

CITY OF SANTA BARBARA
ACCESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Friday, May 17, 2013

9:30 a.m.

Gebhard Conference Room
630 Garden Street

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Robert Burnam, Committee Chairperson

2. Roll Call

Committee Members Present: Robert Burnam; Jeanette Chian; Karen Johnson; Ken McLellan; Adelaida Ortega; Victor Suhr,

Committee Members Absent: Brian Barnwell

Staff Present: Kristy Schmidt, ADA Coordinator; Brian D'Amour, Supervising Engineer; Sarita King, Administrative Specialist

3. Public Comment:

- a. Claudia Herczog of Hearing Loss Association of Santa Barbara. Spoke in support of SB 1186, and is looking for access to public venues, theatres, churches, etc.
 - A. Ortega mentioned that Audio Description Alliance no longer has a describer available for the visually impaired.
- b. Tom Kaufman of Auto Joy – wanted to talk about his company which installs hearing loop systems.

4. Agenda Items

- a) **Subject: Senate Bill 1186** - Lonnie Cassidy, City of Santa Barbara, Building Inspector/Plan Check Supervisor, outlined a new State Disability Access Fee that was enacted on January 1, 2013. This bill requires cities to impose a \$1.00 fee on all business licenses issued. Cities or counties retain 70 percent of money collected, of which 5 percent may be retained for related administrative costs. The remainder is used to fund increased Certified Access Specialists (CASp) services. A Certified Access Specialist is a person who has successfully completed a state exam, which covers many portions of law pertaining to civil rights, state, and federal law. As of July 1, 2010, local agencies shall employ or retain one building inspector who is a Certified Access Specialist. Currently the City does not have a CASp, but it does have access to CASp consultations. The City is moving forward with training for five staff members in preparation for the October 16, 2013 test. These staff members will, in the future, provide consultation to the City, permit applicants, and the public on compliance with state construction related accessibility standards.
- b) **Subject: Public Rights-of Way Access Projects and Priority Corridors**
The Committee received an update from Engineering Division staff on current access ramp construction and planning. M. Degasis thanked the Division for the work completed on the Chapala/Carrillo intersection, and for keeping this a standing item. R. Burnham asked about

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the Carrillo/Anacapa intersection and the factors that contribute to the costs. B. D'Amour said that the increases in costs were due in part to the installation of new a traffic control and storm drain. M. Degasis asked if businesses are obligated to provide access. K. Schmidt replied that new businesses are required to bring their property up to code. B. Burnham asked if this is a TCC issue? B. D'Amour indicated City has an inventory of all sideways and can look at either quality or quantity in order to set priority.

The Committee made a request to add an item about the Rose Garden, near the Mission up to the Museum of Natural History to the next meeting agenda.

M. Degasis asked if the sidewalk inventory list could be distributed to the Committee to assist with prioritization, which may include areas near Santa Barbara Housing Authority buildings and skilled nursing facilities, such as Villa Santa Barbara. B. D'Amour said it is possible; but it needs to be digitized. A. Ortega said that it would help to show the impact. B. D'Amour replied since 2009, over 150 ramps have been installed, but over 1000 more are needed citywide. B. D'Amour said he would send the list out to the Committee

- c) **Subject: Annual Workshop:** Members who attended (M. Degasis and B. D'Amour) provided feedback to staff about the Annual Workshop for City Advisory Groups held on Wednesday, May 8, 2013. Jim Armstrong, the City Administrator, discussed the Budget, and Steve Wiley, the City Attorney, discussed guidelines for ethics and service on commissions.

5. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

NEXT MEETING: Friday, August 23, 2013 – 9:30 a.m.
David Gebhard Public Meeting Room, 630 Garden Street

Materials related to an item(s) on the Access Advisory Committee agenda are available for review in the City Administrator's Office at City Hall, 735 Anacapa Street. If possible, please notify staff and allow 48 hours for specialized services such as sign language interpretation or documents in Braille. Additional time to adhere to requests may be required. For more information, please contact the City Administrator's Office at (805) 564-5305.