External focus includes building trust with community.

The current focus of the department is to connect and learn from the community which is the reason for her presentation today. The purpose is to ensure the health department is meeting the needs of all the community.

This month the department is gearing up to do community surveying, the Community Health Assessment, to determine health priorities in the community.

Historically, there have been communities that have been left out of this discussion so they are making an intentional effort to reach out to people with disabilities to get their voices represented.

They are reaching out to community support groups such as the low Vision Support group and the TBI Support group.

There will be a community wide survey. They want to make sure they are doing their due diligence to involve the whole community.

There will be an open house at the health department tomorrow, April 5 from 11:00 to 4:00 based around this community survey.

Different facets of health department include environmental, different inspections of food facilities, child care facilities, pools, water testing, community engagement working in different neighborhoods. And community health services and birth and death certificates.

Justing asked about the needle sharing programs, which Olivia could not address because of different focus of the two programs. There was some clarification about these programs.

Todd as if there was a national data base for birth certificates instead of having to go to the county where a person was born. This was out of Olivia's scope of work.

Rita asked about help for people who hoard. Olivia stated the health department could only check on people in rental situations. They cannot check on people in private residences. Protective Services could get involved in residences reported for unsanitary conditions.

Chris asked if the health department could intervene with people on public transit with personal hygiene issues where their care attendant might not be doing their job. Olivia stated the health department really does not have jurisdiction in individual cases. The state health department does inspections for long term care facilities. DHS is the agency to report issues of neglect.

There was more discussion of this topic.

City report chuck Roy

Todd Berisford gave the city report.

Finished projects prairie will be complete next week, paving is done and concrete will be done next week. Sidewalks will be done on individual basis based on request. Not enough money to do all at this time. Will go to property owners to make those changes. Prairie includes new traffic signal at O'Neal and new hawk at Crawford Townhomes. Just finished concrete work on crosswalks at b Street and Victoria, paving will be done in the next month.

Projects started:

29th Street later in year

Cheyenne between 19th and 29th, new ADA ramp and sidewalk work. Sidewalks will be 5 feet wide with some transitions down to 4 feet.

Elizabeth Street will be done in two phases, 17th to city center and hwy 50 down to 17th Street. Next year paving all of Elizabeth

Don asked about crosswalks at 29th and Elizabeth. Lots of pedestrian traffic, City only wants people to cross Elizabeth at intersections due to heavy traffic. There are 3 crosswalks.

There was some discussion regarding concrete vs. painted crosswalks. Todd encouraged informing him when people with disabilities have issues crossing streets.

Dillon will be closed to one lane for several weeks due to sewer line replacement.

Paving on Dillon will be from Hwy 47 to Eagle Ridge.

Don asked about what is happening on north Pueblo Blvd. near YMCA. Chuck stated there was a Pueblo West water reclamation project going on.

There will be work on 29th Street in 2 phases, High Street to I25 and High Street to railroad tracks.

Roundabout at Dillon and Eagle Ridge is still under design.

St Clair and Prairie intersection will be redesigned.

Other traffic circles planned are Adams and Jackson, Berkeley and Mesa and Orman intersection near Central High.

There was discussion about traffic circles from the perspective of drivers and safety for pedestrians crossing especially persons with vision loss. Chuck offered to provide a presentation to this committee on navigating traffic circles like they are doing in the schools for new drivers. Chuck stated free flowing traffic circles are much cheaper to maintain than traffic signals and the traffic moves along more efficiently.

Work on fire stations will be starting in June with fire station 11. Chuck explained the new ways fire stations are now being designed and built.

Lexi asked about how pedestrians manage crossings where roadwork is taking place, especially persons with vision loss. Todd explained there is traffic control for both vehicles and pedestrians. They put up barriers to prevent people from veering into the street and there is usually someone to assist pedestrians having difficulties. The contractor is supposed to notify nearby residences 3 days in advance of the construction starting.

