

MINUTES
ADA Transition Plan Task Force
MEETING
ONLINE VIA ZOOM
May 24, 2022
7:00-8:00 P.M.

MEETING IS RECORDED

<https://www.lakewoodoh.gov/accordions/ada-task-force/>

1. Call the Meeting to Order
2. Roll Call

Members Present

Tracy Greenberg -Co-Chair
Chris Cowen
Michelle Slife
Ahmie Yeung- Co-Chair
Sean Mott

Other

Michelle Nochtan- Secretary
Andrew Fleck – Legal counsel

Motion by Ms. Cowen excuse the absence of Thomas McGraw, Sarah Kepple and Christina Tayman, seconded by Ms. Slife, all in favor the motion passes.

3. Approve the minutes of the April 26, 2022, meeting, Motion to approve by Ms. Cowen, seconded by Ms. Slife, all in favor the motion passes.
4. The letter to the mayor advocating for an immediate move to hire DLZ to conduct the public right of way discussion was postponed due to the absence of Councilperson Kepple. Ms. Greenberg and Ms. Yeung will reach out to Councilperson Kepple to coordinate the delivery of the letter
5. Task Force secretary Michelle Nochtan presented the fourth progress report from Steve Metzger of DLZ with a list of accomplishments over the past month. DLZ prepared the online survey which was posted on May 10, 2022. DLZ has assisted with various items, including reviewing the accessible parking in the rear lot of city hall, and review of the provided documents and review and compilation of the site visit data. DLZ will continue to gather information and is working to schedule the next site visit, either the week of June 20th or the week of June 27th.
6. Ms. Krista Allison, recently crowned Ms. Wheelchair Ohio was present. Ms. Allison described her experiences visiting various restaurants in Lakewood and the importance of van accessible ADA compliant parking in the commercial corridors. Ms. Allison stated that she is often limited to which restaurants she may visit based on the proximity of van accessible parking, her van has a 3-foot ramp that she uses to exit the van, and many ADA spots do not accommodate a van and ramp. Ms. Slife agreed and described a visit to Sauter Taproom where the nearest accessible parking was located across Warren. Ms. Yeung described her frustration with some of the grading regulations for spots and suggested more ADA parking be located off of the busier streets, and be located first in on the side streets. Ms. Allison stated that she didn't agree that was the best solution. Ms. Allison expressed her disappointment in being unable to meet with the mayor despite her requests for a meeting. Ms. Allison suggested that the importance of accessible public right of ways might be more important to local officials if they could experience navigating the city in a wheelchair and suggested a program that loans wheelchairs to provide such an experience to members of the demonstration and staff. Ms. Slife added that city council might be interested in participating as well. Ms. Greenberg noted that it might not be

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necessary for staff to utilize a wheelchair to find compassion and support the goals of mobility device users.

7. Ms. Yeung wanted to address some issues she found with the ADA survey that was released on May 10, 2022. With a background and training in sociology, Ms. Yeung was concerned that the targeted data might not be collected from the users due to the design of the survey and some of the functionality. Ms. Yeung was also concerned that some immediate concerns would not be addressed quickly and proposed using a google form that she had designed. Ms. Nohta responded that immediate concerns should be submitted through the report-a problem software, and that the consultant regularly checks the survey results and would forward anything that was more immediate to herself at the city to disseminate. Other issues with the survey could be addressed by discussing with Steve Metzger of DLZ. Ms. Yeung said she would forward her comments directly to Mr. Metzger, and Ms. Nohta thanks her for providing her expertise.
8. Ms. Greenberg also spoke about the lack of fully accessible housing in the city, particularly for those who are disabled and under the age of 65. Ms. Greenberg advocated for all new housing projects to be required to provide accessible units. Ms. Greenberg described her own difficulties in hiring a contractor to make accessible improvements to her current home with the high cost of materials and the high demand for contractors. Ms. Slife concurred with Ms. Greenberg about the need for the city to create a policy that requires accessible housing in new developments. Ms. Slife stated that with such high demand and low available stock she felt the community could add as many units as possible and the demand would remain high. Ms. Slife also noted that the South Westerly on Detroit does provide housing for persons with disabilities and gives preference for those who are disabled and under 65. Ms. Slife described a long wait time for those apartments, which could be as long as 5 years, as a prime indicator of the unmet need for more accessible housing.

9. Adjourn

A Motion was made by Ms. Yeung to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Slife. All members voting yea, the motion passed.

Signature  Date ____ May 28, 2022 ____