

# CITY OF SANTA BARBARA ACCESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

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Friday, November 19, 2010  
David Gebhard Public Meeting Room  
630 Garden Street

## 1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m.

## 2. Roll Call

Committee Members Present: Brian Barnwell, Chair; Karen Johnson, James Marston, Victor Suhr, Adelaida Ortega; Jeanette Chian

Committee Members Absent: Amy Van Meter (deceased)

Staff Present: Kristy Schmidt, Employee Relations Manager; Rebecca Fribley, Senior Property Management Specialist; Dru Van Hengle, Supervising Transportation Engineer; Brian D'Amour, Project Engineer.

## 3. Approval of Minutes

Minutes were approved.

## 4. Public Comment

## 5. Agenda Items

### 1. **Subject: Airport Terminal Open House**

Rebecca Fribley, Senior Property Management Specialist, provided a summary of issues that were raised during a planning meeting for the Airport Terminal Open House Seniors and People with Disabilities, which included key members of the disability community. [Committee members were invited to the planning meeting, but none were able to attend.] A date is not yet set for the Open House. Chair Barnwell called for a recommendation (it was unanimously approved by members) that staff consider: 1) long term parking in short-term spaces; 2) phones outfitted for the hearing impaired throughout the terminal; 3) announcements (not

just flight information) available in text in the terminal, in the restaurant and in the lobby.

**2. Subject: Transportation and Circulation**

Dru Van Hengle, Supervising Transportation Engineer, spoke regarding the general functions of the Transportation and Circulation Committee. The Committee includes seven members of the public and advises the City regarding the Circulation Element (part of the City's City General Plan), pedestrian policy issues, bicycle provisions and policy, transit needs, neighborhood traffic management programs and traffic calming devices. They also advise Engineering staff (including Brian D'Amour, who works closely with the Access Committee) on strategies that support the City's mobility goals; however, the Access Advisory Committee is considered the primary advisor for such issues.

**3. Subject: Update on Public Rights-of-Way ARRA Access Ramp Project Design**

Brian D'Amour provided an update regarding the status of the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) access ramp project, including the suggestions made by the Committee at its April 23, 2010 meeting. Brian detailed some of the successes and read a letter from a man with a disabled daughter thanking City staff for improvements to the right-of-way in key areas. Consensus was that these projects have led to major improvements for people with disabilities, and should be publically acknowledged and shared with the City Council.

**4. Subject: Assistive Listening Systems**

The Committee received a basic overview from Kristy Schmidt, Employee Relations manager, regarding the types of assistive listening systems and their pros and cons. The discussion included the current radio frequency assistive listening system in the Council Chambers, as well as the text devices available. Sally Walker, of the Hearing Loss Association of America and a member of the public, emphasized the differing needs of people with hearing loss from those with complete deafness, and indicated support for looped systems in meeting rooms, evacuation centers, train stations, bus stations, community centers and senior centers. Ms. Walker suggested Grand Rapids as a City with successful looping. Committee members indicated that further discussion of this in the context of available funding, when such funding becomes available, is advisable.

**6. Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.