

**ADA ACCESSIBILITY REVIEW BOARD  
MINUTES  
January 29, 2013  
Main Library Conference Room  
10:15 A.M.**

**Disclaimer:** The ADA Accessibility Review Board is a citizen board volunteering their time to give necessary feedback on projects of the City which may have an impact on Title II of The American's with Disabilities Act. The intent of the review is not to evaluate complete compliance with an accessibility standard, but to ensure overall programmatic accessibility. The Board is not presented all the information and is not given sufficient time for a thorough review. The Board's review is merely cursory and should only be considered a recommendation of the Board. The Board recommendation should not be considered a certification that the project meets ADA standards. The Board only reviews the project based on The American's with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines and other U.S. Access Board guidance and does not address any local codes, such as any building codes or fire and safety codes. Any conflicts in local codes should be addressed by the appropriate parties.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Hoy called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m.

Board members present: Roseann Burkett, Matt Cain, Helen Hartmann, Doug Hoy, Sarah Aldinger, and Eric Kritzmire.

Board member(s) absent: Page Hudson

Staff present: Colleen Moran, City ADA Coordinator and Carol Garry, Human Relations Assistant

Guests present: Mitch Mergen, Stockwell Engineers and Dena Knutson, City Engineering Dept.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Kritzmire moved to approve the minutes from the October 30, 2012, meeting; Hartmann seconded. Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

No unfinished business

**NEW BUSINESS**

**6<sup>th</sup> Street Conceptual Design Plan** – Mitch Mergen, Stockwell Engineers

The project is a redesign of 6<sup>th</sup> Street from Weber to Minnesota Avenue. It will be done in phases. The section from the river to an alley just east of the Phillips Avenue intersection will be constructed in 2013 – the projected completion date of the Phillips Avenue intersection is July in time for Hot Harley Nights. The rest should be done by August /September. No date set for the other phases. The elevation for the whole project area is relatively flat so there will not be grading issues similar to the 8<sup>th</sup> Street project.

Some of the major improvements involve traffic improvements. A dedicated right turn lane will be added at Minnesota Avenue (traveling west on 6<sup>th</sup> Street). This will increase the lanes from three to four and improve the flow of traffic through the intersection. A dedicated right turn lane will also be added at the Phillips Avenue intersection, with the same expected improvement to the traffic flow. There will be additional traffic signal added at First Avenue; right in front of Raven Industries. This will create a safer crossing for pedestrians (Raven employees walking back and forth to their buildings). The light will be activated by a pedestrian push button and a sensor noting when vehicles are waiting to turn onto 6<sup>th</sup> Street. This section will narrow from four lanes down to three. This will allow additional space to widen the sidewalk to maintain an eight foot wide sidewalk throughout the redesign project. They will also add a traffic signal at 6<sup>th</sup> and Weber Avenue as traffic volume has increased enough to upgrade from a four-way stop. This will be added with the initial phase of the project as it will help control traffic through the project site.

Landscape features include adding a median with monument piers and plantings. The design on the monument piers is taken from the railing inside the old courthouse. There will be boulevard (behind the curb) planters along the pedestrian route. Intersections will have a circular form (nodes) to create a gathering-like space at the intersections. The side street side will have an accent rail along the back and the other side will have an accent wall that can be used for seating. Cobblestone pavers will be used along the corridor. These are historic pavers that have been salvaged from old streets etc. and will be used along curbs as an edging. This will add an historic accent to one of the main entrances to historic downtown. Entrance features will help designate access to the Falls Park area or to the River Greenway. The new Falls Park entrance will be located behind the Park Dept. parking lot. There will be a crossing signal at this location. They plan to use the same type of planters at the Phillips Avenue intersection to tie into the planters that are existing on Phillips.

Crosswalks will be colored concrete with a scoring pattern cut/sawed into the concrete. The corner nodes will have the same scoring in a different pattern. The detectable panels will be installed – using radius panels to fit the whole drop area on some.

Aldinger asked about the curb cuts at the corners. The size of the area will determine if the radius drop or if single drops lining up with the crosswalks will be used. If the area is too narrow, two warning panels will not fit in the designated space. Hoy asked Hartmann if this will function for those with vision impairments. Hartmann thought if the orientation/mobility trainers are aware of what type of drops are being used, they can train their clients appropriately.

Moran asked about the bus stops in the project area – we want to make sure the stops are accessible with the appropriate signage. The project calls for bump outs for the buses to use for stops. An ADA accessible parking stall will be installed by the courthouse with two curb drops to access the sidewalk. And the access aisle will be stripped so they can tell from where the snow needs to be removed.

**Burkett moved to recommend approval of the Phillips to the river phase of the 6<sup>th</sup> Street Conceptual Design Plan project; Cain seconded. The vote was unanimous.**

Election of Officers – Per ordinance, officers are elected at the first meeting of the year. Current officers are Doug Hoy/chairperson; Sarah Aldinger/ vice-chairperson; and Roseann Burkett /third officer.

Aldinger will term out in May, so we should consider a replacement for vice-chair. Burkett volunteered to move into the vice-chair role and Kritzmire will take over as third officer.

Slate of officers: Hoy/Chair; Burkett/Vice-chair; and Kritzmire/Third officer. **Hartmann moved to cease all nominations and vote for the named slate of officers. Cain seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Kritzmire reported that the US Senate voted on a motion to ratify an UN Convention regarding rights of persons with disabilities. The vote failed; Senator Thune voted against it. Kritzmire would like the Board to write a letter to the senator asking why he voted against it. Kritzmire has called Thune's office, and wrote a letter to the editor but has not had an answer back. The Board agreed to send a letter. Staff will draft the letter and send it to the Board for input. Kritzmire will provide a copy of the letter he sent to the editor at the Argus.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 am**

Respectfully submitted by Carol Garry