City of Pasadena Accessibility and Disability Commission

Mission

The Accessibility and Disability Commission advises the City Council on accessibility issues in Pasadena. Members of the commission, who are appointed by the council, are responsible for the following:

- Study and examine (a) existing inequities in access to the physical, work, social and cultural environments for all residents of Pasadena, particularly those who have disabilities, and (b) policies, procedures, programs and legislation for eliminating those inequities.
- Recommend policies, procedures, programs and legislation to promote and ensure the accessibility of the physical, work, social and cultural environments to all residents of Pasadena, particularly those who have disabilities.
- Consult and cooperate with other public agencies and commissions on matters relevant to the commission.
- Assist the accessibility and disability issues coordinator to carry out assigned programs and tasks.

Key Commission Initiatives

- Disaster Preparedness - Review the City's preparedness, response plans and shelter sites in order to enhance service to people with disabilities in a disaster.
- City Website Accessibility - Recommend changes in the site's appearance and navigation that will improve access to information for all individuals with disabilities.
- Art and Disability - Advise the City's Cultural Affairs Division on accessibility related to Pasadena's grant program, cultural events and public art installations.

Truncated domes for visually impaired people have been installed at many crosswalks across the city of Pasadena.

Major Achievements

- Co-authored the proposal that won the City of Pasadena the National Organization of Disability (NOD) Award for the Most Accessible City in 2004.
- Has made ongoing recommendations for curb ramps throughout Pasadena and monitors installation.
- Advocated for the installation of accessible pedestrian signals at several intersections and continues to recommend locations for future installations.
- Created Project SAFE, a survival guide that assists persons with disabilities in being prepared for disasters and emergencies.
- Along with community stakeholders the commission promoted installation of art created by artists with disabilities. Art at City Hall came from Villa Esperanza.
- Promotes the use of universal design elements in all new construction and major rehabilitation projects.

Major Achievements, cont.

- Works with Transportation Department staff to improve City transit services for persons with physical and sensory impairments.
- Advises Public Library staff to improve accessibility of library services to patrons with physical and sensory impairments.

- Was integrally involved in creating Reese's Retreat, a play area for children of all abilities at Brookside Park.
- Made recommendations for amendments to Pasadena's Taxi Ordinance; continues to assist in monitoring of taxi services for persons with disabilities.
- Works with Parks and Natural Resources staff to improve accessibility in Pasadena parks.
- Led effort to modify the City's existing online disaster video so that content is accessible to individuals with sensory disabilities and to Spanish speakers.

Americans with Disabilities Act

The purpose of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 is to provide a clear and comprehensive national mandate for the elimination of discrimination against individuals with disabilities, and to bring persons with disabilities into the economic and social mainstream of American life. The removal of physical and attitudinal barriers is at the heart of the ADA. The Accessibility and Disability Commission is committed to promoting compliance with the intent and spirit of the ADA.

Information

For more information contact

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