

**ADA ACCESSIBILITY REVIEW BOARD
MINUTES
September 26, 2017
Commission Room City Hall
10:15 A.M.**

Board members present: Roseann Burkett, Helen Hartmann, Troy Osterloo, Eric Kritzmire, Paul Korn, and Matt Pruner

Board member(s) absent: Patti Monson

Staff present: Colleen Moran, Assistant City Attorney/ADA Coordinator

Guests present: Wes Phillips, Principal City Engineer; Nick Rezac, Civil Engineer

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Eric Kritzmire called the meeting to order at 10:18 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Osterloo moved to approve the July 26, 2017 minutes. Burkett seconded the motion. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

ADA Training Report

Wes Phillips, Principal Engineer for the City of Sioux Falls, presented information about a September 11 - 12 training hosted by the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration in partnership with the City of Sioux Falls. The training focused on Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Accessible Right-of-Ways, specifically on designing pedestrian facilities for accessibility. Training attendees included engineers, designers, developers, consultants, DOT employees, and others. The training curriculum included information regarding laws, regulations and pedestrian characteristics; pedestrian access routes; curb ramps and other transitions; and an outdoor exercise. The outdoor exercise provide attendees the opportunity to travel for approximately six blocks using a wheelchair and/or a white cane, experiencing the difficulties imposed with improper slope and other sidewalk obstacles.

Phillips also provided information on the City's Self-Evaluation. Beginning in late spring, the City began an inventory of its sidewalks, curb ramps, and pedestrian push buttons on traffic signals. The inventory covered approximately 1000 miles of sidewalk, and 10,000 curb ramps. Under the supervision and direction of a City Engineering Technician, the City utilized interns to complete much of the inventory. The interns were trained prior to beginning the inventory. While in the field, the interns used iPads to track information. The City's GIS division also assisted with provided information for the inventory. Phillips explained the inventory included examining sidewalks for defects

(cracking, debris, sediment, trip hazards, spalling, etc.). The inventory also included possible obstructions (i.e. utility poles) and sidewalk slope. Curb ramps were also inventoried for slope, width, detectable warning panels, and other ADA considerations. Phillips indicated the inventory used a rating scale to assist in prioritizing the City's work, including the sidewalk inspection program and ramp correction.

Phillips asked the board members for input on priorities and challenges they see in the community. Board members listed the following:

- Ensuring signal light push buttons are on a hard surface and not in the grass;
- Ensuring the signal light push buttons are within the allowable reach range;
- Reviewing curb ramps for damaged detectable warning panels;
- Ensuring contrasting color is present on changes of elevation, particularly with steps;
- Noting and fixing trip hazards between sidewalk panels.

One of the board members expressed concern about the requirements for steps at stadiums. Follow up will be completed to help answer this concern.

Board Action

No action was required of the Board. Board members expressed an appreciation for the report and for conducting the ADA training.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Disclaimer: The ADA Accessibility Review Board is a board of community members 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.

Respectfully submitted by Colleen Moran