

City of Pasadena Accessibility and Disability Commission
Work Plan: 07/25/2023 – 06/25/2024

Mission:

The purpose of the commission is to advise the council on accessibility issues in Pasadena. The commission shall:

1. Study and examine: (a) existing inequities in access to the physical, work, communication, civic involvement, social and cultural environments for all residents of Pasadena, particularly those who have disabilities, and (b) policies, procedures, programs and legislation for eliminating those inequities.
2. Recommend policies, procedures, programs and legislation to promote and ensure the accessibility of the physical, work, communication, civic involvement, social and cultural environments to all residents of Pasadena, particularly those who have disabilities; and
3. Consult and cooperate with other public agencies and commissions on matters relevant to the commission.

FY 2023-2024 Ad Hoc Committees:

Ad Hoc Committee re: Objective #1 – American with Disabilities Act (ADA) Oversight

Ad Hoc Committee re: Objective #2 – Outreach and Education

Ad Hoc Committee re: Objective #3 – Health, Wellness, and Inclusive Community

Ad Hoc Committee re: Objective # – American with Disabilities Act (ADA) Oversight

Objective Purpose: Advise and inform the City Council on accessibility issues

Commissioners: Jagusch (co-lead) Totten (co-lead), Jennings

Action Items:

- Provide input on accessibility improvements in the public right-of-way and bike lanes, including identifying priority locations for the installation of curb ramps.
- Support and promote the annual Adaptive Sports Festival

Work Plan Updates:

July 2023:

- The Adaptive Sports Festival has been confirmed for Saturday, November 4, 2023, at Brookside Park. Sara Goldman is working with Eric Lomeli and Triumph Foundation to plan the festival.

August 2023:

- Commissioner Jagusch provided the following updates on the action items for the objective:
 - The City will be requesting public comment on the North-South Greenways project in Fall 2023 and recommended the Commission receive a presentation from the Department of Transportation regarding an update on the project prior to the date for public comment.
 - The Commission will make a recommendation in January 2024 on the accessibility improvements in the public right-of-way and the installation of curb ramps. She requested the Commission receive a presentation from the Department of Transportation regarding an update on the current accessibility improvement projects.
 - Reminded the Commission of the date for the Adaptive Sports Festival and to plan on assisting on the day of the event at the commission table to share information about the work of the Commission with the community.

Status:

Ad Hoc Committee re: Objective # – Outreach and Education

Objective Purpose: To encourage the Commission to connect and engage with other commissions and community organizations to help implement accessibility measures and education throughout the City.

Commissioners: Herrera (lead), Jagusch, Jennings

Action Items:

- Nominate, select, and recognize the Robert Gorski Access Award recipient.
- Support the Civitan event honoring employers of people with disabilities and disseminate information about employers supporting the hiring of people with disabilities.
- Table at a minimum of three community events to increase awareness and visibility of the Accessibility and Disability Commission.
- Attend City of Pasadena and other commission meetings to inform and educate about accessibility and disability related considerations and promote inclusion of individuals with disabilities. Report to the Commission on accessibility topics discussed and knowledge gained at the meetings.
- Promote awareness of the Department of Rehabilitation “Demand Side Initiative” and EmployAbility grants for businesses to support employment for individuals with disabilities.
- Continue to support iBook Club of Pasadena including dissemination of monthly newsletter.

Work Plan Updates:

July 2023:

- Chair Jennings reported that E.R. Ruiz was honored as the 2023 recipient of the Robert Gorski Access Award at the City Council meeting on Monday, July 17. Staff (Goldman) introduced Mr. Ruiz and spoke about his advocacy for burn survivors.
- Commissioner Herrera provided the following update on the EmployAbility Grants webinar:
 - The webinar is scheduled for Thursday, August 24, 2023, at 10:00 A.M.
 - The flyer for the webinar will be sent to the Commission once it is finalized and requested the Commission distribute the flyer to their networks.
 - The ad hoc committee has contacted the local Department of Rehabilitation office to encourage their support and attendance at the webinar.
- The Commission received the monthly newsletter for the iBook Club with information regarding the virtual meeting scheduled for August 14, 2023.

