

**SUMMARY OF ACTION
MAYORS COMMITTEE ON DISABILITY
October 15, 2015**

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>ACTION</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
CALL TO ORDER		1
ROLL CALL	QUORUM	1
APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA	APPROVED	2
APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES September 17, 2015	APPROVED	2-3
PUBLIC COMMENTS	NONE	3
<u>NEW BUSINESS</u>		
SANTA FE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO) PEDESTRIAN MASTER PLAN AS IT RELATES TO ADA BUS STOP AND SIDEWALK INVENTORY	INFORMATION/DISCUSSION	3-6
REPORT ON STATUS OF DESIGNATED LOCATIONS	INFORMATION/DISCUSSION	6-7
<u>OLD BUSINESS</u>		
MCD SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS	INFORMATION/DISCUSSION	7
TAXI UPDATE	INFORMATION/DISCUSSION	7
PROW UPDATE	INFORMATION/DISCUSSION	8-9
ITEMS FROM MEMBERSHIP AND STAFF	INFORMATION/DISCUSSION	9-12
ADJOURN	ADJOURNED AT 11:36 AM	12
NEXT MEETING	NEXT MEETING DATE NOVEMBER 19, 2015	13

MAYOR'S COMMITTEE ON DISABILITY
Thursday, October 15, 2015
Genoveva Chavez Community Center
10:00 am

1. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Mayor's Committee on Disability was called to order by Chair Marcia Bowman at approximately 10:00 am, at the Genova Chavez Community Center, in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

2. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT

Marcia Bowman, Chair
Dave McQuarie
Mary McGinnis
Aurore Bleck
Ron Ortiz Dinkel
Dr. Charles Maynard
Nancy Pieters
(Vacancy)

MEMBERS ABSENT

Meriam Jawhar

Roll Call indicated the presence of a quorum.

OTHERS PRESENT

Mark Tibbetts, MPO Officer
David Chapman, ADA Coordinator/Liaison
Coby Livingstone
Elizabeth Martin, Stenographer

Chair Bowman said let's take a moment for Sharon. A condolence card was passed around for everyone to sign.

Ms. Pieters gave an update on what happened to Sharon. She said they were remodeling the unit next door and using some toxic chemicals. Sharon had been camping a bit and staying away from the house. She was with her husband on the day of her passing, hiking in the Pecos wilderness. They came home, she took a nap and never woke up. Her Doctor said he believed it was her heart and might have been made worse by the chemicals. She had some sort of heart issue over the years. We

asked if there was anything we could to help. Nina said she and her family had been members of St. Bede's church for a long time. Her husband said they have been bringing more food than they know what to do with. They have three kids, two of which have been here to be with their Dad. They are coming in shifts. They have grandchildren in Colorado. Mike has a dog companion which is a good thing.

Chair Bowman asked for a moment of silence in memory of Sharon

After the moment of silence, Ms. Pieters said Mike might be good member for this committee.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Dr. Maynard to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Bleck.

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES, September 17, 2015

Chair Bowman said in the minutes, the Committee is referred to as a Board and should be called a Committee.

Mr. McQuarie said on page 6, 3rd paragraph, under Old Business it should say that Mr. McQuarie advised David Chapman to contact John Romero or Dave Catanach to investigate and report to the committee. Also on page 8, Juan should be Ron.

Ms. Pieters said under the Taxi Update, the 6th paragraph down, an "s" should be added to the work aneurism. Also page 9, 4th paragraph, he is, not had is.

Ms. Bleck said Mr. Bulthuis first name is spelled Jon not John.

Those comments ended the corrections to the minutes. The following clarification comments were made which are not corrections to the minutes.

Ms. Pieters, page 7, 2nd paragraph, the part about the Santa Fe Ride being understaffed and therefore there are fewer riders is not understandable.

Mr. McQuarie, page 9, 3rd paragraph, next sentence should have said you are still not a department head.

A motion was made by Mr. McQuarie, seconded by Dr. Maynard, to approve the

minutes as amended.

