

CITY OF SANTA BARBARA  
ACCESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

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Friday, August 23, 2013  
9:30 a.m.

David Gebhard Conference Room  
630 Garden Street

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 9:33 a.m

2. Roll Call

Committee Members Present: Brian Barnwell – Acting Chairperson; Ken McLellan; Adelaida Ortega; Victor Suhr; Martha Degasis

Committee Members Absent: Robert Burnham - Chairperson; Karen Johnson;

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

Staff Presenting: Jim Dewey, Facilities and Energy Manager

3. Public Comment:

a. None.

4. Agenda Items

a. **Subject: Public outreach to seniors and disabled voting in the upcoming November election**

The Committee members discussed ways that they can assist with publicizing the availability of election staff assistance for people with disabilities in completing mail-in ballots during the upcoming November City elections. All voting will be by mail-in ballot only, and the City Clerk's office will provide assistance in completing ballot on Election Day as well as during yet to be specified days prior to the election. It was noted that it would cost \$10,000 to program the machine that the County uses during elections, which would be cost prohibitive for the City to use. A. Ortega offered to network at the Braille Institute and Senior Centers, such as Samarkand, to inform them of the upcoming mail-in ballot election. Jim Dewey, Facilities and Energy manager offered to have information added to the City Clerk's phone tree to let the public know that assistance will be provided. B. Barnwell suggested that examining available resources, such as existing lists from Planning, Parks and Recreation, and other available City lists. K. Schmidt will check to see if CTV18 will do any outreach regarding the upcoming elections.

- MOTION: Recommended staff to do all to let disabled community know about the upcoming mail-in ballot election.

Ayes: 5                      Noes: 0                      Abstain: 0

- MOTION: Staff to create outreach list using current available lists from Planning, Parks and Recreation.

Ayes: 5                      Noes: 0                      Abstain: 0

b. **Subject: Facilities Division – ADA Improvements for Fiscal Year 2014**

Jim Dewey, Facilities and Energy Manager, discussed general fund access improvements and plans for the upcoming year, including the replacement of two failing wheelchair lifts at Los Baños del Mar Pool, and installing hearing aid loop systems at City Hall and the Gebhard Meeting room. \$100,000 was transferred in the ADA Capital Fund for Fiscal Year 2013, and \$470 was incurred for renting a temporary ramp access in City Hall Council Chambers. As a result of this and the planned projects, there will be an account balance of approximately \$17,530. K. Schmidt remarked that this is the first year that monies were put aside for City Facilities. *See Attachment 1 for a copy of Jim's notes from his presentation.*

- **MOTION:** Recommend to City staff to consider adding a hearing aid loop system in the Faulkner gallery at the Main Library.  
Ayes: 4                      Noes: 1                      Abstain: 0

K. McLellan mentioned that the subject of adding closed captioning would help gain more attention for CTV-18, provided it was done professionally. He asked that the item of Closed Captioning and Community Outreach be added to the next agenda. Committee agreed that it would ideal to invite a Cox Communications representative, and should prepare for this future meeting in order to discuss Closed Captioning issues.

c. **Subject: Safe Passage - Project Update**

Brian D'Amour, Supervising Engineer, discussed the joint planning efforts between the City and the County to provide improved pedestrian access in the areas from the Mission and the Santa Barbra Museum of Natural History. The City is working with the Historic Landmarks Commission and the County to make this path more accessible. The City has begun surveying and staff will start working on the conceptual design in the next few weeks. The main goal in the future will be to find funding for this project. A. Ortega mentioned that she used to live in that area, and found there were issues with pedestrian crossing since the crossing is on the left, which is opposite to where visually impaired people would normally cross. B. D'Amour mentioned that he would welcome input on the pedestrian bridge from AAC members.

B. D'Amour also provided a list of Missing Access Ramps (See Attachment 2) based on previous meetings. The list ranked the top 62 intersections and reflects those intersections ranked 7 and above. The list also shows the number of missing ramps at each intersection. As this item was not on the agenda for this meeting, it will be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

5. **Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

**NEXT MEETING:**                      Friday, November 15, 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.