



**CITY OF SANTA BARBARA**  
**ACCESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**REGULAR QUARTERLY MEETING**

Friday, November 10, 2017  
9:30am – 11:30am  
David Gebhard Public Meeting Room  
630 Garden St.

**MINUTES**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m.

**2. ROLL CALL/INTRODUCTIONS**

Committee Members

James Marston, Chair	Present
Robert Burnham	Absent
Martha Degasis	Present (Arrived at 9:40 a.m.)
Karen Johnson	Present
Nick Koonce	Present
Ken McLellan	Present
Barbara Silver	Present

City Staff

Mike Wiltshire, Facilities & Energy Manager, ADA Coordinator	Present
Tina Diaz, Accounting Assistant	Present

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Bonnie Elliot – Accessibility issues during a funeral service at Whitehorse Chapel (McDermott-Crockett & Associates Mortuary)
  - Facility is historic and not ADA accessible but they have done their best in the past to make accommodations
  - At this particular event there were six (6) people in wheelchairs. The operator of the event refused to make a temporary ramp available for use as per past events.
  - Ms. Elliot asked the Committee for assistance and support in dealing with this situation.
  - Committee felt it was a personnel or operational decision by the Chapel.
  - City Staff recommended contacting event operator or building owner and writing a letter voicing concern. Give the owner/operator a chance to remedy or respond to the issue.
  - Building is historic
- Jim Marston – Reminder to recognize that today is Veterans Day

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES & DISCUSSION OF PENDING ITEMS**

**a) Approval of Minutes**

- February 17, 2017 regular meeting minutes – APPROVED.
  - Barbara Silver voiced her concern with discrepancy between audio file and minutes
  - Motion to approve minutes by Karen Johnson, Seconded by Nick Koonce
  - Ayes: 4, Opposed: 0, Abstain: 2 (Martha Degasis, Barbara Silver)
- April 14, 2017 special meeting minutes – APPROVED.
  - Jim Marston glad that minutes now reflect that City staff confirmed that side door to Cabrillo Pavilion would be open.
  - Motion to approve minutes by Karen Johnson, Seconded by Martha Degasis
  - Ayes: 5, Opposed: 0, Abstain: 1 (Barbara Silver)
- September 1, 2017 regular meeting minutes – APPROVED.

- No comments on minutes
- Motion to approve minutes by Karen Johnson, Seconded by Nick Koonce
- Ayes: 5, Opposed: 0, Abstain: 1 (Martha Degasis)

## 5. COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS & STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pending Items & Future Agenda Items:

- Revision of resolution – City Staff to draft revised resolution and provide to Committee
- Review of report to Council – City Staff to complete draft presentation and send to Committee
- Staff Announcements – Mike Wiltshire
  - Martha Degasis and Ken McLellan’s terms expire Dec 31, 2017 and they have decided not to re-apply
    - Remaining Committee members are tasked with recruiting new members to replace two members during June 2018 recruitment
    - Both Martha Degasis and Ken McLellan have decided to remain on the Committee until a replacement is found.
  - Staff has made updates to the City Access website and is happy to do so going forward. Process for updating is going through Staff Liaison.
- Committee Reports / Announcements:
  - Jim Marston discussed future revision of the existing resolution
    - Extending term from 3 years to 4
    - Committee will wait until Bob Burnham is back to finalize resolution changes and get proposal to City Council in 2018
    - Staff will make revision to resolution and send out to Committee for review prior to going to Council
    - Committee wanted more meetings per year but Staff recommended leaving it status quo (quarterly) to see if there is a true need for more meetings.
    - Nick Koonce wanted clarification on process for adding a Special Meeting for timely or important events. Staff confirmed Special Meetings can be added as needed if there is a valid case.
    - Staff confirmed that a draft presentation to Council will be completed prior to the February Committee meeting for review. Plan to put Council report review on February meeting.
    - Brown Act clarification – Committee members should push correspondence to Staff Liaison and cc: Chair Jim Marston
    - Jim Marston attended Appeals Board and relayed information that contractors have been low-balling estimates to game the 20% ADA requirement. Jim Marston relayed information that City and Building Official Andrew Stuffer have implemented measures to help remedy this. Nick Koonce seconded that the City is taking a step in the right direction with this.

