

# Wichita – Sedgwick County Access Advisory Board

## July 28, 2010 - Meeting Minutes

### Independent Living Resource Center – 3033 West 2<sup>nd</sup> St. North

#### A. Welcome and Introductions: David Calvert, Chair

1. Meeting began at 10:00 a.m.
2. David introduced Commissioner Peterjohn's new appointee David Moffett.
3. David congratulated Migwi Karugu on his citizenship!

#### Attendance for the WSCAAB:

##### Present:

Sanford Alexander	David Calvert
Glen Davidson	Jason Gegen
Bob Hamilton	Julie Hedrick
Steve Hinds	Ed Koon
Grady Landrum	Lori Lawrence
Sandy Martz	David Moffett
Tiffany Nickel	Craig Perbeck
Valerhy Powers	Susan Robinson
Steve Stambaugh	John Sullivan
Dr. David Waldie	

##### Absent:

De Eaton	Jennifer Foster-Farquhar
Marty Rothwell	Cindi Unruh

##### City/County Staff Present:

Lindsey Mahoney	Sedgwick County ADA Coordinator
Brian Coon	City of Wichita ADA Coordinator
Jay Hinkel	Deputy City Attorney
Migwi Karugu (left at 10:50am)	ADA Associate Engineer, City of Wichita

##### Guests:

Dale Goter	City of Wichita
Scott Knebel	Metropolitan Area Planning Dept.
Jeff Fluhr	Wichita Downtown Development Corp.

## II. Meeting Minutes:

- A. Sanford Alexander moved to approve the previous meeting minutes. Glen Davidson seconded the motion. Meeting minutes from the May 23, 2010 meeting were approved as submitted.

**III. Agenda Building:** None

**IV. Consent Agenda/Committee Updates:**

- A. The APS committee submitted a report that was emailed to the board.
- B. APS Updates: The APS committee reviewed the APS installation at Central and Main. The bulk of the last APS meeting was spent reviewing the latest draft (5<sup>th</sup> ed.) of the Warrants for APS draft policy. The committee proposes making a few additional edits to the document and then presenting it to the board at a future meeting. The committee has worked very hard on this document, and has accomplished quite a lot in the document that has been developed. This issue will be discussed further at a later point in the meeting.
- C. Transportation Committee Updates:
  - 1. It was decided that the transportation committee was duplicating efforts of the Paratransit Council related to accessible transportation. The transportation committee will not continue to meet, but they will share with the board meeting minutes or other information from the Paratransit Council.
  - 2. It was discussed that education has been a priority for the board. Valerhy Powers shared a Community Mobility Guide that she has been developing. It was originally focused on transportation for older adults, but now focuses on transportation options for all, including people with disabilities. She has just started to disseminate the guide, and welcomes feedback from the WSCAAB.
  - 3. It was discussed that a list of companies offering accessible vans has also been developed in the past related to hotel shuttle service. Susan Robinson commented that this list is always being updated, and people can contact Susan or Valerhy for more information.
  - 4. It was discussed that information related to van transportation could be posted at multiple sites, such as airport website, hotel website, City website, etc.

**V. Old Business:** none

**VI. New Business:**

- A. **Downtown Redevelopment Master Plan:** Scott Knebel and Jeff Fluhr presented the Wichita Downtown Redevelopment Master Plan. They shared that this is part of an effort to get feedback from multiple stakeholder groups, including this group.
  - 1. Scott shared that demographics and economics are such that they support downtown redevelopment more than in the past. Young people in particular are showing a desire to live/work downtown.
  - 2. The process of the master plan has been to talk with individual stakeholders, a series of input sessions, “walkability/mobility” session, “discovery” workshop, design charrette, “focusing” workshop (vision), and a “transforming strategy” workshop. The public has been invited to participate in these sessions.
  - 3. The vision statement focuses on providing something for everyone. Live, work, shop, play, and learn in downtown.
  - 4. Various guiding principles were developed, including:
    - i. Offering something for everyone
    - ii. Leveraging downtown’s strengths

- iii. Expanding choices
  - iv. Supporting “walkable” connections
  - v. Promote downtown’s role in advancing regional sustainability
5. David Moffett commented that some challenges with downtown for him relate to difficulties with parking, and fees for parking.
  6. Jeff shared information on the vision for downtown, and the fact that the community doesn’t see a “line” between various downtown areas. Generally speaking, downtown is considered the area bounded by Kellogg, Washington, Sycamore, and Central. Jeff shared visions of various key development locations, both existing images and what the future vision would be. These images focused on:
    - i. Adding a human scale to very wide streets, which would make the experience more inviting (ex. – Douglas by Century II). This includes medians, additional crosswalk areas, plazas with more vegetation and activity, making transit more prominent.
    - ii. Ways to redevelop vacant lots into park/green space, parking garage, commercial/residential uses. Also redevelopment of vacant buildings.
    - iii. Opportunities to build upon the energy of the Arena area.
    - iv. Possible redevelopment of Union Station to include passenger rail transportation.
    - v. Ways to bring activity back to the Coleman site, and ways to create a “linking corridor” between Arena and Old Town areas.
    - vi. Development of connections between the Broadview and the riverfront area.
    - vii. Idea that the new downtown library should be used to create a distinct building for the City.
  7. Various downtown parking options were discussed, including on-street parking, metered parking, paid lots, and some areas that do not charge for parking (but it was discussed that no parking is truly ever totally free...someone is always paying for it).
  8. In the last week, the development plan has been shared with three different developers.
  9. Sanford Alexander asked about any plans for a grocery store downtown if residential development is desired. Jeff shared that they currently have someone looking seriously at bringing an “urban model” grocery store into downtown.
  10. Currently there are about 100 units (2000 individuals) living downtown. Another 1500 units are desired as part of the redevelopment plan. Some of these may be rental units initially, but may be later converted to condo units. The current market is for units below 1000 sf.
  11. Questions were asked about the cost of living downtown. It was discussed that the fee for rentals will vary, from below \$1000/month, to well over \$1000/month.
  12. Craig Perbeck questioned whether they have been working with any developers to provide accessible housing options downtown. He suggests focusing on universal design. Dave Calvert commented that all people will eventually be people with disabilities at some point if we live long enough.

