

Wichita/Sedgwick County Access Advisory Board

Wednesday, July 23rd, 2025

Envision/Zoom

10:00 a.m.—11:30 a.m.

Agenda

Members Present

IN-PERSON	ZOOM
Tom Page	Karen Flateau
Jared Holcomb	Crissy Magee
Virginia Zapote	Harley Anderson
Christi Clark	Lisa Vayda
Jim Underwood	Shea Hanson
Andrew Crane	Shelley Herrington
John Crane	Sheila Brown
Alison Roets	Ryan Heikes
Raven Alexander	Lloyd Hanna
Susie Ternes	Jill Kerschen
	Emily Jensen

City/County Staff Present

Travis Babcock	Nate Johnson
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- I. Welcome, Announcements & Introductions – Tom Page
 - a. **Tom Page** – welcomed everyone and discussed running the meeting since Mia Ocean could not make it.
 - II. Call of the Meeting Attendees – A quorum was present.
 - III. Meeting Minutes
 - a. Motion to approve June 2025 minutes made by Jim Underwood; seconded by Virginia Zapote. **Passed unanimously by voice vote.**
 - IV. Public Comment

No Public Comment was given.
 - V. Monthly Updates
 - a. **ADA Proclamation Recap/Letter** – Tom Page.

- i. Tom Page had Lisa Vayda describe her experience of presenting the letter to the city and county as well as the ADA proclamation. The city invited the WSCAAB group that was present for a photo after the proclamation was accepted.

b. Construction Bulletin/ADA Staff Updates – Virginia Zapote.

- i. Virginia Zapote discussed how there isn't a lot of updates on the ADA staff side, but she will start sending out the cities construction bulletin every week so people can know about ongoing construction projects and closures.

c. Election of Transit Advisory Board Rep./Transit Update – Raven Alexander.

- i. Raven Alexander discussed how there wasn't a lot to update from the transit side, besides the Q-line tour they had. She also discussed the need to find an actual transit representative for the board, and how they will need to go through the City of Wichita for approval.
- ii. John Crane heralded the inventory statement on existing bus stops in the City of Wichita.

d. Photos of Sidewalk Closure Problems – Tom Page.

- i. Tom Page discussed the difference between construction in New Orleans and Wichita and how they went about closing or not closing sidewalks and the protections that New Orleans had installed.

VI. New Business

a. Downtown Parking – Stephanie Knebel

- i. Stephanie Knebel gave a quick overview of the ongoing downtown-parking project and the current focus is surface parking, she encouraged everyone to learn more at parkwichita.com.

- ii. John Crane asked who is going to be enforcing the new paid parking requirements.
 - 1. Stephanie Knebel responded that they are working with a third party company that will patrol and hand out parking tickets for parking violations. Those will go through municipal courts.
- iii. Andrew Crane asked what is going to happen with the ADA parking spaces.
 - 1. Stephanie Knebel answered that they are changing the words reserved parking to accessible parking.
 - 2. Further clarification was given that the fines will remain the same as well.
- iv. Tom Page asked when the project will go north of Second Street.
 - 1. Stephanie Knebel answered that it will be in phase 3 of the project, but there isn't a specific timeline yet.

b. Collaboration with City of Wichita Public Works & Utilities – Mike Armour

- i. Mike Armour discussed the recent letter to the city and county and the need to deepen collaboration between the WSCAAB and the City of Wichita Public Works & Utilities. He asked that the Board determine a representative to work with the city on projects to ensure accessibility.
 - 1. Tom Page expressed concern with getting a breadth of opinions and needing an engineering expert opinion for projects.
 - 2. Mike Armour expressed the need to have someone to coordinate with on projects from the board.
 - 3. General discussion took place about size of the representative subcommittee and it was decided between 2-4 volunteers who will be called for before the next meeting.
- ii. Andrew Crane asked about arrow push buttons being put into crosswalks downtown.

1. Mike Armour answered that they are going in for every new crosswalk, but existing ones are being changed based on need and demand.
- iii. Tom Page emphasized the need for self-evaluation and a less reliance on patchwork of reporting of maintenance issues.
 1. Mike Armour gave a rough estimate of around 1000 miles of sidewalk in Wichita and the lack of manpower to check all of those miles for issues. He emphasized the need for citizen reporting and follow-on from the city.
- iv. Mike Armour asked about getting a group together for an on-site to do a walking of the project.
 1. Tom Page said that the board will do a call for volunteers and have them appointed by the chair next meeting.
- v. John Crane asked who at the city is in charge of building projects and the closing of sidewalks.
 1. Mike Armour said that it was Traffic Engineering that gives the permits. He emphasized that their focus was safety and ensuring people and construction activities are not in conflict with each other.
- vi. Tom Page emphasized the need for unequivocal acknowledgment of ADA obligations and the 'systematic' part of systematic plans.
 1. Mike Armour explained that the city follows ADA obligations and exceeds the bare minimum as proven by federal feedback on projects.

c. US Access Board – Tom Page

- i. Tom Page discussed the US Access Board meeting held in the City of New Orleans and how to access the transcripts in case members wanted to go watch the meeting themselves.

- ii. Motion to solicit hosting US Access Board meeting in Wichita made by John Crane; seconded by Alison Roets. **Passed unanimously by voice vote.**
- iii. Discussion took place about the possibility of a town hall and the ability of the public to speak at city DAB and county CAB meetings.

VII. Announcements

a. **Future Item on Meeting Conduct** – Jim Underwood

- i. Jim Underwood discussed the possibility of bringing in an expert next meeting to discuss the possibility of a phone application that makes it easier to get information about the city.
- ii. Susie Ternes emphasized the need for board members to remain respectful of guests who take time to come speak to the WSCAAB.

VIII. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 11:23 a.m.