

CITY OF SANTA BARBARA  
ACCESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

---

Friday, November 15, 2013  
9:30 a.m.

David Gebhard Public Meeting Room  
630 Garden Street

**1. Call to Order**

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

**2. Roll Call**

Committee Members Present: Robert Burnham – Chairperson; Brian Barnwell; Ken McLellan; Adelaida Ortega; Victor Suhr; Martha Degasis; Karen Johnson

Committee Members Absent: None

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

Staff Presenting: Jill Zachary, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director

Guests: Bonnie Elliot; Jim Marston

**3. Approval of Minutes**

Minutes of August 23, 2013, were approved.

**4. Public Comment:**

- a. None.

**5. Agenda Items**

- a) Jill Zachary: Assistant Parks and Recreation Director provided a presentation on the Urban Forest Management Plan. The project is partially funded through a grant from Cal Fire. The Santa Barbara Urban Forest includes all trees in the City limits. Street trees are considered part of the Urban Forest.

Parks and Recreation did a canopy assessment on how many square feet the canopy provides. They found that 25% of the City is covered by trees, and that there are 320,000 trees of which 50,000 trees are City owned. There are also 35,000 street trees. Parks and Recreation is responsible for maintenance of City Street trees with funding at \$950,000 per year.

The Urban Forest Management Plan looks at issues that include:

- How to deal with tree issues including conflict with infrastructure?
- How do we maintain trees more often?
- How do we engage the community to help assist in managing trees?

Through public meetings, community workshops and inter-departmental staff review, Parks and Recreation came up with key issues that include:

- A focus on tree resource management.
- Enhancement of park and play conditions.
- A City tree and park tree master plan to manage park trees.
- City departments work together in coordination.
- Update the street tree master plan.
- Work with Southern California Edison who trims trees that are a safety issue.
- Public participation through Santa Barbara Beautiful who pays for new trees on City streets.
- Realtors also want to partner with the City.

CITY OF SANTA BARBARA  
ACCESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

November 15, 2013

Page 2

---

**Questions taken at the meeting included the following:**

- A. Ortega: On Olive Street, the trees are a mess. Would like to know who puts boxes on trees on private property?
- J. Zachary: California Department of Agriculture.
- V. Suhr: What happened with the plan to get rid of Olive Street trees and replace them with non-fruit bearing trees?
- J. Zachary: Non-fruiting olive trees will revert eventually. Also, olive trees are the designated tree for that street.
- M. Degasis: Asked about the pavement used on streets and is a different type of paving used to mitigate tree roots that will keep trees from pushing up pavement?
- J. Zachary: Look at specifications for parkways and sidewalks, look at size of tree and parkway and plant appropriately. Rubber sidewalks take more maintenance than traditional sidewalks. When redeveloping street and parkway it is important to improve— but residents are not responsible for trees, just the parkway.
- B. Barnwell: Downtown Canon Perdido, Ortega tree wells are covered by metal grating. How is this part of the street plan?
- J. Zachary: Similar to other maintenance. Planned as part of the Parks and Recreation work effort. Downtown core would be addressed differently from other areas.
- K Johnson: Happy to hear about the partnership.
- B. Barnwell: Developers are included. It happens as part of the planning process but not much is required. It is looked at and the burden would be on developer with maintenance on them for the first three years. The ABR and HLC looks at this but not the Planning Commission. Asked to what degree can the urban forest management plan provide input direction to developers?
- J. Zachary: The plan will be adopted by Council Resolution and referenced in the City's tree preservation ordinances.

- b) **Missing Access Ramps:** Brian D'Amour provided a list of missing access ramps at the Access Advisory Committee meeting on August 23, 2013. It was agreed that the item would be added to the agenda for this meeting. B. D'Amour provided the list and reminded all that the list only looked at sidewalks without ramps. The list has 62 ramps rated Seven or above including ramps on the Eastside, and where construction to install ramps may start late January or February 2014. Based on current funding use, we will know how much funding will be available to build ramps in Fiscal Year 2013-2014. A second handout gave details on potential projects for Fiscal Year 2014-2015. There are strings of missing ramps on Voluntario Street near the schools and library that are proposed, but funding for these ramps will be competing for grant funding against other CDBG projects. Some funding is available through Measure A, and Safe Routes to Schools, but this funding cannot be used for ramps alone. R. Burnham noted that the Westside, Chapala Street, and Sola Street have blended curbs and asked how many other curbs in the City will be redesigned like this. B. D'Amour said he was not sure if these have been inventoried as ramps, but they do provide access. The focus is where ramps are needed now.

MOTION by B. D'Amour to apply for CDBG funding for ramps was put before the committee.  
Motion approve made by B. Barnwell, seconded by A. Ortega

Ayes=7            Noes=0            Abstain= 0

Chairman Burnham adjourned the meeting at 11:25 am