



CITY OF OAKLAND
Mayor's Commission on Persons with Disabilities (MCPD)
Monday, November 16, 2015,

Minutes

- I. Called to order at 5:40 p.m.
- II. Roll Call:
 - Quorum: Yes
 - Please review Exhibit A1
- III. Public Comments
 - None
- IV. Commissioner Announcements
 - None
- V. Interim Chair Report, Commissioner Gregory reported:
 - A. Commissioner Miquette Thompson resigned at the October 19, 2015 meeting. As Interim Vice Chair, Commissioner Gregory now becomes the Interim Chair. There will be an election in January 2016 for permanent Chair and Vice Chair.
 - B. The annual retreat will be held on December 14, 2015. There will be several items which the commission will undertake including determination of the MCPD's methods for fulfilling its mission and possible formation of ad hoc committees.
- VI. Approval of Minutes
 - September 21, 2015
 - Motion/Second: Commissioner Thomas/Commissioner Bernstein
 - Approved by unanimous consent

- October 19, 2015 – No minutes/no quorum

VII. Agenda approval and/or modification

- Motion/Second: Commissioner Bernstein/Commissioner Rosenblatt

VIII. Staff Reports

A. ADA Projects Update; Sherri Rita, Acting ADA Projects Coordinator, ADA Programs Division

1. The ADA self-evaluation update is underway. Consultants Bill and Vicki Buckner are conducting a desk audit of city programs and activities in preparation for interviewing staff and developing recommendations for program improvements and training. Interviews are expected to take place in January. MCPD will be the conduit for obtaining community input into the findings for incorporation into the final recommendations.
2. Digital Front Door project continues. This is the city wide project that will improve the City's digital presence. To assist with this project the ADA Programs Division is conducting a search for a universal accessibility consultant to ensure that the website improvements are in fact accessible to persons with disabilities. The City Administrator is also searching for a new content management system. The universal access consultant will be asked to assist with the selection of a system that is foolproof and will provide for accessible content.
3. The MCPD ordinance amendment has been passed by council. Therefore membership on the commission is capped at 11 and quorum is now 6. There is currently one vacancy is available based upon Commissioner Thompson's resignation.

VIII. New Business

A. Public Meetings and Roberts Rules of Order; Sherri Rita explained this non-comprehensive overview is provided pursuant to commissioner request. Please review page 5 of the November 16, 2015 packet for the PowerPoint presentation.

B. December MCPD Strategic Planning Retreat Draft Agenda Review; Interim MCPD Chair Thomas Gregory reviewed the draft

agenda with the commission, which can be found on page [] in the November 19, 2015 agenda packet and asked that facilitator suggestions be forwarded no later than November 30, 2015.

- IX. Adjourned the MCPD Regular Meeting at 6:30 p.m.
- X. Call to Order – Joint East Bay BRT Access and Functional Needs Committee of the MCPD and the AC Transit Access Advisory Committee (AAC)
- XI. Roll Call
 - Commissioners and staff from both AC Transit and the City of Oakland introduced themselves.
- XII. Staff Reports
 - A. East Bay Bus Rapid Transit, BRT, Project Background; Christine Calabrese, City of Oakland’s BRT Project Manager, provided an overview of the BRT Project timeline, scope, and this body’s role in reviewing the design at various designated stages as per City of Oakland’s conditions of approval.
 - B. BRT 100% Final Design Phase Presentation; Mitra Moheb, Senior Project Manager, AC Transit
 - 1. Ms. Moeb provided an overview of the project features and amenities, including platform layout, new bus features, audible and tactile signals, ticketing procedures, and schedule.
 - 2. Curb ramp improvements will be made in collaboration with the City of Oakland along the entire project corridor.
 - 3. Bulb-outs will be built around stations and a special paving treatment will be used at all BRT station crosswalks (colored, stamped asphalt) for pedestrians to be able to readily identify station crossings.
 - 4. Sandblasted concrete will provide a tactile cue for curbside station approach.
 - 5. MCPD Commissioner Caleb van Docto commented that the sandblasted area should match the standard width of the truncated domes at crosswalks and that the locations for pedestrian signal poles should be uniform, barring impediments such as utilities and other obstructions.

