

Pueblo ADA and PACOG Advisory Committee
Minutes of the Meeting
February 7, 2013

Present: June Akeo, member; Ralph McPherson, co-chair, George O'Brien, co-chair, Earl Wilkinson, ADA Coordinator; Chanell Turner, CitiLift; Kip Morphew, Facilities Manager, Terry Skinner (guest), Shelly Taylor; Pueblo Police Department; Shanna Farmer, CSU-Pueblo, Shawn Winters, Pueblo West; Sherry Slate, Pueblo County; Kristen Castor, Secretary; Ron Burke, member; Don Bruestle, member; Larry Williams, member; Brenda Broyles, Pueblo Transit; Bob Schmidt, Pueblo County; Kay Jamison, Deaf Gathering; Sharon Campbell, member

Minutes were accepted with the following corrections:

Ralph corrected the spelling of "Wakefield." Ron Burke asked to be listed as present and clarified that Sgt. Noeller does allow enforcement of the handicapped parking statute in some areas of the access lane.
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CSU Project

There was a meeting at the Planning Department with Dr. Wakefield, the three students assigned to the project, and city and county staff. The boundaries of the project were set to include the goals of the Health Department grant as much as possible and provide optimum benefit to the city. The boundaries were set between Santa Fe and Greenwood, First and Fourth, with a spur going up Union Avenue. The city already has GPS equipment that can identify where the sidewalks are, how wide they are, and what the slope is. The students' task is to design a paper and pencil tool to assess the condition of the sidewalks, rating them between one and four with four needing the most serious repair. The first step of the process is to draft a proposal and contract with the city.

Parking Patrol: Shelly Taylor

Officer Taylor is the point of contact for the Parking Patrol and responded to the points raised in last month's minutes.

- There are 4 volunteers in training for handicapped parking enforcement.
- The judge is enforcing maximum penalties on placards. City staff had forwarded a complaint from a citizen who forgot to hang the placard and was assessed the full fine. Ron Burke pointed out that everyone

has the opportunity to negotiate at the desk before trial and this usually results in a much lower fine.

- Access lanes are an issue and citations will be issued according to each situation.
- The Villa Apartments on Bonforte will be patrolled.
- The trainer will cite people without placards from out of state. We have patrol officers who also cite and they are continuing to do so.
- There is only one vehicle available to the patrol and there will be no more than two.
- The PPD is looking at grants to support the volunteer program.
- There are many uses for volunteers: helping people who are out of gas, directing traffic when lights are on flash mode, checking on abandoned cars, etc. Ron said The Patrol used to do parade duty and assistance with check points, until the patrol was restricted to handicapped parking.
- The attorney will amend the volunteer policy so that volunteers can enforce more of the Model 1200 citations. The Handicapped Parking Patrol is covered under an amendment to this code in the charter.
- There will be regular meetings of the expanded volunteer program.

Kristen will find a copy of the Model 200 code in the Charter for the Committee. Officer Taylor will attend on a quarterly basis.

Public Works: Earl Wilkinson

Ralph asked why there were different types of curb ramps. Earl said there have been many different designs, including some put in in the 70's.

ADA Coordinator: Earl Wilkinson

In response to the Committee's concern about overburdening Public Works with the other aspects of the ADA, Earl Wilkinson attended a forum for ADA Coordinators put on by the Denver Commission on Disabilities and the Rocky Mountain ADA Center.

Denver is big enough to have a full time ADA Coordinator. Most ADA Coordinators share that duty part time as risk managers and are not engineers. Earl wants to have some expectations to negotiate with the city

and the Committee and has signed up for the ADA Coordinator Symposium to pursue the national certification. The key is that there is a contact person for ADA enforcement, regardless of where the position is housed. He has re-written the grievance process and will have authority over other departments on ADA matters.

Sharon asked about time for certification. Earl isn't sure. He knows he has three years, but does not yet know what it involves. One of the segments was on the Waldo Canyon Fire, which is a sore point with the Colorado Springs community.

Pueblo County

Sherry Slate is now the County Coordinator for ADA. She coordinates the public works and facilities and is still working on complete surveys of facilities.

Judicial Building

There are two ramps up to the building as reported earlier. The parking lot is flush to the sidewalk. The ramp is wide enough for two wheelchairs. The doors are 42". There is an area for adult changing, but it isn't in the budget. The jury boxes have room for two wheelchairs with ramps and so do the witness stand, the judge's bench and court reporter in all 14 courtrooms.

Ramps at the north of 6th have been done because of the storm sewer issues. Construction will then go to the north side of Elizabeth. 4th street will be done when CDOT comes in to do the traffic signals. The southeast corner of 6th and Elizabeth is also a problem because of the catch basin, but it will be done

The building is due to be finished in June 2014. We can get a tour before the opening.
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The Emergency Operations Center construction is supervised by Mike Harriman and there is no update available.

Pueblo West

McCullough has curb ramps leading to dirt. Purcell to Hahn's Peak will have six foot sidewalks and a dedicated bike lane. Dan Centa wants sidewalk all the way out to 50 from the Safeway.

Meetings start in two weeks with all the businesses and this will be followed by a public review around our next meeting.

Pueblo Transit

There are 4 vacancies, 3 drivers and a dispatcher at Pueblo Transit. They will all be part time. The operations manager position is reports to Brenda until someone is hired.

On February 25 at the 5:30 City Council Work Session, there is an update on Greyhound and a downtown circulator.

The funding for the trolley had to be returned because it was not used by the deadline for the grant. In the meantime, Colorado Springs has sent four more buses spares. These will be used for the Downtown Circulator during peak hours for lunch, etc. with a headway of 7 to 10 minutes.

Transit is also working with the legal department on a policy for people leafleting at the Transit Center.

There will be 2 to 3 CitiLift replacement vans in April.

There is a new telephone number with a feature for transit problems called Verify. It is online with a link to submit, or call 553-2677 for an answering system. Answers will come in three days.

Baby changing stations have been installed at the Transit Center.

A rider recently asked whether it was fair for passengers to get off the bus to make way for a wheelchair. Brenda said that the front facing seats are priority disabled, wheelchair or not and passengers are expected to yield them when they are needed. Passengers can stand if there are not enough seats and if they get out, it is their choice.

CitiLift

Chanell came with a report. She is close to capacity. If someone is disabled and need a ramp, they have to ask for it. There are a lot of no shows, but it's hard to regulate in winter especially because there isn't enough time.

Deaf Gathering

There was a forum a few weeks ago spotlighting the inconsistent access to interpreters at the area hospitals. The facilitator is still working on some of

the issues about videophones to have 24 hour service. Kay says right now Deaf Gathering is working on getting access to a person.

George reports that Integrated Public Alert Warning System (IPAWS) is supposed to communicate emergency alerts with all media at the same time, but it requires compatible cellphones. Kay says they have tried that and have talked with PPD about text messaging. Denver and Colorado Springs have it, but it will take time to get it here.

Parks and Rec

Ron asked if some of the easy changes to the parks can be made. Sam said Parks will have to get the funding.

New Business

There was a complaint about the west side of the library on Abriendo which has stairs, no ramp. There is also not enough parking on B street and Senator Udall's office isn't accessible because the path to the back door is blocked. Larry Williams shared pictures of the problems.

The meeting adjourned after 3:00.

The next ADA and PACOG Advisory Committee Meeting will be Thursday March 7 at the El Pueblo History Museum from 1:00 to 3:00.

The next work session is Thursday February 21 at the El Pueblo History Museum from 1:00 to 3:00.

Anyone who needs accommodations should contact Earl Wilkinson at 553-2295 at least 72 business hours before the meeting.