

Community Outreach Meeting

Date: February 28, 2007

Meeting No.: 1

Re: **City of Santa Barbara (CSB) ADA Survey, Transition Plan and Self-Evaluation Updates, Accessibility Training Program**

Attendees: Pat Kelly, Assistant Public Works Director/City Engineer
George Estrella, Chief Building Official
Kristy Schmidt, City Administrator's Office – ADA Coordinator
Julie Thomas, Recreation Specialist, Adapted Programs
Brian Barnwell, City Council Member
Helene Schneider, City Council Member
Traci Alvarez, Public Works Administrative Assistant
Nicole Moore, Administrative Specialist
Bonnie Elliott, President of AACCS
Gilda Puente-Peters, Gilda Puente-Peters Architects, (GPPA)
Members of the community – see attached list

GPPA Job No.: 26007

File: 1.2

The following items were discussed and decisions made:

Items Discussed

1. Presentations

The meeting started with several presentations from City of Santa Barbara Staff and Council members, which discussed the history to date of the ADA Transition Plan and the different efforts the City has made in terms of making their facilities and programs accessible to all members of the community, including persons with disabilities. These presentations were made by:

- Pat Kelly, Assistant Public Works Director/City Engineer
- George Estrella, Chief Building Official
- Kristy Schmidt, City Administrator's Office – ADA Coordinator
- Julie Thomas, Recreation Specialist, Adapted Programs
- Brian Barnwell, City Council Member
- Helene Schneider, City Council Member

The Accessibility and Universal Design Consultant, Gilda Puente-Peters made a presentation which summarized the Federal and State requirements for access compliance, the scope of this ADA Transition Plan and Self-evaluation updates, the project methodology, schedule and prioritization criteria and public outreach effort and community input in the prioritization process of the Transition Plan update.

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2. Summary of Project Scope of Work

1. Detailed Surveys:

City Hall and Annex; Central Library; Eastside Library; Cabrillo Pavilion Arts Center and Bath House, Community Development/Public Works; Westside Community Center; MacKenzie Park; Alice Keck Park and Police Station.

2. General Evaluations General Fund and Enterprise Facilities:

Conduct a General Evaluation of 84 General Fund facilities and 104 Enterprise Facilities.

3. General Evaluations Public Right-of- Way:

General Evaluation of Public Right-of- Way (1-week review of current priorities and standards)

4. Transition Plan Update:

Program accessibility and physical access analysis, prioritization and schedule for implementation. Solicit public input into prioritization of barrier removal (two meetings, one at the beginning of the project and another at the end of the project)

5. Self-Evaluation Update:

The Self-evaluation update is limited to the evaluation of the following City policies, practices and procedures:

1. City's Access Compliance organizational structure
2. ADA processes for compliance:
 - Public notices
 - ADA Coordinator
 - Transition Plan
 - Grievance procedures
3. Public communication – public meetings
4. City's Website accessibility
5. Procurement Policies
6. Special Events
7. Public Right-of-way general policies
8. Maintenance of Accessible Features
9. Accessibility Training Program

6. Accessibility Training:

- Staff sensitivity training
- Staff Public Right-of- Way training
- Staff Building Accessibility training
- Staff Monitoring the Transition Plan and use of GPPA'S MSAccess database training.

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3. Project Status

1. Detailed Surveys:

The detailed field surveys have been completed; the report production is in progress.

2. General Evaluations:

Nine general evaluations have been completed; the report production is in progress.

3. General Evaluations Public Right-of-Way:

First draft public right-of-way prioritization criteria for curb ramp installation.

4. Transition Plan Update:

We conducted the first public outreach input meeting, distribute public input questionnaire.

5. Self-Evaluation Update:

The Self-evaluation update efforts are an ongoing process throughout the duration of the project.

6. Accessibility Training:

We conducted a staff sensitivity training at the Managers and Supervisors quarterly meeting.

4. Summary of Public Input Regarding Priorities for Barrier Removal

After the presentations, Gilda Puente-Peters facilitated the public input process. The result of the different levels of prioritization accomplished at this meeting is listed below:

1. Prioritization by Departments within General Fund and Enterprise Facilities – Viewing the City facilities in its entirety.

○ **General Fund:**

The departments were ranked in the following order of priority in terms of intensity of public use and the nature of the program offered.

1. Libraries
2. Administration Services *at City Hall*
3. Parks and Recreation
4. Community Development / *Public Works*
5. Police
6. Fire Stations
7. Intra City Services

- Enterprise Fund Facilities:
 1. Parking
 2. Airport
 3. Waterfront
 4. Golf
 5. Water Fund
 6. Waste Fund

- 2. Prioritization of the priority City facilities that will have detailed surveys and budgetary cost estimates
 1. City Hall and Annex
 2. Central Library
 3. Cabrillo Pavilion Arts Center and Bath House
 4. Police Station
 5. Westside Community Center
 6. Community Development/Public Works
 7. McKenzie Park
 8. Alice Keck Park
 9. Eastside Library

- 3. List of priority type of barriers to be removed
 - Detectable Warnings
 - Pedestrian Audible Signals – *prioritized by traffic volume*
 - City’s Website compliant with *Section 508*
 - Overhead Obstructions – trim trees and vegetation protruding into the pedestrian path of travel
 - Sidewalks uneven surfaces caused by tree roots
 - Sidewalks pavement dislocations – temporary sidewalk patches left too long
 - Installation of new curb ramps to complete path of *key* travel routes
 - Lever hardware
 - Door pressure at priority building entrances with power operated doors - adjust door closers at other doors
 - Sensitivity training for City staff
 - Facilities Evacuation Plan and overall City’s Emergency Evacuation Plan and preparation for persons with special needs
 - Care provider notified in emergency
 - Accessible shelters – provisions for guide dogs
 - Access to parking lots at *“ticket spitters”*

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- Eastside Bath House sidewalk repair – uneven surfaces
- Curb cuts on Cota and Laguna Streets
- Power door at Davis Center *needs adjustment*
- Turn on and maintain power door at Main Library in working condition
- Installation of double swing doors – cost effective solution when door strike clearance is difficult to meet
- ADA training for City staff
- City Hall elevator
- *Tactile identification on sidewalks for bus stops*
- *Curb cuts at Montecito Street near Edison Avenue*
- *Better access along Coast Village Road*
- *Other comments and discussions*
- *Involve the Downtown Organization in training for ADA access requirements*
- *Provide a sheet of ADA resources*
- *Comments submitted by Judy Gilder – a. Please make the Stow House wheelchair accessible and add it to the MTD route, b. Make the Chumash Casino Shuttle bus wheelchair accessible, c. All buses should have better wheelchair tie downs, d. All things / places should be accessible (ADA compliant).*

4. Recommendation

The community members recommended having another Public Outreach and Input meeting in 3 months to look at priorities instead of waiting until the end of the project. Committee will report to City Council.

5. Request for additional members for the Accessibility Advisory Committee to Staff (AACS)

George Estrella requested additional community members to volunteer to be part of the AACS committee. A form was given to be completed interested individuals. About 5 attendees expressed their interest on joining the committee.

Note: In response to this request, the City is scheduling a new Public Outreach and Input meeting for May 10 at 5:30-7:30 at the Westside Community Center.

6. Request for information to be available to the public

The community members requested the meeting minutes and other pertinent project information to be available to them. An attendee's list was completed and City staff will email or send the requested information to all attendees.

Sincerely,

Gilda Puente-Peters, Principal

GILDA PUENTE-PETERS, ARCHITECTS