13. Scott reviewed the action strategies for downtown, which include:
- i. Reinforce downtown as the hub for activity.
  - ii. Make streets and parks enjoyable for everyone; all modes of transportation.
  - iii. Bring street fronts and neighborhoods to life; cultivate “pioneer” tenants at key locations.
  - iv. Work on marketing downtown and maintaining information on downtown.
  - v. Locate parking to improve access and implement the downtown parking and mobility management plan.
  - vi. Provide for multiple modes of transportation – expansion of the Q-line, bike lanes, etc.
    - a. Some discussion occurred around the issue of funding for public transportation. Scott shared that they may try to get air quality grant funding to help support transportation. With the Arena opening, the Q-line had more rides in the month of January than all of last year. Craig shared that transit service should be compared to streets – they don’t necessarily make money, but they are important/valuable services.
  - vii. Foster redevelopment with new tools such as phone apps to coordinate transit service.

**-- 5 minute break --**

- viii. Systematic approach to public/private development, such as a set of guidelines for developers.
14. A final draft of the master plan is expected the week of September 20<sup>th</sup>. To receive more information, individuals can go to [downtownwichita.org](http://downtownwichita.org) to get information and updates on the September meetings. Members are also welcome to call/email Jeff or Scott for further feedback.

**B. City of Wichita Closed Captioning Feedback:**

1. Dale Goter requested feedback from the board regarding closed captioning on Channel 7. They just finished the first year of captioning for City of Wichita Council Meetings. Dale thanked Lori Lawrence for her feedback and assistance. The current contract has been renewed, but it has a 30-day cancellation clause, so board feedback is encouraged.
2. Currently they are only captioning the regular council meetings, not workshops, consent meetings, or the online video of the meetings.
3. The contract requires 99% accuracy (1 out of 100 characters incorrect). Originally it was specified as 90%, but was increased to 99% based on feedback.
4. Dale shared that the City is working on expanding captioning for other meetings and for online video.
5. To share feedback, email [dgoter@wichita.gov](mailto:dgoter@wichita.gov) or send comments to Lori Lawrence. You can also leave feedback via the ADA link on the County website.

6. Overall, feedback regarding captioning has been positive. 2/3 of Wichita residents can view the meeting on cable channel 7.
7. Dave Calvert shared that he uses captioning and likes it. Tiffany Nickel also shared that she supports captioning, even though she lives in Bel Aire.

**C. Discuss Audible Pedestrian Signals (APS) Draft Policy:**

1. Sanford Alexander described that the APS committee has been working towards a goal of developing a policy for consistent practice of installing APS signals. It has been a fantastic learning process for all involved.
2. The draft policy is based upon the fact that not all intersections are created equal – each has unique features. There is a subtle distinction between a traffic signal and a pedestrian signal. As intersections get more complex, then you may need a pedestrian signal. At that point, you start looking at APS signals.
3. The committee looked at a priority list from several years ago, and the document has grown from that.
4. They have received some additional feedback, and would like to refine a few more points. The committee proposes making one more round of edits to the draft and then discussing with the board for feedback.
5. Sanford explained that he feels that this will be an excellent document, and it could even become a “national document.” He thanked the group for their hard work on this issue.

**VII. Updates:**

**A. New ADA Regulations** were announced on Monday (7/26/10) – the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ADA.

1. Sanford Alexander provided a copy of more extensive information related to the new regulations for service animals. A handout of this information was provided to board members. Sanford provided a brief summary of the information, which included the change that a service animal is now defined as a dog, except there are some provisions that extend the provisions to miniature horses that are housebroken. The regulations state that the dog must be under control and housebroken.
2. Susan Robinson was disappointed that more transportation changes were not included. Dave Calvert commented the local governments can always make requirements more strict (ex. – where the City requires universal parking).

**B. Riverfest Committee Update:** A committee met with Riverfest staff to discuss some major changes that are planned for next year. The goal is to try and get ahead so that accessibility issues are discussed early-on. The committee offered to provide feedback and input where it is needed.

**C. The City has ordered 2 solo rider golf carts** with all the “bells and whistles” such as cup holder. They will be located at Sims golf course since that is the most-used course in the City, but they can be transported to any other course with one day’s notice.

**D. Captioning and Audio Description at Movie Theaters:** Steve Stambaugh has contacted some local theaters to get more information on this issue locally. It was discussed that the proposed regulations suggest that ½ of the movies shown have audio description.

- E. City ADA Update** – Deferred due to time.
- F. County ADA Update** – Deferred due to time.

**VIII. Public Comment:**

- A. No further public comments.

**IX. Adjourn** - 11:30am

**The next meeting will be:**  
**Wednesday, September 22, 2010**  
**10:00-11:30 a.m.**

Meeting minutes prepared by:  
Lindsey Mahoney, Sedgwick County ADA Coordinator