There was some discussion regarding this situation.

Laura asked when the committee would get the plans for Union and Main renovation to review. Chuck stated the design is completed too late for any major changes. If there are minor problems they can be handled in the construction process as field adjustments.

Don asked for some assistance with reviewing plans to help the committee understand what the important issues could be.

Todd stated the committee will review access issues.

Chuck suggested that he or Todd could attend a work session to review and explain the plans with the committee.

There was some discussion regarding this.

Chuck stated the ice arena is still waiting for the elevator to be delivered.

Laura and Chuck will connect regarding a work session to review the Union and Main plans.

Rita asked about the work on Red Creek Springs Road where there is no sidewalk.

Several committee members mentioned that this has been asked about in the past, but there has been no follow up.

Chuck and Todd said they would look into this.

County report Weston Burrell

The operator on the west side will be installed first since this entrance is complete.

There will be a ribbon cutting with the commissioners in the next few weeks. The

committee is to be invited to this. When the west entrance is open which will be fully accessible, the east entrance will be closed to remove the temporary structure. There was animated discussion and clarification regarding continuing issues of accessibility at this historic county building for individuals who are disabled. Over the next 5 years, 80% of county employees will be moved to former Wells Fargo building so there will be less need to go to the current historic county building. Laura asked for clarification as to who is the county ADA coordinator.

Weston stated the ADA coordinator duties are split. Brandon Mathews is for legalities, Weston handles grievances and request for accommodations.

Weston suggested Laura send an email to himself, Patsy Creswell and Brandon Mathews and Weston will send an email to Laura and include the other two. Patsy Creswell is technically still the ADA coordinator.

Transit by Kent Tompkins

Solar lights project, solar lights on bus stops, solar lights in 33 stops, reduced from 53. Kent will send list of bus stops with solar lights for committee to review and make recommendations

The best places for lights are high crime areas places where youth frequent, stops are that are not ADA accessible. Solar lights will light up bus stop.

The grant is only for 33 at this time, but transit may look into getting more in the future.

Laura asked about non accessible stops in Salt Creek area. Salt Creek stops will not get solar lights at this time. There are no current plans for accessibility to these bus stops, but transit is looking into what can be done.

City Lift:

Chris Kringle stated he still has issues with maintaining sufficient numbers of drivers. He just hired 3 new drivers. He gained one bus but lost two.

Emergency management and Health Department by Ron Sasaoka

Josh Johnson sent out email requesting participants in May 8 emergency drill exercise. Extreme fire danger over weekend, pay attention.

Health Department

Complimented Olivia and stated Health department can do other presentations to the committee.

Flu virus and RSV are waning, avian flu is on rise throughout the USA especially in animals and then transmitted to humans resulting in flu transmitted back and forth between humans and animals.

Vaccine is recommended, H1n1.

Monkey pox is also a concern. One Colorado promoting monkey pox vaccination

Don talked about buses stopping in crosswalk, Don called Ben Valdez, Kent responded that this was communicated to the bus drivers

Library updates, Christie will be the library rep to ADA, digital accessibility, listening devices in first floor meeting rooms, increase digital accessibility before July 1
Anyone interested in trying computer software
Laura Deborah Tura Rita might participate in walk audit of library and review the accessibility programs on the computer.

Ole Business

Tura, Sharon and Laura met with Chuck roy to review the compliance status report, Chuck provided new forms. City is out of compliance but not by a lot. Mainly parks and rec and HARP.

At the request of Kent Tompkins, Pueblo Transit, Laura visited the bus stops in the Salt Creek area. She found that none of them were accessible for people with disabilities. She tried to contact the Pueblo County ADA Coordinator regarding this situation and possible funding, but she has not been successful. She is frustrated with county, Discussed cannot figure out who is ADA coordinator and no one responding to her emails for past 2 weeks.

Pueblo West walk audit and business community Subcommittee were put off to next meeting due to lack of time.

New Business will wait till next month's Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00