

## Wichita/Sedgwick County Access Advisory Board

Wednesday, April 23<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Envision/Zoom

10:00 a.m.—11:30 a.m.

### Agenda

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#### Members Present

IN-PERSON	ZOOM
Brian Powers (chair)	Rosie Greene
Tom Page (vice chair)	Lisa Vayda
Lloyd Hanna	Harley Anderson
Jayne Otis	Karen Flateau
Jared Holcomb	Crissy Magee
Terese Goren	Shea Hanson
Raven Alexander	Shelly Herrington
Virginia Zapote	Susie Ternes
Ryan Heikes	
Jim Underwood	
Andrew Crane	

#### City/County Staff Present

Nate Johnson	Michelle Bastian
Mike Armour	Adrienne Clark

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- I. Welcome, Announcements & Introductions – Brian Powers
  - II. Call of the Meeting Attendees – A quorum was present.
  - III. Meeting Minutes
    - a. Motion to approve March 2025 minutes made by Brian Powers; seconded by Jared Holcomb. **Passed 19 – 0 with 0 abstentions.**
  - IV. Public Comment

**Raven Alexander** – Envision would like to remind everyone to park to the east of the building and not in the parking lots by the entrance.
  - V. Monthly Updates
    - a. **ADA Staff Updates – Mike Armour**

There have been a lot of questions regarding the recent article and the downtown two way conversion project and policies. We take all of our improvement comments seriously. We receive several from the access board, bike board, individual citizens and we have followed up on all the requests made. As a small team there are gaps in the information we have and receive, and raising these concerns can fill in the blanks. We encourage people to continue to update us on any concerns, issues, improvements required.

A greater number of people supporting a particular project helps make an impact on funding decisions, approvals and moves it higher on the priority list. Bike Board provides a list of priority areas that the community supports. This helps allocate limited funding to high need locations.

Tom Page – a sarcastic comment was misconstrued in the article. We still need to adopt ATS going forward as several sources support its implementation.

Andrew Crane – the City and County need to work together and get it done. We've been asking for ATS for years and we should send a letter to the City and Commissioners about it.

Lisa Vayda – The articles says we need to make the city more walkable but the sidewalks aren't walkable or good for scooters.

Karen Flateau – Met with the author Rebekah Taussig. Meant to ask her about her opinion on accessibility in Wichita. Also, what can the conventions and visitors bureau do to cater to out of towners with disabilities?

Jared Holcomb – The paywall stopped me from accessing the entire article.

The City of Wichita has adopted ATS systems despite it not being mandatory yet and the federal rules enforcements haven't been applied yet.

We'd like advance notice of any construction happening in the city and county.

**Motion to adopt a resolution to create a subcommittee of Andrew Crane, Lisa Vayda and Tom Page to draft a letter regarding sidewalk accessibility to be submitted to City of Wichita and Sedgwick County officials, was made by Andrew Crane; seconded by Jared Holcomb. Passed 19 – 0 with 0 abstentions.**

b. Transportation Committee – Raven Alexander

The redesign study is complete and should be available online.

c. City Updates – Virginia Zapote

I sat on a Big Read Panel regarding accessibility at the Kansas Leadership Center. Very positive community interaction. Exchanged information with Miss

Wheelchair USA and invited her to attend an Access Advisory Board Meeting. A group of high school students have volunteered to assist with the downtown parking sign inventory project.

VI. New Business

Brian Powers - There will be elections for the Next chair of the committee. We have a month to nominate or volunteer for the position. Otherwise the chair position will default to the Vice Chair and the Vice Chair will choose his replacement.

Karen Flateau – I was able to get to events due to Medicaid-sunflower program increasing non-medical travel allowance.

Susie Ternes – I brought up accessibility issues to the library board and they will begin looking into making events more accessible, and how to correct this oversight. Wichita library membership gives free access to Wichita Eagle.

Jim Underwood – seems like we have communication issues. Most of our concerns don't seem to move beyond the city of Wichita limits. Have we thought about moving beyond and state level concerns?

Information should be available at airports to notify people as they are coming into the city. How to gather more information from the disabled community on what they need when they visit?

VII. Announcements

VIII. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 10:58 a.m.