

Salt Lake City Accessibility and Disability Commission

2022 Annual Report

A Message from the Chair

On behalf of the Vice Chair, and the entire Accessibility and Disability Commission, it has been an honor to serve as Chair for our inaugural year. After becoming codified and all members of the Commission received their appointments, we held our first meeting in June of 2022. Our Commission consists of individuals who represent many different disabilities living and working in our capital city. Our goal is to bring awareness and foster inclusion for all people with disabilities and to advance Mayor Mendenhall's equity plan. We have created a list of priorities that include training of Salt Lake City Airport staff on how to recognize and respond to an epileptic incident, bringing inclusion to the Arts by bringing Audio Description to Eccles Theater and other venues for blind and low vision citizens, and making a recommendation for a city ordinance to encourage all businesses with public televisions to activate the closed captioning setting for deaf and hard of hearing citizens. The ADC is also working with our city's staff on snow removal awareness on our city's sidewalks and providing knowledge, skills, and best practice for accessibility for software and applications used by the city.

We are proud and grateful to our ADA Coordinator, Ashley Lichtle. We look forward to continuing our work for all disabled citizens in our capital city in 2023.

Commission Members

Commissioner Everette Bacon, Chair (HRC Commissioner)
Commissioner Amy Carmen, Vice Chair
Commissioner Nate Crippes
Commissioner Pamela Mower
Commissioner Scott Browning
Commissioner Leah Lobato
Commissioner Todd Claflin
Commissioner Margo Thurman
Commissioner Jeff Kenyon
Commissioner Rich Foster
Commissioner Janis Ferre
Commissioner Kayci Lynam

2022 Overview

The Accessibility and Disability Commission (ADC) was codified in February 2022 and members were first appointed in April 2022. During the May and June 2022 meetings the ADC created policies and procedures, elected a Chair and Vice Chair, and received the OPMA and GRAMA trainings. The remainder of the 2022 meetings were spent working on the below priorities and meeting with various City departments and divisions including Engineering, Transportation, Housing Stability, and Sustainability about Citywide projects and initiatives. The ADC is preparing a recommendation to the Mayor and City Council for a Closed Captioning City ordinance. This year Commissioners have been heavily involved in the improvements of the SLC Mobile user experience and other digital accessibility improvements for residents and visitors.

Review of 2022 Goals and Priorities

Mayor's 2022 Priority: Evaluate recommendations from the Accessibility [and Disability] Commission and implement policy changes to make our City more accessible for people of all physical abilities.

COMPLETE:

- Codify Accessibility and Disability Commission (see appendix)
- Create Commission Policies and Procedures
- Receive OPMA and GRAMA trainings
- Create Commission and SLC Accessibility websites (see appendix)

IN PROGRESS/ONGOING:

- Recruit Commissioners with diverse perspectives
- Train SLC Airport employees on what to do when someone is experiencing seizures in the airport
- Closed Captioning ordinance for all public TVs in Salt Lake City
- More audible traffic signals throughout Salt Lake City
- Improve Citywide snow removal communications for access in the public right of way after a snowstorm

INCOMPLETE:

- Free AIRA software available citywide
- Increase audio description showings at all theaters in Salt Lake City
- Improve communication and pedestrian access through construction zones in the public right of way (PROW)

Commission Goals for 2023

- I. Continue working on the 2022 Priorities that are in progress or incomplete.
- II. Continue to identify and address ways Salt Lake City can improve inclusion and accessibility for all.
- III. Partner with the Racial Equity in Policing Commission (REP) to facilitate a neurodiversity/sensory needs subcommittee.
- IV. Work with the Emergency Management department and State Access and Functional Needs Core Advisory Group to develop or update City preparedness plans for people with disabilities (known as access and functional needs in EM).
- V. Create or facilitate trainings for City departments on a variety of disability related topics.

Appendix

ADC Commission Ordinance

(https://codelibrary.amlegal.com/codes/saltlakecityut/latest/saltlakecity_ut/0-0-0-82818)

ADC Commission Website (<https://www.slc.gov/boards/boards-commissions/accessibility-disability-commission/>)

SLC Accessibility Website (<https://www.slc.gov/equity/salt-lake-city-accessibility/>)