The motion was passed unanimously by voice vote.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

6. NEW BUSINESS

**A. SANTA FE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)
PEDESTRIAN MASTER PLAN UPDATE AS IT RELATES TO ADA BUS
STOP AND SIDEWALK INVENTORY**

Mr. Tibbetts said this was his 3rd visit to the Committee. He is focused on pedestrian issues and the Pedestrian Plan right now. It has been completed and is on their website. It was two years in the making and is a one hundred page document. He can get a paper copy for any Committee member on request. In their public comment process they received over one thousand public comments. A sidewalk inventory was done and they found over two hundred miles of areas of the City without sidewalks. That is not counting impassable, obstructed or broken sidewalks. The next step, and what they are working on now, is the bus stop inventory and assessment. This assessment looks at bus stops, ADA compliance and accessibility to the nearest intersection. The consultants have done several of these types of assessments for various states and are already in the process of working on ours. There are twenty pages worth of data points that they will be collecting at every bus stop.

Mr. Tibbetts said part of the Pedestrian Plan came from the Safe Routes to Schools Plan and looking at access to bus stops. We have seen the consequences of kids not being outdoors such as obesity and diabetes. We need to actively look at active transportation. Walking, taking a bus, riding a bike. Anytime you are making an effort to get where you need to go is active transportation. The safety element was brought up the most in the comments. Also connectivity was a common thread. We are focusing our direction toward that.

Mr. Tibbetts said a team is coming out next week to take photos and profile every bus stop to show what improvements are needed. It will take millions of dollars to make those improvements so we will then set up a priority process. We came up with ten areas of critical concern. Some of them are South Capital which is a heavy pedestrian area. Lower Agua Fria has no sidewalks and there are more and more people living there. St. Michaels area has a lot of population and there is very poor access to cross such a busy street. St. Francis, Cerrillos and Zafarano have the same problems.

Traffic engineers told us that all the improvements are done. The problem is you have a huge, wide, fast moving arterial with lots of turns. People are trying to cross the road and are jumping out of the way of cars. We have to make it safer.

Mr. Tibbetts said we are approaching this from different angles and working in a collective way. The standards coming up, the minimum requirements and the next steps are what he is interested in right now. Walk Friendly Community is a designation given to communities from the Federal level. We are planning to push this for our community. We are going to the City to see who the City will designate to fill out this seventy page Community Assessment document which is the first step to getting a Walk Friendly Community designation. Forming a Pedestrian Advocacy Committee is one of the requirements. It is important to remember that bicycle issues are different from pedestrian issues. Bicyclists are another form of road user with their own concerns. Dave McQuarie has stated this many times.

Mr. Tibbetts said Dave rolled out of a meeting he attended after stating that and Dave is absolutely right. We have to approach this in a different way. Pedestrians and those who use a sidewalk have a whole set of different issues. If a Walk Friendly designation means that he can get more support over the next several years, he is going to put his energy toward that.

Dr. Maynard asked does Walk Friendly address disability issues.

Mr. Tibbetts said he believes it does. There is a November deadline. Walk Friendly connotes anyone who uses the sidewalk. If it doesn't include disability issues now, it must. Whatever the ADA standard is should be applied.

Mr. McQuarie said currently they just finished that inventory of bus stops. Did they come out with regulations or what is required for bus stops, specifically signage. We have the Transit Division installing signage haphazardly. The sign must be upstream of the site or oncoming vehicles and of a certain size. He is bringing this up because recently Transit put up signs that were hidden behind the stop. The engineer who did the job said there are signs inside, however, they are the size of a quarter. That is why ADA Regulation says specifically that the international symbol has to be a minimum of 6 inches.

Ms. Bleck said there is a sign on the inside of the bus stop.

Mr. McQuarie said by Federal Regulation it has to be big enough for vehicle traffic to see. The sign and the international symbol are required at bus stops.

Mr. Tibbetts said the folks that are doing this assessment are well versed on ADA requirements. The last time this was done was in 2003. That one is in a three ring binder and is not what we are talking about now. This one will be much more thorough. These guys are very knowledgeable about ADA compliance. They did come out and

meet with David and the engineer. We will continue to follow up with David to make sure we are starting from a point of what is legally required. We expect to have the completed report in December. They will be here for five weeks to do it.

Mr. McQuarie asked what do you consider in walkability. In the past it is said that a roadway is for four types of traffic: motorized vehicles, non motorized, pedestrian and herded animals. So today, only three things are allowed to be on the road. Now State law says if there are sidewalks on both sides, pedestrians must walk there. In Santa Fe we have a lot of roads that do not have sidewalks. People are then allowed to walk in the street but our traffic engineer says you are not allowed in the street if you are a pedestrian.

Ms. Bleck said there are frequent problems when pedestrians are on the sidewalk and it interfaces with the entrance to a shopping center.

