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RESOLUTION NO. 20_____

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA BARBARA UPDATING AND AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 08-095 RELATING TO THE ACCESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, in 1988, the City Council established an ad hoc advisory committee on access for the disabled to assist the Architectural Board of Review (ABR) and the Historic Landmarks Committee (HLC) in reviewing public projects;

WHEREAS, in 2001, the City Council dissolved the ad hoc committee and replaced it with a standing committee, known as the Staff Advisory Access Committee, to assist and advise the City Staff on matters pertaining to providing access for the disabled, in compliance with the State Building Code regarding "Accessibility" for people with disabilities;

WHEREAS, in 2008, the City voluntarily updated its Americans with Disabilities Act Transition Plan and portions of its Self-Evaluation with the input of the Staff Advisory Access Committee and other members of the public;

WHEREAS, in 2008, the City Council renamed the Staff Advisory Access Committee to the Access Advisory Committee and established the Access Advisory Committee under Resolution 08-095;

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to promote the full integration and participation of persons with disabilities into all areas of economic, political, and community life;

WHEREAS, the City Council is committed to utilizing available resources, and coordinating efforts toward removing barriers to full integration and participation of persons with disabilities; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council, in an on-going effort, wishes to expand the scope of advice provided to staff by the Advisory Access Committee in order to take advantage of new opportunities, and to better publicize its activities and accomplishments.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA BARBARA THAT:

SECTION 1. The Access Advisory Committee, as established by Resolution No. 08-095, shall be governed by this resolution. The provisions of this resolution amend and supersede the provisions of Resolution No. 08-095.

SECTION 2. The purpose and function of the Access Advisory Committee is to assist and advise staff on public disability accessibility issues by:

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- a. Actively promoting the total integration and participation of persons with disabilities into all areas of economic, political, and community life.
- b. Serving as a coordinating body, for the purpose of receiving input from citizens on the needs and concerns of the disabled community, formulating and recommending solutions to these identified needs and concerns, and conveying such recommendations to the appropriate City departments.
- c. Working with City staff to create conditions to establish policies and practices, and to develop programs and services, which will facilitate the full integration and participation of persons with disabilities into all areas of economic, political, and community life.
- d. Serving as a stakeholder in the design, planning, and implementation of City projects and programs to facilitate accessibility for persons with disabilities.
- e. Monitoring compliance with such codes, ordinances, and statutes that affect access to, or use of, City facilities, programs, and services by persons with disabilities.
- f. Providing advice regarding the setting of priorities for projects to remove barriers and improve access within the City's public rights-of-way.
- g. Identifying opportunities to educate the public about disability and disability access issues within the community.

SECTION 3. The Access Advisory Committee shall serve in an advisory capacity to City accessibility compliance staff as well as all City departments, according to the specific accessibility issue. For purposes of this Resolution, the term "City accessibility compliance staff" includes the following:

- The City's Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator (ADA Coordinator)
- The City Engineer (Public Works Department)
- The Chief Building Official (Community Development Department)
- The City Administrator's Office

SECTION 4. The Access Advisory Committee shall be comprised of seven persons, appointed by the City Council.

SECTION 5. Fifty-one percent of the Committee members shall be individuals with disabilities, as the term "disability" is defined under the Federal Americans with Disabilities Act.

SECTION 6. Committee members shall have a demonstrated interest, experience, and commitment to issues pertaining to disability and access. The following qualifications are desirable and recommended:

- a. A practical understanding of Title II or Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), or Section 504 and Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973;
- b. A practical understanding of California Code of Regulations Title 24 and

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- related federal accessibility standards;
- c. Experience as an architect, engineer, contractor, or other professional involved in the construction of accessible facilities;
 - d. Experience in consultation in the use of assistive services and technology;
 - e. Experience in representing or resolving accessibility issues for people with a broad range of disabilities.

SECTION 7. To the extent practicable, the Committee will consist of persons with the following backgrounds:

- Members from the Disability Community
- Members from the Architectural, Engineering, or Building Communities
- Members at large from the Community.

SECTION 8. New appointees to the Committee shall attend an orientation to the Committee's purpose, functions, and history, provided by ADA Compliance Staff, prior to the beginning of their terms of service. City employees may not serve as Committee members.

SECTION 9. Committee members may be residents of the City of Santa Barbara, or the County of Santa Barbara, or full-time employees of an entity doing business within the City.

SECTION 10. Committee members shall disqualify themselves from participation in any discussion and/or vote on any matter in which a Committee member or his/her family has a financial interest (as defined by Gov't. code § 87100 et. seq. or Gov't code § 1090) in a Committee decision or a personal interest which would affect independence of judgment or action in the performance of the member's duties.

SECTION 11. The term of office for each Committee Member shall be for a period of four years and until their successor is appointed and qualified. A person appointed to replace a member who leaves office due to resignation or otherwise before the expiration of the member's term will serve a four year term beginning when the person is appointed and ending on December 31 of the fourth year.

SECTION 12. At the initial Committee meeting of each calendar year, members of the Committee shall elect a person to serve as Chair, and a person to serve as Vice-Chair, for a term of one year.

SECTION 13. Committee members shall be subject to removal by the City Council according to its current policies and procedures.

SECTION 14. The ADA Coordinator shall prepare and present an agenda at least 72 hours prior to each Committee meeting. Items may be placed on an agenda by the ADA Coordinator or by written request of \ two Committee members submitted to the ADA

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Coordinator not less than seven days before the date scheduled for the meeting. The City's ADA Coordinator and support staff shall be responsible for scheduling meetings, preparing and distributing agendas and minutes, and receiving correspondence for the Committee and all Committee meetings shall be publicly noticed and conducted in full accordance with the Brown Act.

SECTION 15. The Committee shall hold four regular meetings per calendar year. Meetings will be held on a regularly scheduled day of the month as determined by Committee vote. Effective notice of canceled meetings shall be given to Committee members at least three days prior to the scheduled meeting. At the request of the ADA Coordinator or the AAC Chair, special meetings may be scheduled in addition to the regular, quarterly meetings.

SECTION 16. The City Administrator's office is responsible for designating a City staff liaison to the Committee. The staff liaison attends Committee meetings and may participate in the proceedings, but is not a voting member of the Committee.

SECTION 17. Following the City's Guidelines for the City of Santa Barbara Advisory Groups, the City Council shall appoint a Councilmember to serve as City Council Liaison to the Committee. The appointed Councilmember liaison may attend meetings and participate in the proceedings, but is not a voting member of the Committee. The Councilmember liaison may provide a verbal report of the proceedings to the full Council during a regular City Council meeting.

SECTION 18. The City's ADA Coordinator shall report annually to the City Council at a regular public meeting regarding the activities and achievements of the Advisory Access Committee.