



**CITY OF PASADENA
ACCESSIBILITY AND DISABILITY COMMISSION
MEETING AGENDA
TUESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2014 AT 4:00 PM
JACKIE ROBINSON COMMUNITY CENTER, ROOM 200**

- I. CALL TO ORDER AND COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR**
- II. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**
- III. APPROVE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 26, 2013**
- IV. REPORT ON NATIONAL AND LOCAL ADA25 ACTIVITIES**
- V. REPORT ON DEVELOPMENTS WITH ENHANCING THE CITY'S EMERGENCY PLAN**
- VI. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON UPLOADING AUDIO RECORD OF COMMISSION MEETING TO CITY WEBSITE**
- VII. UPDATE ON PROGRESS WITH COMMISSION OBJECTIVES**
- VIII. REVIEW AND TAKE ACTION ON LETTER REGARDING UN CONVENTION**
- IX. DIRECTOR AND STAFF REPORTS**
- X. ADJOURNMENT**

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Celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act in Pasadena, California

Pasadena Accessibility and Disability Commission
January, 2014

In 2015, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)—legislation that defines the civil rights of disabled Americans—will be twenty-five years old. During 2015, the Pasadena Accessibility and Disability Commission will promote a year-long celebration of this anniversary.

In celebrating this milestone, the Commission (in cooperation with the Department of Human Services and Recreation) will utilize the emblem it adopted in 2013—an update of the emblem used during Pasadena’s 20th ADA anniversary. The emblem currently is featured prominently on the national ADA25 Legacy Project web site.

Goals of the proposed Pasadena ADA25 will mirror those of the national ADA Legacy Project (in which Robert Gorski serves as a participant): (a) preserving and promoting the history of the disability rights movement; (b) celebrating the impact of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), as well as other related disability rights legislation and accomplishments; and (c) educating the public to create opportunities for inclusion, access, and equal rights for the future.

Pasadena’s ADA twenty-fifth anniversary goals will be:

1. ***Create a brief written history of Pasadena’s achievements during the past 25 years in complying with ADA regulations.*** This history will be made available on the City’s website. It will complement the “Brief History of the Accessibility and Disability Commission” which is currently linked to the Department of Human Services and Recreation page.
2. ***Encourage Pasadena’s disability-related nonprofits, religious organizations and associations, educational organizations, City of Pasadena departments and agencies, and social/professional clubs to offer events that celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act.***

Starting in 2014, the Pasadena Accessibility and Disability Commission will encourage local public and private organizations to develop plans for ADA celebratory events that will occur in 2015. To facilitate this planning, the Accessibility and Disability Commission will initiate an ADA25 Network of individuals and representatives from local government, religious and service organizations, and businesses that are interested in developing ideas for events, planning and offering events, working together in partnerships, and providing mutual support and resources.

ADA25 events will vary greatly in scope and nature. They can be small, medium or large in size; formal or informal, educational, fun, or educational and fun. They can be complex and require months of planning and coordination, or as simple as adding the ADA25 anniversary emblem to a brochure.

Examples of events for members of the ADA25 Network to consider include: (a) wheelchair basketball games and other sports activities performed by athletes with disabilities; (b) exhibits of art created by individuals with disabilities; (c) participation in the Pasadena Marathon by a contingent of people with disabilities; (d) fireworks display on July 26; lapel pins with the ADA25 logo.

3. *Educate Pasadena public officials and residents about the significance of ADA, Pasadena's accomplishments in complying with ADA, and, also, about challenges that remain.*

- a. Arrange a presentation to the Pasadena City Council by the Accessibility and Disability Commission during the public comment period at one of the Council's 2015 meetings.
- b. Prepare press releases for use by the region's print, broadcast, and online media.
- c. Encourage Pasadena's public access television to develop at least one educational program that conveys the significance of the ADA, that describes efforts of the City to comply with ADA regulations, and that focuses on disabled individuals whose lives have been improved by Pasadena's ADA-related activities.
- d. Encourage the Mayor to issue a proclamation, declaring that 2015 is the twenty-fifth anniversary of ADA and that the city will promote a rich sequence of celebratory events.
- e. Design and produce ADA-related signs that will be visible during the Rose Parade. Encourage media representatives to focus on viewing areas that have been provided for the disabled.
- f. Produce a two page publication that briefly describes the importance of ADA, Pasadena's ADA-related achievements, and future challenges. This publication will be widely distributed at ADA25 events.
- g. Request that Pasadena City Libraries offer ADA-related displays and, also, offer training in the use of reading aids for the disabled.
- h. Identify individuals who can be made available for programs offered by local service groups (e.g., Rotary, Kiwanis, Elks). Assure the accuracy of information in their presentations that is related to the significance of ADA and Pasadena's achievements in complying with ADA.
- i. Provide information tables at public events, such as the Black History Parade and the Pasadena Literature Festival.

[Your Name]
City of Pasadena
October 18, 2013

Mayor Bogaard and Pasadena City Council

Dear Mr. Mayor and City Council;

The Accessibility & Disability Commission would like you to be acutely aware of the United Nations *Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities* which was adopted in 2006 and entered into effect on May 3, 2008. The needs and rights of persons with disabilities have been high on the United Nations agenda list for at least three decades.

In the direct proclamation by the UN General Assembly in 1975, "Persons with disabilities have the right...

To the same fundamental rights as their fellow-citizens,
to the same civil and political rights as other human beings,
to measures designed to enable them to become as self-reliant as possible...