6. A member of the City of Oakland Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission stated concern about bicyclists riding on sidewalk where dedicated bike lanes are not provided, as is the case along portions of International, and requested additional information regarding sidewalk widths. Christine Calabrese clarified that the project is nowhere reducing sidewalk width but rather decreasing congestion by moving local sidewalk bus stops and shelters onto new bus bulbs or median stations , and pointed out that the project includes a speed limit reduction to 25 miles per hour, a known best practice for facilitating safer lane sharing between vehicular and bicycle traffic.
7. Ms. Moeb described the ticket vending machine specifications; machines have not yet been ordered but will feature braille, audio, and requisite heights for accessible operable parts. Commissioners queried how a person without manual dexterity could be expected to pay their fare, and whether visitors with disabilities (who might not have a local “flash pass” or prepaid Clipper Card) could expect to enjoy the disabled fare discount if unable to use the fare machines. Ms. Moeb stated these concerns would be investigated as part of its fare policy revise.
8. Ms. Moeb explained that visual announcements will alert riders at the stations regarding bus and station status; corresponding audio features while available will not initially be activated due to concerns regarding ambient noise, including that from the pedestrian signals. Currently, the plan is to activate audio announcements in the event of emergencies, station closures, or undue delays.
9. Ms. Calabrese read AAC Chair Scott Blanks’ comments into the record due to his absence. Mr. Blanks expressed dismay at the elimination of audible announcements where available; members remarked that where audible features are available they should be used; Ms. Calabrese noted that this initial decision by AC Transit to not activate all audio features can be revisited as a policy matter as this does not impact the current bid package/100% design plans.
10. Additional comments from Mr. Blanks concerned the need for tactile warnings along the edges of station platforms. Ms. Calabrese pointed out that the plan has always been for tactile warning strips at edge of platform as would be required at comparable light rail stations; however, the Division of the State Architect (DSA) is applying the standards for bus stops, which make these warning strips optional. City staff continues to

maintain the need for these warning strips due to the greater similarity between these platforms and those serving light rail.

11. Ms. Moeb explained the wayfinding component of the project that will assist with connectivity between BART stations, local bus stops, and BRT stops. Commissioners queried re: availability of tactile maps for persons who are blind and were encouraged to take up the question of wayfinding accessibility as part of this body's programmatic/policy/operational review of the project as this is not to be implemented in the current bid package.
12. Ms. Calabrese relayed At-Large Council Office concerns about what measures would be taken in order to minimize the gap between the bus floor and platforms; Ms. Moeb explained that a concave curb leading to the platform will indicate where the bus should pull up and should result in approximately a four inch gap between bus floor and platform; however, an automatically deployed 14 inch bridge plate will serve riders at the second and third doors where wheelchair users can board. Additionally, specialized operator training will be provided.
13. Brian Harrington, MCPD commissioner, volunteered to serve as liaison to the AC Transit Access Advisory Committee, a role previously served by Scott Blanks when he was an MCPD commissioner.

XI. Adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

NOTE: THE COMMISSION MAY TAKE ACTION ON ANY ITEM
ON THE AGENDA

Public Comments: To offer public comments at the MCPD meeting, please register with Adriana Mitchell, ADA Programs Assistant, before the start of the meeting. Please note that the MCPD will not provide a detailed response to your comments but may schedule your issue for a future MCPD or committee meeting. The Public Comment period is limited to 15 minutes and each individual speaker is limited to 5 minutes. If more than 3 public speakers register, however, then each speaker will be limited to 3 minutes. If more than 5 public speakers register, then each speaker will be limited to 2 minutes. Exceptions to these rules may be granted at the discretion of the Chairperson.

♿ This meeting is wheelchair accessible. To request materials in alternative formats, or to request an ASL interpreter, captioning or assistive listening device, please call Adriana Mitchell 238-5219 (V) or 238-2007 (TTY) at least three, 3, business days before the meeting. Please refrain from wearing scented products to this meeting so persons who may experience chemical sensitivities can attend. Thank you.