Mr. Tibbetts said we noted that and are addressing it specifically. Eric Aune, who is a staff member of ours, is a big walker. This is something he noted. Getting off the bus and going to CVS is an issue. He noticed it at every school. Pedestrians go from a sidewalk into a road. They have to fight with cars coming and going. It is a big issue.

Ms. Bleck said she thinks Santa Fe Place will be worse when the bus stop is removed.

Mr. Tibbetts said the problems are going to continue until they start redesigning to slow traffic down. Monte Del Sol is like a racecourse. There needs to be focus on slowing or diverting traffic.

Ms. Bleck said at the intersection of St. Francis/St. Michaels there are big issues.

Mr. Tibbetts said that interchange is finally on the TIP. It is a completely dysfunctional interchange. The DOT said they will put in sidewalks. He told DOT they need to transform that whole interchange. We are looking at reassessment and redoing that whole thing as a round about or diamond interchange. Santa Fe is urbanizing fast and we have to stay on top of it as best as we can.

Mr. McQuarie said there are a lot of places in Santa Fe, like the overpass on St. Michaels, that were designed in 1958. They were out in the boondocks at that time. In the late 60s it was no longer in the boondocks but it was never updated. In front of the Indian Hospital they need to have crosswalks. The State overlaid the road two years ago but no access to bus stops or crosswalks were ever done.

Ms. Bleck said the Transit Advisory Board is concerned about that stop. The State says they are going to redo it every year and have been saying that for years. We are trying to do it locally. Jon Bulthuis is having discussions with people at the Indian Hospital.

Mr. McQuarie said he contacted the New Mexico DOT ADA Coordinator and it is not on the Transition Plan.

Mr. Chapman said he would like to thank Mark for coming today and including this Committee. He also appreciates the MPO incorporating the study they are paying for that helps meet our requirements as a City. It saves money that the City has designated for the Transition Plan. He asked Mark to relay his thanks to Eric and Keith as well.

Mr. Chapman said the organization involved in this study will be submitting a proposal for the Transition Plan. They have already sent questions regarding the RFP that I have responded to. All of that information is in the City's website. As to the Walk Friendly designation, if he can help with that in any way let him know. Designations go a long way in attracting funding from a grant writers perspective. That is true of funding from the Federal Government or the State. The last item is if the Committee wants, he can work to get someone from DOT here to talk about Cerrillos Road and St. Francis Drive and that the responsibility for sidewalks on those streets is theirs not the City's. It would be nice to hear what they have to say.

Everyone agreed.

Mr. McQuarie said you will probably need someone from Highway District Five to give that talk.

Mr. Chapman thanked Mark for coming.

The Chair and other Committee members also thanked Mr. Tibbetts.

B. Report on the Status of Designated Locations

Chair Bowman asked locations of what.

Mr. Chapman said we have a plan review set that we will be reviewing next month.

Mr. McQuarie said that is a completely different thing. This is a street overlay. You were supposed to address that and find out information.

Mr. Chapman said he stands corrected.

Mr. McQuarie said this is about the June 8th letter from me to you. He wants an answer in writing.

Mr. Chapman said he apologized and will do that for the next meeting.

Mr. McQuarie said the deadline was the September meeting. The letter was written in June.

Mr. Chapman said he apologized.

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Mayor Committee on Disability Subcommittee Reports

Dr. Maynard reported that regarding media, he needs to get with Aurore to do the interview.

Ms. McGinnis reported that regarding the Transit Advisory Committee, their meeting was cancelled due to the unavailability of Jon Bulthuis who was scheduled for two other meetings at the same time.

Mr. McQuarie reported that regarding Plan Reviews, the information is in your packet. We did one review, the update of the airport facility. Their engineer was there. Mr. McQuarie asked if they have addressed or mitigated everything brought up in the Transition Plan and if not, why not. The engineer said we don't have the budget. Only Department Heads can make that statement, not an engineer or project manager. Transition plans are governed by the Department of Justice. They are advised to do what is in the 2010 Transition Plan first whether they like it or not.

Mr. Dinkel said in our meeting we talked about the fact that the expansion they are doing is more towards the passenger area and not the existing facility where the passengers come in. He said he would check out the restrooms. What he found is that there is a designated handicapped restroom but the door opens out and it is a small space. You cannot get in with a wheelchair.