The Convention reaffirms that all persons with all types of disabilities must enjoy all human rights and fundamental freedoms. It clarifies exactly how those categories of rights must be applied. Moreover, it specifically identifies areas where those with disabilities need protections. Internationally, our "sister countries" have signed and ratified this Human Rights treaty as far back as 2006. On July 30, 2009 the United States signed onto this Human Rights Treaty, but to this date has failed to ratify it.

Such a Convention places our city in a higher standing to support those citizens with disabilities which in reality, we already do. Supporting such a basic human rights issue may indeed translate the vision into a reality globally. Supporters within the United States of this Convention include AARP which as you know is one of the largest groups facing many different disabilities.

For additional information regarding this Convention, please go to the website www.un.org. It provides updated information and lists all the countries and organizations who have supported this Convention. The United Nations International Day of Persons with Disabilities is observed every year on December 3. As always, our Commission is advocating for local accessibility as well as following the Global effects. In addition, 2015 marks the 25th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act in the United States.

Sincerely,
Dolores M. Gibbs, Chairperson

[Your Name]

CITY OF PASADENA
ACCESSIBILITY AND DISABILITY COMMISSION
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2013 AT 4:00 PM
JACKIE ROBINSON COMMUNITY CENTER, ROOM 200
Draft Minutes

Commissioners present: Dolores Gibbs, Michael Warner, John Orr, Jennipha-Lauren Nielsen, Dennis Campos, Xilian Chen Stammer (arrived at 4:21)

Others present: Robert Gorski (Human Resources and Recreation), Mitsy Shpak (Hearing Loss Association of Los Angeles)

I. CALL TO ORDER AND COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

Dolores Gibbs called the meeting to order at 4:02. She announced that commissioner Judy Post will not be back until the beginning of next year, that commissioner Warren Sata had resigned, and that she hopes a new commissioner to replace Sata within a few months. Gibbs also announced there will be no commission meeting in December.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Mitsy Shpak commented that her chapter of Hearing Lost Association of America had problems using the loop-type assistive listening system in the multipurpose room at Jackie Robinson Center: sound quality was uneven, volume was low, and the system was installed in the ceiling (not the best location to install a loop). Shpak stated that many installers who don't have hearing loss use a receiver with headphones to test a loop installation, and this might not provide an accurate assessment. Shpak recommended a meeting with City staff and people with hearing loss to test the loop system and that a user manual be created.

III. APPROVE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 22, 2013

Michael Warner moved to approve the minutes as submitted. John Orr seconded and the motion passed.

IV. UPDATE PROGRESS WITH COMMISSION OBJECTIVES

Objective 1: Seminar on disaster preparedness.

Dolores Gibbs reported that the committee is focusing on helping the City design a booth to display preparedness information for seniors and people with disabilities at Public events, and on working with the Fire Department to enhance the shelter section of the City's emergency plan.

Objective 2: Four Public Information Events During the Fiscal Year.

Jennipha Nielsen demonstrated a draft Powerpoint presentation based on the commission's brochure. Commissioners suggested improvements in the design format of some slides and recommended including a printed page of recent developments with accessibility. Discussion included alternative ways to produce more commission brochures and as well as stickers that would celebrate the 25th anniversary of the

Americans with Disabilities Act. Nielsen has not set a date for her first presentation, but is planning to have it at an ESL class at Villa Park Center.

Objective 3: Establish a committee to promote planning for the ADA's 25 anniversary. The commission appointed John Orr and Jennipha Nielsen to the committee. The committee's work plan will focus on communication with agencies and individuals in the community in order to create a network that helps participants to do events that celebrate ADA25.

Objective 4: Seminar on accessible website design.

Michael Warner reported that he developed a summary of the seminar broken up into modules with the intended audience for each module, and plans his first presentation to be a mini-seminar at one of Jennipha Nielsen's information presentations. The commission agreed that the purpose of the seminar is to present guidelines for insuring websites are accessible to people with disabilities and that the primary audience staff in the City's IT department and staff responsible for each departments web pages. The commission agreed to compose a survey of possible issues with the city website and to distribute it by e-mail to various organizations that provide disability services.

Objective 5: Provide Council with a written assessment of the City's ADA transition plan. Robert requests that commission review his handout of the ADA transition plan and e-mail him suggestions for the written assessment.

V. REVIEW OF AND ACTION ON LETTER REGARDING UN CONVENTION

Jennipha Nielsen moved that the commission write an awareness letter to Mayor Bogaard instead of a letter of endorsement. Dolores Gibbs seconded, and the motion passed. Gibbs will draft an appropriate letter.

VI. DIRECTOR AND STAFF REPORTS

Robert Gorski requested commissioners review and e-mail him comments about policy issues discussed in an online video about abuse of disability parking placards and overuse of metered parking without payment. He reported that the Rose Parade accessibility viewing program is operating without problems, and he requested commissioners read the handout on Santa Monica's disaster preparedness and email their thoughts to him. Lastly Gorski announced a Human Rights program to be held December 12, 6-8 P.M., at Central Library that will be about minorities, women, disabled people, and other groups who suffer human rights abuse.

VII. DISCUSS IDEAS FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (CIP)

Tabled.

VIII. UPDATE ON ASSISTIVE LISTENING IN CITY FACILITIES

Robert Gorski reported that the director of his department asked him to get a quote for installing three loop systems at Villa Park

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:08.

Submitted by Dolores Gibbs, Chair, Accessibility and Disability Commission
Prepared by Michael Warner II, Secretary, Accessibility and Disability Commission