August 2023:

- Commissioner Jagusch provided the following updates on the action items for the objective:
 - The ad hoc committee will begin to review the criteria and nomination process for the Robert Gorski Award and present the information to the Commission at an upcoming meeting.
 - Announced the Annual Pasadena Civitan Reception recognizing local businesses committed to hiring individuals with disabilities is on Thursday, October 12, 2023, from 5:00 – 7:00 P.M. at AbilityFirst, Pasadena.
 - Encouraged the Commission to attend the Planning Commission Study Session regarding the Lamanda Park Specific Plan on Wednesday, August 23, 2023, at 6:30 P.M. This is a good opportunity to learn about development plans in the City and provide public comment to promote inclusion of individuals with disabilities in the plans. The Commission received an email on Monday, August 21 with more information about the meeting.
- Chair Jennings reported she assisted at the commission table at Assemblymember Chris Holden’s Annual Community Resource Fair and Block Party on Saturday, August 5, 2023, and shared information about the work of the Commission with the community.
- Commissioner Herrera reported 50 local businesses have registered for the EmployAbility Grants webinar scheduled for Thursday, August 24, and encouraged the Commission to register for the event to learn more about the program.
- Commissioner Warner II reported he attended the iBook Club virtual meeting on Monday, August 14, with 15 participants in attendance. During the meeting the participants shared their favorite music recordings in a variety of media formats. The Commission will be sent the iBook Club newsletter with information about the virtual meeting scheduled for September 11.

Status:

Ad Hoc Committee re: Objective #3 – Health, Wellness, and Inclusive Community

Objective Purpose: To prioritize accessibility measures in public safety, housing, and community health

Commissioners: Heinrich (lead), Warner II, Jennings

Action Items:

- Facilitate communication with Pasadena Public Health Department regarding best practices pertaining to authentic disability inclusion.
- Work collaboratively with Department of Housing to increase availability of affordable and accessible housing.
- Ensure a training program that prioritizes accessible measures in public safety is added to the current public safety training manual.

Work Plan Updates:

July 2023:

- Chair Jennings reported that the ad hoc committee is developing a comprehensive list of accessible features that can be used in the development plans for building or remodeling homes, apartments, office buildings, City facilities or public places that that will provide accessibility to individuals with visible or invisible disabilities. A draft of the list will be presented to the Commission at a future meeting and requested the Commission gather suggestions for features to include on the list from friends, family, and individuals within their networks.

August 2023:

- Commissioner Heinrich reported the ad hoc committee met on Monday, August 21 and discussed ways the Commission can assist in educating the community about the need for affordable and accessible housing.
- The ad hoc committee recommends the Commission receive a presentation from Ethan Wolferman, Senior Homeowner Advisor, Cottage ADUs, regarding the importance of accessibility in Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs).
- Commissioner Herrera reported she will contact Jennifer Estep, Training Coordinator , Pasadena Police Department, to request an update on the recommendation to implement mandatory crisis intervention training for all police officers to improve police interactions with people with disabilities and provide an update to the Commission at the September meeting.

- Staff (Souto) reported he will follow up to arrange the presentation for the Commission from Ron Takiguchi, Building Official, Planning and Community Development Department regarding an update on the City's Prototype Design Options for Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs).
- Commissioner Heinrich recommended the Commission receive a presentation regarding state and local building codes pertaining to accessibility in residential housing.

Status:

Accessibility and Disability Commission Presentation Calendar FY 2023-2024

To be scheduled:

- Presentation from Planning and Community Development Department regarding an update on the City's Prototype Design Options for Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) – Ron Takiguchi, Building Official (Staff)
- Presentation from a local arts organization that offers art classes to children with disabilities – Presenter TBD
- Presentation from Department of Transportation regarding an update on the current accessibility improvement projects - Presenter TBD (Staff)
- Presentation from Department of Transportation regarding the North-South Greenways project – Presenter TBD (Staff)
- Presentation regarding the importance of accessible Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) – Ethan Wolferman, Senior Homeowner Advisor, Cottage ADUs (Jennings)
- Presentation regarding state and local building codes pertaining to accessibility in residential housing - Presenter TBD (Staff)

July 2023:

- None

August 2023:

- None

September 2023

- Presentation regarding the City's policies and procedures to ensure compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards – Sara Goldman, Acting Accessibility and Disability Coordinator

October 2023

- (tentative) Presentation regarding National Disability Employment Month – Presenter TBD

November 2023

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December 2023

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January 2024

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February 2024

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March 2024

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April 2024

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May 2024

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June 2024 - Annual Meeting

(updated August 22, 2023)