
City of Santa Rosa Community Advisory Committee

Minutes of February 24, 2006 ADA Community Advisory Committee Meeting
Finley Community Center—Cypress Room

Community Advisory Committee Members present:

Jennifer Frazier, Earle Baum Center of the Blind
Margo Merck, Community Housing Development Corporation Santa Rosa
Carin Lawrence, Becoming Independent
Shirlee Zane, Council on Aging

City Staff Members present:

Greg Scoles, City Manager's Office
Lynne Margolies, Risk Management
Michael Ivory, Transit & Parking
Marc Richardson, Recreation & Parks
Steve Dittmer, Public Works
Rob Sprinkle, Public Works

MIG Staff Members present:

Timothy Gilbert
Yuri Kilburg

1. INTRODUCTIONS

2. TRANSITION PLAN OVERVIEW

- Tim Gilbert of MIG provided an overview of the final draft of the Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan and asked the CAC for their comments.

Public comment:

- Shirlee Zane would like to see the raw data used to compile the report and would like to know if the questionnaire was distributed. *City Response:* The questionnaire was distributed to all departments and used as a tool to assist the departments in writing their portion of the transition plan. There is no raw data.
- How is the City going to distribute the transition plan and its related information the public? The Committee would like to have outreach extend beyond the City's website. Shirlee Zane suggested newsletters and advertisements in the Press Democrat as methods of outreach.
- Shirlee Zane requested clarification of the point process used to assist the City with prioritization of ramps. *City Response:* Steve Dittmer explained that the ramps were rated and the scores were tallied and placed into a database. You can find this information by using *Find it Fast* on the website. The document is called Pedestrian Ramp Evaluation with Scoring System.

3. DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Risk Management:

Lynne Margolies announced that she received approval from City Council to hire an ADA Coordinator. The opening date for the position is 3/3/06.

Public Comment:

- Shirlee Zane requested that the Committee be represented during the interview process.

Public Works:

Steve Dittmer noted that work is continuing on the ramp priority list, as well as on CIP projects. ADA projects in construction or recently completed include:

- W. 9th Street, from N. Dutton to Wilson
- Joe Rodota Path Connection to Prince Greenway Creek Path
- Path on S. Side of Santa Rosa Creek from Santa Rosa Ave. to A Street.
- Marlow from W. College to Guerneville
- Guerneville from Marlow to Cleveland
- W. Steele from RR to Range
- Pacific Av. From Mendocino to Humboldt
- Grahn from Norte to East Foothills
- Airway from Industrial to Hopper
- Sutton from Sebastopol to W. 3rd
- Middle Rincon from Hwy 12 to Montecito
- Dutton Avenue Access Ramps to Santa Rosa Creek Pathway
- Santa Rosa Creek Multi-use path – Stream side to Mission
- Smart Bike and Pedestrian Path (Phase 1) from 7th to College
- West Steele Lane from Marlow to Coffey
- Brush Creek Road pedestrian path
- Brookwood and Maple
- Stony Point and Joe Rodota
- Colgan and Petaluma Hill Road
- Fountain Grove and Stagecoach
- Mendocino and Pacific
- Neotomas and Yulupa
- Montgomery and Second
- Montgomery and 800' east of Jacqueline
- Mendocino and Silva
- Mendocino and Benton

Public Comment:

- Jennifer Frazier asked how it is determined that a signal crossing uses vibration.
City response: The process is changing right now. Vibration is the new standard, as well as a walk sign countdown.
- Margo Merck noted that in the neighborhood near Santa Rosa Junior College, the signal timing is not long enough to cross the street. How is this length of time determined? *City response:* The time it takes to cross the street is monitored. Timers can be extended when requested.

Parks and Recreation:

Marc Richardson reported that the Steele Lane Community Center has upgraded one set of restrooms with plans to upgrade the second set next year. He has requested funding for next year to renovate trails and accessibility. He reported that Howarth Park will also undergo a renovation for restrooms – two are completed with two more to go. The CIP programs include the upgrade of concessions, storage facilities in the 57 parks in Santa Rosa. Many projects will take 18 – 24 months to complete.

Transit:

Michael Ivory announced that four new cutaway vans have been ordered and should be delivered shortly. This will bring the City fleet to 11 cutaway vans, 2 vans and 3 sedans. The paratransit fleet is expanding and has established procedures and objectives. A new bid for a new provider has been submitted. The fixed route system is 98% accessible. The department has taken out stops that are not accessible. It is an evolving, ongoing and growing system and the ADA is priority.

Public Comment:

- ❑ Is there a sidewalk hotline like there is a pothole hotline? *City Response:* Yes. The phone number is on the website. Call 707-543-3800 and you will be redirected accordingly.
- ❑ There already is a hotline for potholes; would it be possible to tie sidewalks and potholes together?
- ❑ Dwayne would like to know if comfortable benches could be provided. Golden Gate Transit and Sonoma Transit have comfortable bus shelters and are good examples to follow.
- ❑ Benches are too low at many bus stops and it is difficult to get up.
- ❑ The City repaired some ramps and then put more asphalt on the street lowering a several inch high lip – I turned over once in an attempt to cross at night. *City Response:* We use asphalt because it is stable, firm, slip-resistant and meets the requirement for ADA. We can respond to the area in need quicker by using asphalt instead of concrete.

Tim Gilbert asked the group if there were any additional comments regarding the plan. Tim Gilbert read from two comment cards aloud to the group.

Special Events, page 20: The Amgen bike race was a great event and an example of the City's lack of focus on people traffic. The railings set up for pedestrian paths were very narrow and placed in such a way that they obstructed curb cuts.

Encroachment Permits, page 35: Public concern that every time they ask about the lack of alternate paths of travel in new construction or reconstruction projects, they are told that the plans fall through due to a breakdown in communication among the Community Development, Planning and Public Works Departments. Will the City's departmental trainings address the need to enforce alternate paths of travel? *City Response:* Yes.