

Wichita/Sedgwick County Access Advisory Board
Wednesday, Oct 24, 2018
Envision Basement Conference Room, 610 N. Main
10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

David Calvert	Dr. Brian Coon	Bob Hamilton	Crissy Magee
Ed Koon	Brian Powers	Steven Walters	Ronald Tracy
Craig Perbeck	Michael Fowler	Rick Rader	Jay Hinkle
Latisha Darnell	Sean Beebe	Sanford J. Alexander, III	Lisa Vayda
Nancy Duling	Dorsha Kirksey	Crissy Magee	Jane Otis
Clark Stevens	Dr. David Waldie		

Voting Members Absent

Jason Gegen	Tiffany Nickle	Grady Landrum	Randy Roebuck
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City/County Staff Present (Non-Voting Members)

David Perricone	Migwi Karugu
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I. Welcome, Announcements & Introductions – Craig Perbeck
Craig opened the meeting by welcoming all in attendance. All in attendance introduced themselves and which organization, city council, or county commissioner they represent.

II. Meeting Minutes
A. September 2018 meeting minutes – Tabled.

III. New Business
A. **Wichita Transition Plan Update – Migwi Karugu**
Migwi briefed the board on the status of the city transition plan. The plan is almost complete. The city has been allocating \$300,000 annually since 2007 for ADA implementation. The funding will be reduced in 2020 to \$100,000 annually for maintenance, as the initial transition is completed.

Jay Hinkle added that although \$300,000/yr is the specific transition plan allocation, the city has been incorporating ADA compliance into their projects for years. The amount spent on ADA modifications has been in the millions, but that funding was included in the project budgets. Migwi confirmed that every new city project is ADA compliant.

Craig asked if another transition plan was required after the completion of the current plan. David Calvert explained that the transition plan is a living document that needs to be continually reviewed and updated.

Bob Hamilton asked if the city funding for ADA compliance is secure. Brian Coon answered that ADA compliance is a dedicated line item. All RFPs include

ADA compliance requirements. Plans examiners also look for ADA compliance in commercial projects, per state law.

Lisa Vayda asked if ADA compliance was also part of the city's aquatics plan. Migwi answered that not every pool is ADA compliant, but every geographical section of the city has an ADA compliant pool. ADA will be integral to any new project.

Craig asked if there were any plans for new pools. Migwi said that he had not heard of new pools, but possible "aquatic centers." Lisa stated that she had heard in a workshop and on the news that the city was going to update the existing pools rather than close them as originally intended. Country Acers pool was closed, but it was used infrequently and there was no way to bring it into ADA compliance.

Nancy Duling shared a tweet from Mayor Longwell that listed potential sites for new splash pads.

David informed the board of a practice know as Google Map Lawsuits wherein lawyers will examine motel pools using Google maps and sue motels for not having a lift.

B. Update on Century II – Craig Perbeck

Craig got in touch with the citizens' committee on Century II. They are not taking feedback at this time. There will be many opportunities for input in the future.

David said that the committee should consider ADA compliance issues when deciding whether to rebuild or refurbish. Some issues cannot be resolved by refurbishing. Jay stated that the same consideration was applied when the city was deciding on whether to rebuild or refurbish the library.

C. Update on New Baseball Stadium – Dr. Brian Coon

The RFP is currently being written. Once a consultant is hired, and designs are put on paper, we will have a chance to review them for compliance. Sanford asked for clarification on the stadium completion timeline. The first game is scheduled for March 15th, 2020. The plan is to have the stadium completed by January 18th, 2020.

D. Transportation Work Group – Sanford Alexander, III

Sanford provided an update on the Transit Advisory Board. There are many new members, so they are creating an orientation program. The goal of the orientation program is to help new members understand past and current issues the Transit Advisory Board has been working on.

Sanford gave feedback on the KDOT transportation conference last week. He shared his concerns that the goals discussed in the conference are not financially realistic and that the focus should be on improving and sustaining existing, local systems.

