

**CITY OF FRESNO
DISABILITY ADVISORY COMMISSION**

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 14, 2009 MEETING

DAC Commission Members Present: Michelle Bronson, Robert Hand (Chair) Ron Sheppard, Rachele Taylor (Vice Chair) Carlos Duarte (*ex officio*)

Staff Present: Elizabeth Kunz, DAC Secretary, Sylvia Shelton, Public Works Services Aide

Call to Order and Self Introductions were made.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Member Sheppard, seconded by Member Bronson, duly carried, the minutes of October 12, 2009 were approved.

MEMBER REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Chair Hand reported that the Center for Independent Living Fresno has changed its name to Resources for Independent Central Valley.

Member Bronson reported that it is the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Service Center's (DHHSC) 25th Anniversary.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: FY 2010 BUDGET

Secretary Kunz read from a memorandum written by Patrick Wiemiller, the Director of Public Works, regarding the diminishing City revenues and reductions in services and staff. No appreciable changes in the City-wide ADA program were reported.

UNSCHEDULED COMMUNICATION

Gary Eberhard, Emergency Services Manager for the City of Fresno, advised that he has worked with DHHSC to test the compatibility of various technologies with the City's 911 system; the Fire Department is undergoing training on how to serve the Deaf and Hard of Hearing in emergency situations; the City has added links its website that provide emergency preparedness information for people with disabilities, including in American Sign Language (ASL).

Edward LaComb identified himself as a user of Handy Ride, and reported: (1) references to the ADA Advisory Committee in some of the FAX materials, (2) late buses, (3) buses unavailable at the time of reservation, (4) poor driving, (5) maintenance concerns, (6) buses 3954 to 3991 lacking comment card or complaint forms, and (7) concerns regarding drivers' appearance and enthusiasm.

Dan Zoldak, introduced himself to the Commission as a principal with Lars Anderson Associates, a local civil engineering firm providing voluntary Certified Access Specialist (CASP) services.

Martin Lopez, (through translator Elizabeth Jonasson) identified himself as a voluntary reporter and photographer at City Hall, presented a song regarding the veterans and the war in Iraq.

PRESENTATION: PARATRANSIT SERVICE PROVISION DURING FRESNO STATE FOOTBALL GAMES

Ken Hamm, Director of Transportation for the City of Fresno, responded to comments at the October 2009 DAC Meeting regarding the provision of paratransit service concomitant with bus service at the California State University Fresno (CSUF) football games.

Mr. Hamm referred information provided by the Federal Transit Administration, Office for Civil Rights Region IX, explaining that there was no legal requirement for the City to provide an overlay of paratransit service for the Football game shuttle service it operates, because all of the vehicles used in the shuttle service are fully accessible. Mr. Hamm indicated that if someone attends a CUSF

football night game via a reserved Handy Ride trip, they would guarantee a return trip home.

PRESENTATION: FRESNO AREA EXPRESS (FAX) UPDATE ON ISSUES IDENTIFIED IN THE JUNE TRANSPORTATION MEETING

Mr. Hamm briefly reviewed the issues raised at the June 19, 2009 Transportation Meeting. He described the circumstances by which Routes 12 and 56, were discontinued due to low ridership. Mr. Hamm stated that the Mayor is in the process of forming a Rates and Services Committee for FAX to look at future consideration of changes to routes, schedules, and fares. Mr. Hamm reported that the City has received stimulus funds to improve bus stops; the improvements are scheduled for late summer 2010.

Greg Eisner, of the Department of Transportation, spoke to the sensitivity training component of the Verified Transit Training (VTT). All drivers must go through this training that also provides regulatory information. Mr. Eisner indicated that he would look into Mr. LaComb's concerns.

PRESENTATION: ADA RESOURCE LIST FOR THE CITY OF FRESNO
<http://www.fresno.gov/Staff/ADAResourceList.htm>

Elizabeth Kunz presented an updated ADA Resource List, which includes information to help City staff better serve people with disabilities, requested suggestions for improvement.

ACTION ITEM: ADOPT CALENDAR OF MEETING DATES FOR 2010

The Commission reviewed the proposed dates and referred to an earlier discussion of Member Randall's preferences regarding the meeting dates. Member Taylor made a motion to accept the proposed dates, with the exception that the Commission would not meet in July instead of August. Member Sheppard seconded the motion and it passed.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to bring before the Commission, the hour of 6:39 p.m. having arrived and hearing no objection, Chair Hand adjourned the meeting.