

City of Santa Rosa Community Advisory Committee
Section 1.01 Minutes of January 24, 2007 ADA Community Advisory Committee Meeting
Finley Community Center?Cypress Room

Community Advisory Committee Members present:

Margo Merck, Community Housing Development Corporation of Santa Rosa Jennifer Frazer, Earle Baum Center of the Blind, Inc.
Shirlee Zane, Council on Aging

David Benson, Becoming Independent Cami Weaver, Becoming Independent Rick Blocher, North Bay Regional Center Randy Kirch, North Bay Regional Center Richard Ruge, North Bay Regional Center

City Staff Members present: Lynne Margolies, Risk Management Mardell Morrison, Risk Management
Ed Buonaccorsi, General Services Administrator Steve Dittmer, Public Works
Mirella Stevens, Risk Management Rich Hovden, Recreation & Parks
Bill Mushallo, City Financial Planning Manager Molly Dillon, Assistant City Attorney

1. INTRODUCTIONS/DISTRIBUTION OF MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING

D Shirlee Zane asked to make a couple of announcement prior to starting scheduled agenda. She announced that there is a new grant that the City Police Department is applying for through the California State Traffic Department. It is an education safety grant. She also discussed the crossing light at Farmers Lane and 4th Street. She personally observed a senior citizen having difficulty crossing before the light changed. She asked the City to examine the problem and see if they could fix it. She asked that Steve Dittmer take this problem back to Public Works.. She is thinking about recruiting some seniors and citizens with disabilities to start a walking group to walk around the City and identify these type of cross walk issues so that they can be addressed. She will be discussing the issue in her newsletter

2. CITY CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BUDGET OVERVIEW - BILL MUSHALLO

D Bill Mushallo advised the committee that during the January 23, 2007 City Council Meeting, they had the annual public hearing for input on the budget priority and there was a lot of feed back from citizens on pedestrian safety concerns. This information will be incorporated into the CIP budget.

D He explained the City's Capital Improvement Budget process with the aid of a power point presentation and advised that the budget is available at the City's web site, www.srcity.org and City Hall Annex for a hard copy. (A copy of the power point presentation is attached to the minutes.)

D Margo Merck asked for names of the Budget Sub Committee - This year it consists of Mayer Blanchard and Council Members Sawyer and Gorin. He explained that the City prioritizes with input from various citizen committees including this committee and what are needs of City and Departments. Margo Merck suggested that feedback from this committee should be considered in developing budget and our top priority list. Mardell will review all past minutes and make sure Public Works has areas that have been mentioned in prior ADA Committee meetings.

D Question was raised on the apportionment for ADA being reported as 5% in the powerpoint. The City does not have a line item that identifies the portion of a project that was to meet accessibility requirements under the ADA. The City has remodeled bathrooms for accessibility, added curb ramps when roads were being improved, added playground equipment that is accessible, and other improvements that have not been tracked. We are looking to each department to find a mechanism to be able to accurately report the amount that is for accessibility and hope to have more precise figures in the future.

3. CURB RAMP SIDEWALK ISSUES AND PRIORITIZATION - STEVE DITTMER

D Steve reported that the City installed over the past couple of years 322 ramps City wide and expect to construct another 164 this year. We are near the bottom of our top 100 list that is on the Web site list. We will be updating the list and if there are particular ramps you would like us to focus on, please get your feed back into Public Works through contact number on our web site, Steve's number is 543-3847 or e-mail at sdittmer@srcity.org, and general Public Works number is 543-3800. Criteria used will be from what was developed through the City's Transition Plan and this committee.

There is a form for ramp request at the City's web site at the same location as the top 100 list.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

D How does the public know about this group to participate and give feedback. Steve advised that the meeting announcements are posted on web site. Mardell advised that we also put a public announcement, post on web site and ask other groups to include in their news letters and web sites.

D Shirlee Zane mentioned that the City put out an article about the ADA Web site and how to access the ADA request and complaint forms. She published the article in her agency's newsletter in November and CRI and North Bay Regional also published this information. She encourages other agencies and groups to contact us to put the information into their newsletters and Web pages. Mardell advised that she is open to any suggestions on how to get City ADA information out.

D A citizen expressed that the sidewalk on Marlow Westside near Piner is very difficult to use with a mobility device.

D A citizen said he went to City Council meeting on 23rd and asked that they put in more money to sidewalk repair than just temporary patches.

D A citizen asked if Public Works is doing any training on disability awareness. Steve advised the group that they have a training on Uniform Traffic Signal devices, on providing temporary access through construction sites, and also in near future will be showing "The Ten Commandments of Communicating with Citizens with Disabilities" video to their staff. They have provided additional training to their Encroachment Enforcement Officers for enforcing access through construction sites with general contractors working in the City's right of way.

D Margo Merck asked about alternate means of travel around construction and if there are records of citations and how is the City getting word out. Steve said they are providing the training of enforcement of encroachment CD that addresses sidewalks and how to keep them unobstructed. There are no statistics yet. Margo would like to see this information tracked. Molly Dillon said we should be able to compile citations through Public Works. We passed the Encroachment Ordinance this year and it is an ongoing training and working with contractors to comply. If issue is resolved through conversation with contractors, we should have a way to track in addition to actual Citation. Mardell said she has gotten some through the ADA Barrier Removal Form sent in by a citizens; these are currently being tracked. In some cases there were adequate warnings, in others, we worked with the contractor/property owner to make the sidewalk accessible. Forms are available at web site or a citizen can e-mail Mardell at ada@srcity.org. Complaint form is also available at web site or citizens may call Mardell at 543-3024.

D Shirlee made announcement that City's Mayor's Senior Advisory Committee is putting on a seminar at Sonoma State titled "Building for a Lifetime," which address the State's Universal Building Design Model Code. There will be architects, builders, and planners attending. The seminar is on February 10, 2007 from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned