



Meeting Minutes for ADA Community Forum 2022 – 2nd Quarter

Date: Thursday, June 9, 2022, 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Location: Virtual Google Meet (4 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. Special guest Jacob Anderson attended to present on GoCOS.

Accommodations: Captioning via Google Meets

Introduction: Rob Hernandez, ADA Manager opened with introductions. Meeting began at 1:03 p.m.

Jacob Anderson GoCOS:

Jacob presented information about the GoCOS! App. Colorado Springs City government provides this **app** so citizens can report potholes or graffiti, ask questions, or request a service.

Rob: This app also has a spot to report any ADA issue someone might have. This also is used to report ADA parking violations and since this app was introduced it has increased ADA related parking tickets 5 or 6 times.

Project updates.

Current Projects

ADA Manager Rob Hernandez, ADA Coordinators Jason Crowe, Mike Killebrew 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:

**Sertich Ice Arena:**

We are working with an architect to put together some plans to provide compliant ramps on both the home and visitors side. There is currently a non-compliant ramp there. Additionally, there is a set of restrooms that are due for renovation and we are going to make them compliant. We are currently looking for a contractor to get started on that.

Jason Crowe:

Rock Ledge Ranch: We just finished the first phase of Rock Ledge Ranch improvements which included laying 5,000 square feet of concrete that created access to the Orchard House lift, a path to the front of the Rock Ledge house, a path to the stables and workshop, and a compliant covered picnic area.

Mike Killebrew:**Looping at Municipal Court:**

We are in the process of getting two more locations in the courthouse looped – division 4 and 5. We currently have 9 areas/rooms looped with another 4 counter loops installed. We have another 4 counter loops we will be putting in police substations. Thanks to the HLAA who really pushed to get those looping systems throughout the city. We have further loops planned in the future.

Tim Hartong:**Starsmore:**

We are under contract with a design firm to do some improvements at the Starsmore Center. There is some work we need to do out at the site to make it more accessible. We have meetings in the upcoming weeks to be on site and go over the work that needs to be done.

CSPD:

We did about \$100,000 of concrete work at several substations to make improvements to get compliant.



Upcoming Projects

Tim:

Beidleman

A nature center on the west side of the city. There is a lot of nature programming for youth there at the facility adjacent to Sonderman Park. We are hoping to provide an accessible route down to the creek and improve overall access to the park including accessible restrooms. We are currently seeking an engineering firm

Rock Ledge Kiosk

In conjunction with the City Communications Department, we are planning to start filming video for the kiosk content by the end of June. They will film at special events and capture crowds and atmosphere including period actors/docents.

Cottonwood Park

The designated accessible parking lot on the north side of the baseball field is in rough shape. We have presented our plan to the parks department. They are very excited to see us bring that up to spec. We are looking for a contractor to take care of that project for us.

Swing High

The playground at Memorial Park has a gravel parking lot closest to that accessible playground. We are looking to paving some compliant accessible parking and are working with the parks department to get that all sorted out.

Public Works Transition Plan

Transition plans are required by the American with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. A transition plan provides for the removal of access barriers identified through a self-evaluation and inventory. It also includes a budget and schedule for those improvements.

The City has a transition plan that our office is responsible for writing, updating and then prioritizing and implementing improvements that have been identified and need to be made.



The Public Rights of Way or Public Works falls under the umbrella of the city's plan, however because of the vast amount of the city that Public Works is responsible for, it needs its own subplan.

Scope: For Public Rights of Way or Public Works this includes:

Engineering
 Traffic Engineering
 Streets Operation and Maintenance
 Mountain Metro Transit

When it comes to the ADA, Public Works has a compliance responsibility for sidewalks, pedestrian paths, curb ramps, street crossings, crosswalks, median crossings, public transit stops, and pedestrian activated signal systems. Plus, the facilities they operate out of.

- 6,327 Lane Miles of Roadway
- 2,870 Miles of Curb & Gutter
- Approximately 35,000 curb ramps
- 946 bus stops

Although this transition plan is in the works, ADA improvements are being made as we speak, and evaluation and assessments are happening. 2C has been a huge shot in the arm for ADA improvements.

- For example with 2C funding Public Works has:
 Replaced 453,541 square feet of sidewalk
- Installed 209 new pedestrian ramps
- Retrofitted 944 existing pedestrian ramps

Digital Accessibility Update

ADA Coordinator Kevin McDaniel, provided the updates on Web Accessibility Plan and the Strategic Plan.

Kevin McDaniel, ADA Coordinator:

In 2020 the mayor signed a proclamation for us to be web accessible by June of this year. Last year Governor Polis signed an order that requires all governments in the state to meet WCAG 2.1 standards. This is slightly more stringent than what we



originally signed on for as being compliant to WCAG 2.0 which is required by the federal government.

Our Web Accessibility Transition Plan was completed in July 2020, and a month or so later is when the state came out and said all cities need to create a web accessibility transition plan.

We completed our plan and were able to get about 90% of our applications in compliance by the June date.

Our assessments and evaluations are ongoing. We continue to go through some of our partners' applications and websites and run reports on the findings. We plan to publish these tests and reports and I plan to have meetings with the departments and vendors over the next few years just going over the code and how to correct the findings.

Anyone who does not come into compliance by July 1, 2024, I suspect what we will do is to have a plan to replace those applications.

Strategic Plan: We've gone to all the departments' public facing websites and assessed them for everything the ADA requires. What we did to accomplish this, because there is no checklist that exists for this, we went to the DOJ requirements for all policies and procedures and then turned this into a checklist. It was supposed to be done by the end of this year, but I think we will have this done by the end of the summer.

Rob: For the prioritization committee we will be looking for some new members.

Questions.

Attendee Vickie Pacheco, Chairman, Hearing Loss Association of America asked what the city's involvement is going to be in the new Senior Center.

Rob explained that we will be involved in reviewing plans but that there are a number of entities involved in the center in addition to the city so it gets complicated in how much influence we can have as well as any money going to accessibility projects.

Attendee Vickie Pacheco asked why meetings have changed from Microsoft Teams to Google Meets.

Rob answered that we are hoping to go to use Teams as soon as we get the captioning issues resolved.



Chat Comments:

Unknown

1:20 PM

I just downloaded the app!

Rob Hernandez, ADA Manager -- Office of Accessibility

1:22 PM

Any idea what percentage is ADA related

Unknown

1:25 PM

This looks amazing!

Unknown

1:29 PM

Is this a venue for reporting or requesting a need for sign language interpreters?
or captioning or braille?

Unknown

1:47 PM

That sounds great!

Unknown

2:09 PM

Kudos, Kevin!

DeAnna Rumsey

2:11 PM

Great work everybody.

Rob, where can I find the transition plan for the right of way? I was on a PPACG meeting and the CDOT 10 year plan did not include infrastructure and I'm trying to get a handle on when all bus stops will be compliant. Thank you.

**Rob explained that we are in the process of writing the transition plan but that the information is being documented by Mountain Metro.*