



Office of Accessibility

Meeting Minutes

ADA Community Forum 2023 – 2nd Quarter

Date: Thursday, June 15, 2023, 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Location: Virtual Google Meet (6 people in attendance)

Subject: Residents can come learn about a variety completed, ongoing and future improvements throughout the city as well as an update on web accessibility successes and progress.

Accommodations: Captioning via Google Meets

Introduction: Rob Hernandez, ADA Manager opened with introductions. Meeting began at 1:05 p.m.

Rob briefly spoke about the City's remediation process:

The City actively identifies ways to prioritize remediation efforts, by;

- Collaborating with internal and external stakeholders
- Prioritizing based on best practices set by the DOJ and public feedback
- Leveraging internal stakeholder resources
- Aligning with the City's strategic plan where appropriate

2023 National ADA Symposium

Timothy Hartong, Project Manager:

Tim Hartong and Jason Crowe attended the Symposium in May. They spoke about their experiences at the event and the value it brings to their position.

Project updates.



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Current Projects

ADA Manager Rob Hernandez, ADA Coordinator Jason Crowe, and Project Manager Timothy Hartong, provided updates on projects that are currently underway or getting ready to launch. Among the projects:

Timothy Hartong, Project Manager:

Rock Ledge Ranch:

Kiosk / Filming: The buildings at the ranch are historic and not very accessible. We are providing a virtual tour that is accessible via a kiosk at the site. Some of the features we are adding are that we are offering captions in English and Spanish and having picture in picture ASL.

Starsmore:

The building itself was a residence that was donated, so we are going into this site and trying to bring this up to the standards we have today. We are collaborating with Parks to install a plaza at the front of the building that is accessible and available for all the different programming they do at that facility. We have finished the design phase, and these are at the building dept for review.

Title II ADA Coordinator:

Oak Meadows / Fire Station 16

This is a collaborative effort between the Office of Accessibility, CSFD and Parks to not only make Oak Meadows park more accessible and update the playground but also add an accessible route to the fire station community room.

Vickie Pacheco introduced Geri Tierney who will be taking her place as the chair of the local chapter of the Hearing Loss Association of America.

Tim Hartung:

Senior Center:



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We are excited about the improvements that will be made with the construction of the new center. The old center had a lot of issues, so this will solve a lot of those. They have currently closed the old senior center in anticipation of its demolition. The new center will have a multi-purpose room that we expect to be looped. We encourage you to get on the city's website and look at those plans.

Antler's Dog Park / Palmer Community Dog Park

We are working on a short term project to add better parking, an accessible route and concrete pads with all amenities to Palmer Park dog park. Also, there is a bigger project in the concept phase to take part of Antler's Park and make it into a fully accessible dog park by doing the entire thing in synthetic turf.

Westside Community Center

The Therapeutic Recreation Program recently moved into the community center. The facility itself is pretty old, so it's not the most accessible. Because of that, we have made it a priority to make improvements. Those projects include making the entrance more accessible as well as adding a lift in the west building to allow access to the two levels that exist in the building.

Upcoming

Community Gardens

There are four lots in Old Colorado City that either have non-compliant accessible parking or not enough accessible parking. Most or all of the existing stalls have high cross slope, bad dimensions, no signage or are positioned in a way where they don't safely connect to an accessible route to the businesses in Old Colorado City. We have worked with parking enterprise to redesign the accessible parking to address these issues.

Airport

The airport is working on remodeling the concourse. The projects that pertain to accessibility will be the restrooms, looping systems at every gates, an adult changing table in the family restroom, a new service animal relief area, and many other corrections to several non-compliant findings throughout that concourse. The architect is really paying attention to the details, we have been pleased with some of the attention they have paid to accessibility improvements.



Summer Recreation

Jason Crowe gave an update on accessible activities available this summer including the Trackchair program, beach wheelchairs and mobi matting at Memorial Park, Panorama Park and several activities available through the Therapeutic Recreation Program.

Web Accessibility Update

ADA Coordinator Kevin McDaniel, provided the updates on web accessibility plan and the Strategic Plan.

Kevin McDaniel, ADA Coordinator:

HB21-1110 passed in 2021. The Office of Accessibility started working toward compliance in 2019. The house bills requires that all cities and municipalities meet web accessibility guidelines by July 1, 2023.

Kevin discussed how he created an assembly line test where everyone tested the same URL over and over again so everyone can learn the process to remediate and they can work together to make the corrections.

The City has 84% compliance of tagged documents. The Office of Accessibility has provided 142 training ours for 481 training participants. We have also addressed compliance on 96 applications. We are probably about 85% to 90% complete in assessing and remediating issues on our external facing websites.

Kevin explained how the work with our outside vendors to help them along in making sure what they provide is accessible. One example is our City Counsel uses Legistar to create and organize their documents. We had a great meeting with Legistar a few months ago which resulted in them making improvements that they can now offer all of their documents produced in an accessible form.

Kevin gave kudos to Mountain Metro Transit for the amount of work and dedication they have put in to making their projects accessible. They were one of the first departments to put in the work to correct their processes.

Rob thanked Kevin for the work he has done for the City and wished him well as he leaved to work for the State of Colorado.

Title VI



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Paulyna Johnston, Language Access Coordinator

Paulyna introduced herself and briefly explained the program.

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 assures that “No person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefit of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal assistance.”

To clarify existing requirements for LEP persons under Title VI, on August 11, 2000, President Clinton issued [Executive Order 13166](#), “Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency.”

Conclusion:

Rob: I feel confident in saying we are ahead of just about every city and even our own state. We have been receiving calls and emails from cities throughout our state as well as throughout the country about the work we have been doing.

Questions.

Vickie Pacheco asked Kevin if he could provide one of the slides on the website so she could see it better.

Chris at MMT asked about the City’s response to HB21-1110. Kevin explained that the City started in 2019, two years before the state put out the state admin regulation.

Vickie Pacheco Thanked the Office of Accessibility for the work that has been done, specifically Kevin’s work on web accessibility.

Chat Comments and Questions:

Kevin McDaniel

12:56 PM

Hi everyone, this is an automated message to let you know my Tactiq extension (<https://taictiq.io/r/transcribing>) is transcribing this meeting for me so I can give my full attention to you.

DeAnna Rumsey

1:08 PM

I want an invite to his going away party. Kevin is a ROCK STAR!!!!



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DeAnna Rumsey

1:57 PM

WOOT! Web accessibility is Kevin's super power.

Kevin McDaniel

2:02 PM

Thank you DeAnna :)

Rob