

**City of Sacramento  
Disabilities Advisory Commission  
MEETING MINUTES**

**March 15, 2007 @ 6:00 P.M. New City Hall, 915 I Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Conference Room -1104**

**Present:** Commissioner Brown, Benson, Bain; (Riker, via conference call).

**Excused:** N/A

**Absent:** Commissioner Thom, Flynn.

**Commission Staff:** Ken Fleming, Obi Agha.

**Presenters:** Hector Barron, DOT; Bob Chase, Gary Reynolds, Development Services; Morriang & Paul J Messier

**1. Call to Order & Introduction of Members**

The meeting began at 6:05 p.m. by Commissioner Brown. All items were for the purpose of discussion and information.

**2. Review of the Agenda**

No changes were made to the agenda.

**3. Approve Minutes**

The approval of the previous meeting minutes for February 14, 2007 and March 1, 2007 was continued to allow the Commissioners time to review the meeting minutes prior to the scheduled DAC meeting.

**4. Update on Segway use in the city**

Presenters Morriang & Paul J Messier discussed their desire to begin a program providing Segway tours in the City of Sacramento, which would be operated out of "Old Sac". Hector Barron described the route that would be taken on those tours. This topic was on the March 1, 2007 DAC agenda and was continued to today's meeting (March 15, 2007) due to the lack of quorum on the March 1<sup>st</sup> meeting.

Hector Barron, DOT staff discussed the safety issues, including the rider's and pedestrian safety requirements. Mr. Barron indicated that the current law allows the use of the Segway on the public sidewalk and defines the user "as a pedestrian". He further reviewed other jurisdictions on how their views may vary. He also reviewed the City's ordinance and code that prohibits the use of the Segway on "K" Street Mall.

Mr. Barron explained that they planned to monitor and evaluate the program, and take appropriate action if any problems arise. Staff added that the intent is to move forward with the process of permitting the use of Segway(s) in the City including approval of the vendor to operate Segway tours.

Commissioners expressed various concerns mostly in the areas of pedestrian safety and as it relates to the disability community. Safety issues of yielding to persons with visual impairments were also emphasized. The less than adequate condition of the some of the City's sidewalk was raised by Commissioner Riker.

Commissioner Riker generally remains opposed to the whole Segway program. The remaining Commissioners were not opposed to the Segway use in the City, as long as the safety concerns of the disability community are addressed.

## **5. UPDATE ON BUILDING DEPARTMENT PLAN CHECK AND PRIVATE COMPLAINT FLOWCHART**

Bob Chase, Chief Building Official from Development Services Department (DSD) and Gary Reynolds an Associate Engineer with DSD, reviewed the Accessibility Complaint Procedure and Flowchart as it relates to complaints brought by citizens on private buildings located within the City's jurisdiction. Mr. Reynolds distributed a flowchart diagram that delineated a graphic representation of the proposed procedures for citizens to follow when lodging a complaint.

The presenters indicated that the City Attorney's Office had reviewed the complaint flowchart, and that the accompanying letters and forms are being developed. Mr. Reynolds confirmed that as soon as the final review of the flowchart and the accompanying documents are completed by both the City Attorney's Office and presented to the DAC; copies of these documents would be posted on the City's website.

Ideas were exchanged between the Commissioners and the presenters on how to develop "alternative methods" for accessing the complaint form(s).

Mr. Reynolds also explained that the City intends to use "Code Enforcement" to enforce this process, when non-compliance issues or violations are not corrected within the stipulated timeline.

Commissioner's questions ranged from how complaints are tracked; to concerns on how complainant anonymity wishes could be kept.

The plan is to bring back the policy statement(s) and complaint procedure document(s) to the DAC. Meanwhile, staff (presenters) would consult with the City's IT for guidance in terms of how to make complaint forms accessible to people with disabilities.

The Commissioners expressed gratitude towards Mr. Chase and Mr. Reynolds for bringing the mapping process to the Commission.

## **6. STAFF REPORTS**

Staff updated the Commissioners on recent activities and on-going Issues:

### **Taxi Update**

Staff informed the Commissioners that Dafnia Gautier had indicated she was having a community meeting and would let the Taxi Drivers know that the Commissioners are willing to be part of a training process.

Commissioner Benson and Chair Brown, suggested that it would be better that the Commissioners be included as a segment of a larger training format.

### **Emergency Evacuation**

Staff confirmed the attendance of the Commissioners at the workshop on the "Regional Emergency Evacuation" meeting and enquired if the Commissioners have all received a copy of the document (guide) titled "Are You Prepared" distributed during the workshop.

A copy of the "guide" including a copy in a Braille format was displayed by staff. Some of the Commissioners requested a copy. Staff will distribute copies at the next DAC meeting or will mail them upon request.

### **Committees Reports**

Staff expressed concerns that there are not enough commissioners to keep these sub-committees (Physical Access, Program Access, Public Education & Outreach) functioning well. Commissioners present and Chair Brown would discuss this further with the full Commission for their input.

### **Board Recruitment**

Staff reported that Ruci Katia, Office of the City Clerk had scheduled to open the Board recruitment from 3/21 to 4/20 for six (6) seats - 3 vacancies (Sanford, Haro, Tan) and 3 term expirations (Flynn, Brown, Thom). All the term expirations are eligible for 2nd terms. Ms. Katia would send invitations to re-apply.

Commissioners expressed the desire and wiliness to continue to serve. Members were encouraged to solicit potential candidates for Board appointments. Commissioner Riker would like to have members reflect a diverse segment of the disability community.

### **ADA Coordinator Recruitment**

Staff reported that the ADA Coordinator position would be open from 3/19 to 4/6. City staff's desire to have the DAC play a meaningful role on the recruitment of the ADA Coordinator was expressed.

Staff also expressed the strong desire to have a formal recognition of Carol Bradley at a future DAC meeting. This would be a good way to thank Carol for all her contributions working with DAC in moving the City forward and bringing the aspirations of the Disability Committee to the forefront of City programs.

## **7. COMMENTS / ANNOUCEMENTS**

Staff announced that CalPERS Disability Awareness Day event is Wednesday, May 23, 2007 from 11 AM to 1 PM. The event would take place at the Lincoln Plaza, 400 "Q" Street in Sacramento.

The CalPERS - Diversity Outreach Committee is hoping that the City of Sacramento and especially the DAC be a part of this event. Staff encouraged the Commissioners to participate as much as they could on this event and staff would pass on additional information as they are received.

## **8. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 P.M.

Commissioner Bain motioned, seconded by Commissioner Riker. MSP.

Respectfully Submitted:

Obi Agha, Program Specialist

Equal Opportunity / ADA Program