

## **Pueblo and PACOG ADA Committee Minutes August 7, 2025**

Present: Sharon Campbell Chair; Guy Chabot, member; Lisa Pate, Pueblo Public Works; Don Bruestle, member; Kent Tompkins, Pueblo Transit; Chris Kregel, Paratransit; Rita Gonzales, member; Helen Dupree, City of Pueblo Traffic engineer; Kristie Roque, Pueblo library; Mary Leonard, member; Justin Hiniker, CSU-Pueblo; Tiffany Garcia, Vocational Rehabilitation; Joe Treanor, member; Tura Cowan, member; Zoom: Joshua Johnson, Emergency Preparedness; Olivia Leyva, Sonja Baker, Canon City Affiliate; Lexi Romero, Health Department; Weston Burrer, Pueblo County; Laura Leyba, member.

After the usual call to order introductions and roll call and approval of the July 3, 2025 minutes, there were no public comments or guest speakers.

**City Report:** Chuck was gone and there was no report on the use of disability seating for light and sound equipment during the shows at Memorial Hall. Lisa will report on this next meeting. Lisa shared the paving improvements, including handrail installation at the City Park Administration building, ramps at the City Park Pavilion, and ramps on the Minnequa Park at Lakeview will be started in two or three weeks. Phase 3 of the Northern Avenue project will be started as well, from the Safeway on Prairie to the State Fair. The sidewalks ruined by trees will be fixed.

**County Report:** There was nothing to report for the County.

**Emergency Management:** On September 18, there will be an active shooter drill at the judicial center. Members are invited to participate. There was nothing exciting at the first Arkansas Water Festival last weekend. We are up to the festival seasons.

**Health Department:** They have tested mosquitoes here for West Nile Virus and found some infected. Pueblo has one hospitalized victim with it. Lexie suggests taking precautions, including long sleeved shirts and long pants at dusk and dawn.

Also, she was asked to look at if her health inspectors also look ADA issues when looking at food banks; they walked her through the inspections, and they do not look at the ADA pieces as part of their routine inspections list.

**Transit:** Kent reported that the State fair shuttle will be the same as usual, from the Parking Garage on Main to the Prairie gate at the same time intervals, although they will be changing the route slightly. There is a back-to-school Fair at Dutch Clark Stadium for D60. Transit is involved to teach students how to use the buses. Since student ridership trending down along with attendance, they might help with attendance when people (parents and students) know how to use the buses for transportation. They also gave a tour to the high

school -principals. They offer travel training on their website. Big push for that. Works for para transit too.

They have received the solar lights and will soon start to install them as they work around the Fair schedule. Don suggested that the new lights provide another opportunity for publicity for the ADA committee and Transit.

**Traffic** Helen Dupree is looking into a long-range transportation plan. They have a survey open until the 15<sup>th</sup> of Aug; Sharon sent the link to the Committee members right after the meeting. They want a complete safety action plan, and to hear from residents about unsafe areas the City should know about. Places without sufficient lighting is one example. They are going to create a midblock traffic signal near Corwin, with a rectangular rapid flash beacon that people are less likely to run. Also, there is a plan to install a midblock crossing on Alan Hammel. First, they need to see where people are actually crossing and put one there. Need ramps for midblock crossings, too. They will also do a signal rebuild, so people can reach the button from the curb ramp.

**TAC** nothing to report .

**Canon City Report:** The Trail committee is getting the trail track chair next goal after a demonstration where it was well-received. This will let people with mobility impairments go on the trails. The next task is to figure out where to have them stored and maintained so PWDs can use trails here.

The parking lot of Sunflower Bank was resurfaced and an extra handicapped spot was added next to the current one but had no access lane between the two. There is a Restaurant, the Homer Gumbo Pot, with an inaccessible bathroom. Sonja commented on that on her review on their Google page. Rob Gilkerson is working with a student in high school who is working on her capstone project on accessible restaurants. Guy said that the Canon City ADA Coordinator should provide assistance to the restaurant at no charge to make accessible. Have the ADA coordinator contact Sharon and Guy will help.

Canon City Parks and Rec had a Community Stakeholder work session meeting in June to help verify the proposed Swimming Pool space program for the new Canon City Recreation District Pool project. Sonja will share input on access with the community. They plan to put in both a ramp and a hydraulic chair. Rob Gilkerson is going to stay on their case.

Saturday August 9 the Lockwood Foundation will be at Staunton State Park near Conifer. They use volunteers and trail riders to move people with mobility impairments up mountain trails. This is a trip Sonja Baker has enjoyed several times.

**Old Business:** Don suggested to the City PIO that publicity about the accessible bathrooms at Dutch Clark Stadium would be good for D60, the City's PURA and the ADA Committee publicity. Adding appropriate facilities that are wheelchair accessible, at grade and at the entrance of stadium as two separate family facilities with child changing tables; hot, cold water, ac, heat and waste liquid going to a tank like on a motor home is an innovation. The tanks will be pumped out. We do need excellent signage throughout upper area so that people know where it is. Maybe we should have a grand opening. There is an example of an adult changing table at the old Wells Fargo building, which is now the Government Services Center.

**Water Works Park Audit:** Tura, Laura, Joe and Councilwoman Martinez were to see where the accessible walkways for the park could be. Parking close enough to the reservoir drive park is quite a long way for those who can't walk much. However, once you got to the park everything is beautiful. Parks and Recreation has a contractor working on a master plan for the area and there was an open house for feedback for 4 alternative layouts. The audit information will be helpful. They will narrow it down to two plans that we can review in a couple of months.

Justin pointed out that they must have signage telling people where they CANNOT access the park by wheelchair.

**State Fair meeting:** We are planning a series of walk audits for the State Fair, which will be coordinated by Laura Leyba. We want a wide variety of capabilities for a lot of input. If we can get some temporarily able-bodied folks it will sensitize them to the issues.

**Festival Fridays:** Sharon will draft a letter thanking the Sangre de Cristo Art Center for their making Festival Fridays more accessible, and that they are breaking ground on the new elevator on behalf of the Committee.

The September 4 meeting was canceled so that members can go to the City Boards and Commissions Training on that day. The next scheduled meeting will be October 2, 2025.

There being no new business, and no topic for the August Work Session, the membership voted to skip the Work Session and adjourn at 3:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Campbell, Chair