Andrew Crane also attended the conference. He expressed support for the idea of passenger train service between Wichita and Kansas City.

Craig explained another issue with intercounty travel that involves the rural transportation issues and funding. Citizens of one county do not want to subsidize transportation into another county.

Bob Hamilton informed the board that there is an effort by the VA in Wichita, and across the county, to set up free rides between veterans' homes and the VA. Some cities provide free transportation to veterans. If the VA got support from the community, it would be easier to get the city to support such programs for veterans and for people with disabilities. He invited board members to contact him with any input they may have.

Dorsha encouraged the board to keep attending the KDOT meetings because they often result in increased funding and collaboration between the counties. Craig invited Dorsha back to a future meeting to update the board on Sedgwick County transportation systems.

Sanford clarified his concern is that government is distracting itself with lofty projects when it is less risky to focus on fixing issues with existing transportation systems. For instance, the paratransit regulations were designed for metropolises, but we are trying to apply them to smaller Kansas towns. The issue is whether or not paratransit as merely a supplemental service to fix route service is adequate in 2018. Sanford supports paratransit's integration more fully into the transportation system as a whole. The "first mile, last mile" concept is particularly troublesome for blind travelers.

Bob Hamilton agreed that it can be a serious challenge, especially for a person that does not meet paratransit requirements, to get from their home to a bus stop. Andrew added that part of the issue is people applying for paratransit and being denied. Brian explained that after denial, appeals must be made in writing with full information. The city has had two appeals in the last week and a half. Wichita Transit Paratransit makes the initial decision. Appeals come to Brian. While the appeal is processing, the city will provide conditional transportation.

IV. Old Business

A. Broadway Bus Stop – Ron Tracy

Ron asked if there was an answer to an earlier question he had about why a bus stop was moved from Main to Broadway. Latisha believes that it was moved due to traffic congestion, but she will follow up with Mike Tann. Two of the factors were ridership market research results and the incorporation of future routes and schedules.

Bob stated that education is an important piece of the transportation issues. Latisha stated that the travel training services provided by the city are meant to increase ridership through education. Sanford noted that survey results on public transportation generally show strong support for transportation, but also a strong

sense that public transportation is for the elderly, disabled, or the poor. Citizens would need to move from a position of support to a willingness to pay for public transportation.

B. Air Show Parking Problems – Dave Calvert

No response yet from USAF.

C. Walmart Striping – Dr. Brian Coon

Brian reached out to Walmart about their parking lot striping. A lawyer from Walmart responded positively and they are addressing the problem.

V. Other

A. Brian Powers read a text message he received into the record as a reminder about the importance of education, the board and boards like this:

"I'm at a hotel in Lawton, OK since I came down here for my mom's committal service at the national cemetery and needed some time to myself. I brought my service dog with me, who was in the lobby about to go upstairs when an approx 12 yr old boy (who I told outside not to approach, talk, or try to pet my dog) provoked by dog by planting both hands on his knees and hunching forward to stare my dog down directly in front of him. My dog barked and lurched forward, and I had my hand on the handle closest to his harness and pulled back and told him, "NO!," and regained control of him. The hotel clerk claimed my dog barked and "tried to attack a child" and then demanded to see a license or medical documentation to prove he's a service dog. She stated if I couldn't provide one I would have to either leave or keep him in my room and pay a \$250 pet fee. I told her because he was provoked and barked once doesn't give her the right to ask for either. What do you think?"

Dave commented that service animals and assistance animals are an issue because the distinction between the two gets confused.

The parking lot across from the bus transfer center and the old state building has become a pay lot. Sanford asked Brian where the cashbox for the lot was located. Brian said he would follow-up with Scott Waddell.

VI. Public Comments

A. Andrew Crane invited the board members to the NFB state convention on Dec 2nd at the Old Town Hotel convention hall.

VII. Adjourn

The next meeting of the Wichita/Sedgwick County Access Advisory Board is scheduled for Wednesday, November 28th at the Envision basement conference room, 610 N. Main.