## 6. ENGINEERING PROJECT UPDATES

- Ashleigh Shue reported on current and completed projects
  - Lower Milpas Sidewalk Infill Project (Starting Construction Soon)
    - Construct sidewalk and infill on Milpas in front of Tri-County Produce
    - Fill in missing sidewalk on surrounding streets
    - Will include several access ramps at surrounding streets
  - Cacique and Soledad Pedestrian & Bicycle Bridges (In Construction)
    - Construction expected to complete in March, 2018
    - Includes sidewalk and infill in the surrounding area
  - CDBG FY17/18 Access Ramp Project (Starting Construction Soon)
    - 11 access ramps located near Laguna Street and Junior High School
    - Ramp to be constructed at Laguna in front of PathPoint
    - Engineering groups ramps in logical groupings that make sense for grant applications per an Area Benefit Analysis plan.

- Public input does weigh into Engineering's prioritization plan for new sidewalk and ramps.
  - Future CDBG Grant Application Projects (Submitting Grant Applications)
    - 11 access ramps along Alamar in Oak Park neighborhood.
    - Will complete an entire corridor along Alamar near Oak Park
  - Old Coast Highway Sidewalk Project (In Design)
    - Complete sidewalk along north side of Old Coast Highway near Muni Tennis Facility.
    - Includes 3 access ramps
  - Highway Safety Improvement Program Projects (Planned for 2018/2019)
    - Intersection improvements at Alamar and Questa Del Sol
    - Pedestrian activated pole mount beacons and 2 access ramps
    - La Cumbre at Calle Cita one ramp and flashing beacons
    - State and Alamar improvements in design, ramps and beacons
- Nick Koonce requested additional information on the prioritization formula for determining where new improvements are made. Nick Koonce wants to know how public comment specifically shapes the prioritization model. Ashleigh Shue will get with Mike Wiltshire to provide background information on prioritization process. Mike Wiltshire will share with Committee and then determine if a future agenda item is required.
- Engineering Division focuses on infill and new project, Streets Division focuses on maintenance of existing sidewalk and roadways.
- Jim Marston and Committee raised questions regarding colors of truncated domes tactile strips. City often uses terra cotta in contrast to grey sidewalk which meets Building Code requirement of 70% contrast as opposed to Federal Standard of requiring yellow truncated domes.
- Jim Marston asked about ownership and jurisdiction of Coast Village Road and surrounding parcels being under City purview. Mike Wiltshire will supply parcel map to Committee.

## 7. BREAK (10:30 – 10:35)

## 8. SIDEWALK SAFETY, IMPROVEMENTS AND MAINTENANCE/REPAIR CHALLENGES

**UPDATE:** A brief discussion on the City's current and future plans for sidewalk safety and improvements and maintenance and repair challenges.

- Jim Dewey, Streets Operations and Infrastructure Manager presenting
  - Jim Dewey spoke off a Power Point presentation that can be made available by contacting Tina Diaz ([tdiaz@santabarbaraca.gov](mailto:tdiaz@santabarbaraca.gov))
  - City passed Measure C sales tax measure that aims to bring funding to improve streets and sidewalks.
  - Jim Dewey spoke to a number of examples and photos throughout the City showing:
    - Uneven sidewalks
    - Asphalt patched sidewalks
    - Unmanageable grades and cross slopes (>2%)
    - Narrow sidewalks and paths of travel
    - Trees, utility poles, and other impediments to sidewalks and paths of travel
  - ADA code represents an ideal situation that is often not possible for a number of reasons in reality.
  - Some recommended solutions to common problems with sidewalks and pathways:
    - Reduce required 48" path to 36" path in order to create a section that meets the 2% grade requirements. (This may create a hazardous situation or drop-off towards street)
    - Raise existing curbs to get proper 2% cross slope. (Poses an issue if curb is raised to high vehicles can't open their door)
    - Periodic landing areas within steep grades.
    - Wider accessible path to accommodate a steep grade so that wheelchair can better navigate.
  - What City needs from Access Advisory Committee
    - Assistance prioritizing sidewalk repairs and accessible pathways
    - Identifying problem areas that need to be taken care of urgently

