



Diversity Equity and
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ADA Advisory Council Agenda

Wednesday, August 13, 2025

1:00 pm, Zoom Meeting

Present: Chair Joe Charey, Michael Byington, Kim Dietrich, Anthony Fadale,

Members Absent: Vice-Chair Steve Schoenberg, Robert Nugent

Visitors:

Staff: Sr. Program Coordinator Zaynah Afada, Director of the Office of Inclusive Communities Monique Glaude'

- Welcome & Introduction:
- Approval of Agenda and Minutes:
 - Michael motioned to approve the agenda, and Kim seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
 - Kim motioned to approve the meeting minutes, and Michael seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- New Business:
 - National Night Out Recap: Joe expressed that the event went well and the ADA distributed swag to the public. She received concerns from members of the public that will be shared with the MTPO Board. The ADA has also been invited to give a presentation to the East Topeka Senior Center, which can be discussed during future meetings.
 - City Council Attendance at ADA Meetings: Joe expressed interest in wanting members of the city council to attend ADA monthly meetings regularly.
 - Michael shared his concerns about making the ask of having members of the council present at monthly meetings. He shared that inviting them casually is a better option. Director Glaude' shared that the council can be present at a meeting upon a written request from the chair to the Council office.
- Old Business:
- ADA Coordinator and Staff Update:

- Monique shared she received an inquiry from an individual outside of City limits requesting ADA assistance; she encouraged the individual to contact the governor's office for more information.
 - Monique encourages members of the board to begin planning an end-of-the-year event if there is interest in hosting it. A potential contractor for the programming and website regulation aspect of the ADA Request for Proposal (RFP) has been identified, and the city is in the negotiation stage. More information will be provided in future meetings.
 - The city has two new staff members. Leo Hope was hired as a Community Navigator and will operate from the Office of Inclusive Communities. A new Grant Writer has also been hired. Monique will have her first meeting with them in late August or Early September.
 - Monique encouraged members of the ADA to have a special meeting that's 30 minutes or 45 minutes, and talk about their strategic goals in one of their regular meetings.
 - Zaynah reminded the members of the board of the conflict forms and asked for their completion.
- ADA Council Updates:
 - Michael shared an ADA complaint submitted by a community member regarding the poor maintenance of traffic controls, and particularly their accessible features in the southwest part of town. Monique requested that more information about the complaint be shared via email to follow up with the individual. Michael shared that concerns around curbs, ramps, and other barrier removal are what he hears about most. He shared that during the ADA's discussion of goals, he hopes to work on creating a more accessible environment.
 - Joe asked if the same venue from January 2025 works with everyone. Anthony said the venue was okay, but the weather during that time was not ideal for the end-of-year celebration. Michael said the venue from January works.
 - MTPO: Joe shared that the city is still in a holding pattern with the RAISE grant. There are no other updates regarding that grant.
- Public Comment:
 - No public comments at this meeting.
- Next meeting: Wednesday, September 10, 2025
- Adjourn: 2 pm