



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: July 16, 2019

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Facilities & Energy Management Division, Public Works Department

SUBJECT: City Of Santa Barbara Access Advisory Committee Update

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council receive an update on the recent activities of the Access Advisory Committee.

DISCUSSION:

In 1988, the City recognized the importance of accessibility in design and construction and started an ad hoc advisory committee to assist the Architectural Board of Review and the Historic Landmarks Commission with accessibility related items. In 2001, this ad hoc committee became a standing committee known as the Staff Advisory Access Committee under Council Resolution 01-034. In 2008, under Resolution 08-095, it was officially renamed the Access Advisory Committee (AAC). The primary purpose of the AAC is to assist and advise staff on public accessibility issues such as:

- Ensuring equal access for people with disabilities to the City's programs, activities, and services;
- Prioritizing capital projects designed to remove physical barriers and improve access at City facilities;
- Prioritizing removal of physical barriers in the public right of way; and
- Ensuring effective communication for people with disabilities.

Per the AAC's governing Resolution 08-095, the City's American with Disabilities Act (ADA) Coordinator will report to Council regarding the activities and achievements of the AAC. The aim of this update will be to provide a brief history of the AAC, outline the AAC's role, discuss future goals and objectives, and highlight recent achievements. These achievements include:

- Creation of an Accessible Parking Guide for the City of Santa Barbara;
- Provided valuable input on the City's tactile warning standards;
- Sidewalk ad hoc committee to help prioritize accessible path of travel upgrades;
- Continuing to provide input to staff for a potential valet parking ordinance; and
- Working with staff on ways to improve accessible parking violation enforcement.

Since the inception of the ADA in 1990, the City has worked to ensure equal opportunity to those with disabilities. The AAC is a valuable resource that assists City staff with identifying needs within the disabled community.

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APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office