- Jim Dewey suggested forming a sub-committee to be involved in prioritizing sidewalk work and repair to make use of available funding. Committee will work directly with Streets Division moving forward.
- Volunteers for Sidewalk Prioritization Sub-Committee
  - Nick Koonce
  - Marth Degasis
  - Bob Burnham (Not present but recommended to join sub-committee)
  - Jim Marston (Will join subcommittee if Bob Burnham refuses)
  - Potentially use people outside of the Committee to provide input
  - Martha Degasis offered to act as point person to collect data and organize into a spreadsheet or database to log Committee and Sub-Committee input.
- Martha Degasis recommended combining Streets Division and Traffic Division models to prioritize sidewalk repairs. Jim Dewey confirmed Streets and Engineering work closely so information will be shared. But, ultimately Engineering handles installation of new sidewalk and access ramps and Streets handles maintenance of existing sidewalk and streets.
- Jim Marston asked if there is an existing “Transition Plan” for sidewalks similar to the Gilda Puentes Facilities Transition Plan. Jim Dewey responded that there is no existing transition plan for sidewalks.
- Mike Wiltshire to send Jim Dewey the list of existing sidewalk and path of travel issues created by Bob Burnham. *(Sent on Nov 14, 2017)*
- Motion to form Sidewalk Prioritization Subcommittee to include three (3) members listed above with Jim Marston as an alternate. Motion made by Nick Koonce, Seconded by Barbara Silver
  - Ayes: 6, Opposed: 0, Abstain: 0
- Open Discussion on prioritization of sidewalk and pathway repair
  - Nick Koonce – Sidewalk issues on south side of State between Las Positas and De La Vina. Potentially could be repaired with future Parks / Army Reserve project.
  - Jim Marsten – West Valerio between State and Chapala. Open tree wells, over hanging branches, and guy wires. Can City take action on replacing or repairing open tree wells by replacing grates or fill with mulch, dirt, etc. Jim Dewey is aware of tree well issues and believes the metal tree rings are the best solution and replacing these are a priority for the City. Focus initial efforts in the downtown core. City feels gravel, dirt, or decomposed granite isn't the best option as that material requires a lot of maintenance and ends up on sidewalks or eroding.
  - Nick Koonce – Concerned with contractors not being held accountable for not building per plan. Feels the contractor should be held responsible for construction errors and omissions. There is a lot of work in the City and City staff needs to enforce proper permitting and inspection. Example provided by Nick Koonce was in fact paid for by contractor, not the City.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

- Adelaide Ortega
  - Used a cane as visual aide for many years now uses a support dog
  - Provided some examples of sidewalk and path of travel issues:
    - Garden and De La Guerra – Utility pole obstructing sidewalk
    - Unaligned sidewalks and unaligned streets
    - Olive an Haley – No sidewalks
    - Santa Barbara High School – any plans to build a sidewalk where trees were removed? City response, can get information from Public Works Counter at 630 Garden St.
    - Overhangs over sidewalks – who is responsible to address these issues. City response is that Parks & Rec Dept deals with tree overhangs.
    - Appreciates existing audible crossing signals and would like to see more at critical intersections. City Response, this would be good information for the subcommittee and to bring to the attention of Traffic Engineer Derrick Bailey.

