



Meeting Minutes

ADA Community Forum 2022 – 1st Quarter

Date: Thursday, March 10, 2022, 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Location: Virtual Google Meet (6 people in attendance)

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

Accommodations: Captioning via Google Meet

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

Project updates.

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: Sertich Ice Arena, Helen Halls Falls/North Cheyenne picnic area, Rock Ledge Ranch, CAB/City Hall/Municipal Court, CSPD, Leon Young Parking Lot, Beidelman Nature Center, Starsmore Discovery Center, Cottonwood Park, Looping System Additions at Municipal Court, Swing High Play Area at Memorial Park.

Jason Crowe, ADA Coordinator:

Sertich Ice Arena: The plan is to add ramps and accessible seating to both the home and visitors' sides of the ice as well as making two of the four restrooms fully accessible. The maintenance personnel at the ice arena have been creative to make some things as accessible as possible, but, although they were improvements, they weren't compliant. The Office of Accessibility has contracted for architectural design to address these areas and the first proposal is expected any day now.

Helen Hunt Falls/North Cheyenne picnic area: Helen Hunt Falls / North Cheyenne Canyon - Helen Hunt Falls: Project scope first phase completed. Phase two erosion control and corrections for parking stall slope have been completed. additional



sidewalk, picnic table pads to include tables for Picnic Area – B have been completed. In the next week or two we will be ordering picnic tables to be placed on the pads.

Timothy Hartong, Project Manager:

Rock Ledge Ranch: A living history outdoor museum. We are limited on what we can do because we want to maintain the historical integrity of the site. They are just about finished replacing some of the existing concrete, adding new accessible paths to many of the exhibits, and we are pairing this with a kiosk project. For some of the areas we cannot provide access to through construction methods, we are going to offer video tours.

CAB/City Hall/Muni Court: We are finishing up projects at these areas. We want those facilities to look right and be right. They are very public facing because they are fixtures of the downtown area and get a lot of traffic and use.

CSPD: Again, these are public facing buildings that we expect to be correct. We have partnered with CSPD to help get these right and improve service areas inside including accessible service counters and hearing loops.

Leon Young: This parking lot is quite dilapidated and needs some improvements and corrections. We partnered with the parks department and awarded a contract a month ago. It is quite a large project.

Beidelman Nature Center: Are both nature center owned by the city. Both of them used to be houses that were donated to the city at some point. There is a lot of neat programming that takes place at these centers. Access is a challenge in areas like these. At Beidelman we are working with engineers to get routes down to the water and around the outside of the facility, as well as new renovated restrooms.

Starsmore Discovery Park: We are renovating the restrooms there as well as some work on both floors. We are also re-doing the parking lot and the route up from the bus stop. We are currently working with an architecture firm to get some designs here.

Cottonwood Park: Cottonwood Creek Regional Park– The lower parking lot is solely dedicated to accessible parking. It's not in great shape. The asphalt is deteriorating, the curb ramp up to the paths isn't right and there are some slope issues. This lot provides the best access to the baseball fields, playground, pavilion area and concession in the summer. We are also planning to put in a curb ramp on the other side of the lot to provide access to the trail system along Cottonwood Creek.



Jason Crowe, Title II ADA Coordinator

Swing High Play Area at Memorial: Swing High / Memorial park – It's an amazing accessible playground, but it can be better. One of the issues we saw when going out to take a look at it was parking. The lot nearest the playground is gravel with no accessible spots. The nearest accessible spots are three football fields away.

Rob Hernandez, ADA Title II Manager

Looping Systems Additions at Muni Court: We have loops at City Admin building, clerk and recorders, the CAB, City Hall – the chamber and diocese, and city hall conference room. We have three court rooms looped and looking to get div. 4 and 5 looped. We are also working with Vickie to get Goldhill loops back to working order. We are still exploring possibilities with the airport, but we are limited because they are an enterprise, so we are working to figure out if the airport can pay for that.

You can find out if looping is available in a venue by the blue and white sign that looks like an ear. If you have a t-coil hearing aid you can hook into the looping system to amplify any sounds in the room.

Question: Rob...What is planned to assist those with hearing problems at the renovated City Auditorium?

Rob Hernandez: We have not been involved with the renovations at the City Auditorium, but that is an important facility, so we will reach out and see where they are at and what their plan is for assisting the deaf and hard of hearing.

Digital Accessibility Update

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

Kevin McDaniel, ADA Coordinator:

In 2019 we started looking at the web accessibility transition plan. In the past it was very challenging because the DOJ just puts out a mandate saying you have to be compliant.

In 2019 we decided to follow a standard, WCAG 2.0 and started looking at all of our websites, documents, and a lot of other customer touch points.

Our 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.



No new technology contracts are going out without a requirement to be WCAG 2.0 and soon WCAG 2.1 compliant.

I am going to advocate for the next two years to use a maturity model to show progress to the state.

Strategic Plan: We've gone to all the departments' public facing websites and assessing them for everything the ADA requires. What we did to accomplish this, because there is no checklist that exists, was to turn the requirements from the DOJ 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.

Closing

Rob Hernandez, ADA Manager:

Our team loves our jobs, and we are only as successful as our leadership allows us to be. We have that support from the top, and our goal is to be the most accessible city there is.

Questions

Attendee Drew Wills: This movement toward accessibility is visible and appreciated. What is the timeframe for finishing the road construction, bridge construction to N. Cheyenne Canyon?

Tim Hartong: Last I heard was May, but will reach out to David Deitemeyer to confirm.

Chat Comments:

Duane Gritzmaker
1:30 PM

Rob...What is planned to assist those with hearing problems at the renovated City Auditorium?

Unknown
1:34 PM



Kudos to HLAA and the City for getting the loops placed!

Vickie Pacheco

1:45 PM

Looks like contractors are here.. I will drop off but may be back intermittently. If not - Just want to say KUDOS to City ADA staff! You are amazing!

Unknown

1:46 PM

Kevin, don't know if you saw this recent document from DOJ:

https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__beta.ada.gov_web-2Dguidance_&d=DwMFAg&c=euGZstcaTDllvimEN8b7jXrwqOf-v5A_CdpqnVfiiMM&r=q32_UjBYVuMvNFB89tyarQ&m=_jsmk75Rh1X9mOSP07bOFCoVzcfauWqDfdmE0qubWss&s=C4BCF_OMSM_m87xc1Vbk6LP10ZnjuYTwI5sMQKx-llM&e=

That's right...

Unknown

1:51 PM

Forward thinking!

Unknown

1:58 PM

Great work everyone!

Unknown

2:07 PM

The progress has been incredible!