

### **July 3, 2025 Minutes ADA Advisory Committee meeting.**

**Present:** Sharon Campbell, chair; Tura Cowan, member; Rita Gonzales, member; Guy Chabot, guest; Sunny Lyon, guest; Ronald Sassoka, Pueblo West Metro Board; Chris Krengle, MV Transit; Joseph Trenor, member; Lisa Pate, Asst. ADA Coordinator; Chuck Roy, ADA Coordinator; Olivia Leyva, Health Department; Donald L. Bruestle, member; Diane Danti, City Council candidate and guest; Mario Garcia, guest; Lexie Romero Stewart, Housing; Dylan Goodman, PACOG transportation planner.

After roll call and introductions, the June 5 minutes were approved.

**Public Comments:** **Mario Garcia** discussed issues involving charging his power chair when it needed it. Tura Cowan seconded those problems. The question of whether or not private businesses have to let power chair users charge their chair under the ADA was raised. (They are not.) He was also wondering why there are so many curb cuts in places without sidewalks.

**City report:** The ramps to nowhere are there because the sidewalk installation and maintenance are up to the homeowner and the corners must have compliant curb cuts installed whenever they upgrade the roads. If the sidewalk that is damaged or missing would belong to a business, it only has to be addressed if the function of the business changes (i.e., a restaurant turns into a printing store) or the footprint is enlarged.

Curb cuts are paid for by grants, such as the Community Development Block Grants, which is administered by the Housing and Urban Development Agency or by the City directly. Requests from citizens generally come from the City budget if they are outside of the allotted CDBG zone.

Rarely, the City will issue a requirement that a homeowner repair their sidewalk. Almost always they cannot afford to do this, and the City will help by doing such things as using a saw to slope a small tripping hazard between slabs when possible.

Chuck checked out Memorial Hall as requested last meeting to see if performance people are occupying the handicapped seating. The show he went to did not, but Rita explained that at another one they had. **Chuck** will take another look and report back next meeting.

The **Wheel the world** program is going through the Chamber of Commerce. This is a grant from the Colorado Tourism Department to assess accessibility at various attractions, hotels, etc. They will have a website with that information so that prospective visitors with mobility impairments can decide if they want to come and spend their money here and have fun. Chuck was there by invitation from the Chamber as the City Representative on that committee. They are evaluating about 22 locations. The reason why the ADA

Committee was not invited to participate needs to be discussed with the Chamber. We have difficulty communicating effectively with them in the past and need to try again.

Lisa Pate reported on specific projects that will be out-of-date when the minutes are published and won't be listed here. There is a real problem with the fiber optic crews going through sewer systems. They then tell the homeowner that they have to fix it, which is not true. The fiber optic company is responsible for the repair. The City will help any homeowner who did pay for the repairs to get reimbursed by the fiber optic contractor.

Chuck is working on the ADA transition plan and anticipates getting it to City Council in the next month. The City Attorney decided that City Council neither needs to formally establish the Committee or approve our by-laws.

**Health Department** Olivia Levya reported that their inspectors do not inspect for ADA access as well. For pools, they look at the chemicals and storage and other public health concerns, not access to the pool. They have a detailed checklist to work from.

The first case of West Nile Disease has been reported in Larimer County, although it has not been found here yet. She gave away cards with tips for avoiding mosquito bites. She emphasized using repellants with DEET. More are available if we want to distribute them.

There was a rabies positive bat in town. People should leave bats that are acting unusually or dead, or pick it up carefully and bag it and take it to the Health Department for testing. They do not have the capability of 24-hour pickup.

**Transit Department** Nothing to report.

**PACOG Transit Department** Dylan Goodman reported that they are having to reprioritize projects due to a reduction in state funding.

**Safety Jam 2025** Lexie reported that they had adaptive bikes and trikes this year for kids with mobility impairments.

**Meeting with State Fair representative** is scheduled for our Work Session one week from today on July 8 from 1-3 PM at the South Side of the Agriculture Building. We will meet and see where it goes. We hope to get a full-facility walk/roll audit later, after the County and State Fairs. Getting our foot in the door is a big step forward.

**Visitability Presentation to the Homebuilders Association Report.** Generally reception was not positive, but between the problem with the proposal to alter the Regional Building organization and the fact that these changes cost some money, the hope is that the idea was planted and will eventually bear fruit. A presentation to the Board members of Habitat for Humanity will be scheduled.

**Adjournment** about 2:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Campbell, Chair