- Offered up students from the Braille institute to weigh in on citywide sidewalk and path of travel issues. Work with Sidewalk subcommittee.
- Jim Marston question on removal of angled guy wires supporting utility poles. City response, some utility poles are being changed out to metal which require less guy wires. But, in general utilities will not completely get rid of support wires.
- For any concerns with overhanging trees, sidewalk issues, utilities etc. you can contact the Public Works front desk and they will properly route the call. Public Works front desk is 805-564-5377

**9. VALET PARKING ORDINANCE UPDATE: Downtown Parking to provide a status update and background information on the Valet Parking Ordinance.**

- Presenter: Victor Garza, Downtown Parking Superintendent
  - Draft Ordinance went to Ordinance Committee on July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Due to number of questions and concerns it was requested to go to Downtown Parking Committee on September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017.
  - Victor Garza conveyed there is a lot of work to do prior to implementing a Valet Parking Ordinance including maintaining ADA compliance.
  - Seeking guidance and direction to get Access Committee input on Valet Ordinance moving forward.
- Committee general concerns with valet operations:
  - Nick Koonce –
    - Current draft ordinance documentation gives no mention of those with disabilities or complying with ADA at all
    - Business/events with valet parking must provide those with disabilities a way to self-park in the same lot with an accessible path to the business/event and this should be reflected in the ordinance.
    - Ordinance should reflect some option for recourse and enforcement of ADA violations with valet operations. Needs to outline how to report violations, remedies, and penalties. This should not be left to local law enforcement or Civil action as the only recourse for violations. (Should include permit revocation)
    - Ordinance should extend to private property in addition to public right of way.
  - Martha Degasis –
    - Seconded Nick Koonce’s comments that the valet operation needs access to ADA compliant parking for the option of self-parking with path of travel to the venue.
  - Jim Marston
    - Valet parking provided in the public right of way is a program which means you cannot discriminate with respect to ADA. Needs to be held to Title 2 requirements.
    - Ordinance does not clearly state where valet operations plan to park vehicles (right of way, private lots?)
    - 10.49.030 Designation of Valet Parking Zones needs to include: “Including ADA compliance”. Currently no mention or bullet point referencing ADA Compliance
    - 10.49.080 Revocation or Suspension of Licenses. No mention of violation of ADA requirements. Needs to include ADA compliance as a requirement that can lead to revocation or suspension of license.
    - Will fines be issued 1-fine per location or 1-fine per operator? City response, this is still not established. Committee feels that fines should be on a permit and location basis as opposed to per operator.
    - Reiterate that the ongoing valet operations and program need to be ADA compliant, not just the physically constructed space.
    - Permit applications should be transparent and available for public view. Permit issuance and revocation should be by committee and public review as opposed to a single staff member. A CASP should be involved in the review and denial process. This should be listed in the ordinance and Committee agrees.
    - Access Advisory Committee would like this information to be considered by those revising the ordinance and to be included in the ordinance and rules and regulations.

- Access Advisory Committee would like to hear back and review revised ordinance and rules and regulations prior to Valet Ordinance being finalized.
- Hotel California was brought up as an example of being a newly constructed facility that did not comply with the compliant loading zone. City response, this was caught in final inspection and is currently being remedied in order to be compliant upon completion. City will aim to make sure with any new construction or valet operations on private property to be compliant. The hardest situation is valet parking in the public right of way.
- Reiterated that those with specially modified vehicles who don't want a valet operator to drive their vehicle need some accommodation for parking onsite.
- Victor Garza was in agreeance and assured that language on enforcing ADA compliance will be put into the Rules and Regulations and violations would be subject to permit revocation. Victor can be contacted at [vgarza@santabarbaraca.gov](mailto:vgarza@santabarbaraca.gov)

## **10. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Friday, February 2, 2018, at 9:30 a.m., David Gebhard Public Meeting Room, 630 Garden Street.**

**AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT:** If you need auxiliary aids or services or staff assistance to attend or participate in this meeting, please contact Access Advisory Committee staff at 564-5583. If possible, notification of at least 72 hours prior to the meeting will usually enable the City to make reasonable arrangements. Specialized services, such as sign language interpretation or documents in Braille, may require additional lead time to arrange.

**REPORTS:** Minutes and agendas are posted online on the [Access Advisory Committee Website](#)