Mr. McQuarie said that restroom is for both sexes and should be signed as such with the wheelchair symbol and braille.

Chair Bowman said let's hope they pay attention to that and can do some of those things from the Transition Plan.

B. Taxi Update

Ms. Bleck said we are scheduled to meet on the 27th. There is no report to give today because the meeting was cancelled as was mentioned earlier.

C. PROW Update

Mr. Chapman said he talked about most of this while Mr. Tibbetts was here. He does have copies of the RFP that went out if anyone would like one. The key is that we really want to maximize what other people are getting done as it coordinates with what we need done. Ron and Dave have agreed to evaluate the proposals. We have that evaluation date set up. The RFPs are due October 20th. Will review them on November 4th. I will get with Dave to make sure the time that Mr. Rodarte set is workable for everyone. An email about this just went out.

Mr. McQuarie asked regarding the Public Right of Way RFP and the Transition Plan and the whole bit, which staff member has been designated to work with the consultant.

Mr. Chapman said he will be doing that.

Mr. McQuarie asked do you have the authority to work with or tell other staff like department heads what to do. If you don't they made a mistake in assigning you. They should assign someone with the authority. The study does not cover any roadway without sidewalks.

Mr. Chapman said that was brought up by one of the consultants. He said he wants to rely on their expertise. They are ADA professionals. He is counting on them to catch anything that is not completely written down or is outside the RFP. He said he has asked for their guidance and they have talked about what roadways. He feels comfortable that through the vetting process we will not leave any stone unturned in what we need to do for compliance. He does not have the authority, but people do cooperate with what he is doing and he has been successful. He has a good relationship with Ike Pino and Oscar Rodriguez. Oscar is coming around regarding the necessity of these things. He is working on making those ties a bit stronger. He wants to provide them with a budget so that engineering can not come back and say they don't have the budget for it. We are starting at base one right now. We have not had that before.

Mr. McQuarie said people that ignore history are bound to make the same mistakes again. In 2010 Public Right of Way was in the Transition Plan. Two of our engineers told the consultant after the contract was let and signed to not do it. He filed an ADA complaint. You have to do it in a reasonable amount of time so he will be watching like a hawk.

Mr. Chapman said that is all true.

Mr. McQuarie said you need the authority so if you say do something Ike will do it. Brian Snyder can give you that authority. Otherwise I can tell you right now, there will be another ADA complaint filed with the Department of Justice.

Ms. Pieters said she feels comfortable with David Chapman doing this work. He has designated authority to do this. That is what you need. She said she understood your previous example but she wouldn't carry forward the past. Before David came to this job he previously wrote and managed grants for the City. He is an expert Project Manager.

Mr. McQuarie said he feels comfortable that David will try. He is looking for the end result and will it accomplish what is required. If he sees that it is not, then the Department of Justice will be asked to step in.

Mr. Chapman said thank you Nancy for your kind words. He promised the Committee that he will keep everything as transparent as possible. We will have Ron and Dave in the process. He feel confident we will get there.

Mr. Dinkel said this is an Advisory Committee. If at any time we do not see progress being made that is an appropriate function of the Committee itself to raise the concern as a group.

Mr. Chapman said he appreciates Dave's guidance on this. He has my interests at heart.

ITEMS FROM MEMBERS AND STAFF

Chair Bowman asked are you any closer to being more than an Acting ADA Coordinator.

Mr. Chapman said no.

Ms. Pieters asked why is that. Is it not important to the City.

Chair Bowman said she saw that the City is short on money.

Mr. Chapman said he will keep plugging away at it.

Ms. McGinnis said Coby Livingstone is here today. She is thinking that Ms. Livingstone might be a good person to be on this Committee. She knows a lot about visual impairment and how those folks are effected in traveling around the community.

Chair Bowman said there is a process in place for that. Have you put in an application.

Ms. Livingstone said yes.

Mr. Dinkel said he received something on Facebook that got his attention. It is a

picture of an elderly gentleman unable to access the community mailbox due to the way it is structured. He looked at his neighborhood and they are not accessible. It raises another issue. There is always something coming up.

Chair Bowman said our mailboxes are hard to walk by.

Mr. Dinkel read a letter that is in the packet. He is leaving the City to spend six months in Ecuador. He has to resign from the Committee. His last official meeting will be November 19th. He will be able to finish the proposal review.

Ms. Pieters asked what are you doing in Ecuador.

Mr. Dinkel said he is working on a book that he had given himself five years to do. He is now in year fifteen. So he will be writing. We will be in a resort town on the beach. He said his roots are deep here but if he does not do it now he will regret it later. He is giving himself six months and he will see how that works. He wishes he could participate long distance. He will miss everyone and has enjoyed working with the Committee.

Chair Bowman said we will miss you.

Mr. Dinkel said it is nice to know that a couple of names have come up for the Committee.

Dr. Maynard said he was sorry to announce that the 19th will be his final meeting as well. He is moving to southern California. He said serving with you has been incredible. He is so impressed with each of the Committee members and their dedication. He will miss each and every one.

Ms. Pieters asked is it permanent.

Dr. Maynard said he thinks so.

Chair Bowman said we will miss you.

Ms. Bleck said she is not moving but she is buying a car. It will change her life.

Mr. McQuarie said normally in December we have a luncheon instead of the meeting. He hopes someone is planning that.

Chair Bowman said the hospital is hoping to initiate a Head Injury Support Group once a month. We have a Stroke Support Group now and this will be an additional group. She is open to suggestions regarding involvement and a point person. She was hoping Meriam would be here. She asked that everyone put the word out.

Chair Bowman said the Stroke Support Group we have is for people who have had strokes in the community and their families. It gives people the opportunity to share their experiences. The person who runs it is a Councilor. It is mostly communications with each other. She suspects that this will be similar. It is not all figured out yet.

Chair Bowman said also, she is personally doing Fall Prevention Classes at her church. They are called Steady As You Go. It is a program developed in New Zealand that she received training on. It seems that she is the first one to do something with it so far. She has two groups going. It is a group activity. She will lead the classes for ten weeks then it is handed off to a member of the class to lead. We started last Tuesday. She is hoping to get people interested by having a table in the cafeteria at the hospital where she can hand out information. She is also hoping to have one day of work a week to do groups as well. She is working with the State. They would like her to be a Train the Trainer person, but she is not authorized to do that until she has additional training and has done more groups. She is not sure how it will develop but it is starting to happen in Santa Fe. If anyone is interested or knows someone who might be interested, just get in touch with her.

Chair Bowman said the people who are the most interested are the people who are worried about falling. 1/3 of people over sixty five fall each year. Enough of them end up in fractures and end up in rehabilitation. The older you get the more likely you are to experience a fall.

Ms. Pieters asked is there a charge.

Chair Bowman said no, we request \$2.00 each time because she is paying for the weights right now. We could have to pay for a venue in the future. We are at the church right now so there is no charge. There are other things we could use such as a ball to toss around, CDs and CD player. There is no one there dunning you. It is just a suggested donation. The hospital is kicking in for the first set of weights. She is working on getting the second set of weights.

Ms. Bieck asked have you connected with Senior Services. They might be willing to help you.

Chair Bowman said to do a class, you need sturdy chairs and one and two pound ankle weights. She wants to get these two groups going and then she will see about doing more.

Ms. Pieters asked what is the schedule for classes.

Chair Bowman said they are on Tuesdays, one at 3:00 pm and one at 4:30 pm for an hour each. They are held at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Santa Fe.

Ms. McGinnis said it sounds like it would be so good for lots of people.

Ms. Pieters said she would like to join a class.

Chair Bowman said she would contact Ms. Pieters with more information.

Mr. Chapman said we need to approve our meeting schedule for 2016. Are we going to stay on the third Thursday of the month.

Chair Bowman said that works. Everyone agreed.

Mr. Chapman said he will report that to the City Clerk's office.

Chair Bowman said we should probably make a decision quickly about where to have our luncheon.

Mr. Chapman said he will bring menus to next meeting.

Chair Bowman said we will make that decision at our next meeting.

Mr. Chapman said he will invite the Mayor.

Ms. Bleck said maybe Mr. Chapman should find out when Mayor can come and we can go from there.

Chair Bowman said you do that and bring us dates.

Mr. Chapman asked if there are any suggestions.

Ms. Pieters suggested the Santa Fe Bar and Grill.

Mr. McQuarie said we currently have a citizen advocate we are losing. Hope Reed has always been a person that we can rely on. Maybe he could talk her into joining the Committee. She is having knee surgery and will be out of commission for two or three months.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:36 am.

NEXT MEETING, NOVEMBER, 19, 2015



Elizabeth Martin, Stenographer

Marcia Bowman, Chair