

Minutes From Meeting: ADA Advisory Committee Meeting

Meeting Date: 08/26/25 ARC Building Suite 100 4:00 pm – 5:00 p.m.

Meeting was called to order at 4:10pm

Agenda was carried forth without rejection.

Attendance. All the members were in attendance except Ms. Sharpe. Matt Reeves was present online. Commissioner Caviness visited the meeting greeted and addressed the group about ATLDOT/City plan to ADA initiatives and inclusiveness.

Minutes were approved from the last two meetings: June 02, 2025, and July 29th. - Motion was made by Kimberly Thomas, the motion was seconded by Michelle W, and the motion carried.

Introduction of new members/pending and the committee members collectively as well as the meeting participants: Kimberly W., Sally F., Matt R., Carden W., Maria S. Angela B., Michele W., Darin. G., Shauncey B., Kimberly T., Courtney S., John G. and Nick P. of the center for civic innovation.

Overview of the committee purpose: Shauncey expounded on the purpose for work of the committee.

Election of Chairperson for the committee: Sally F. dropped out of the race for chair but nominated Kimberly W. for Chairperson and added that she would be the vice Chair for the Committee. A vote was casted for the nominated chair- 5 votes for Kimberly Wright and Sally will act as the vice- chair for the committee. - 5 votes, Committee adopted nominations.

Chairperson Kimberly W. requested that someone volunteer for minute taking. Kimberly Thomas- ADA Liaison for ATLDOT volunteered.

Our new Chairperson was acknowledged and assumed the meeting.

Kimberly W. assumed the meeting as the new chair first order of business for the nomination for two people willing to serve on the Bylaws committee: Kimberly W. nominated herself, Michele W. and Carden W. will oversee the efforts.

John G. stated that the committee does not have to have bylaws within this committee. Chairperson Kimberly W. suggested the need and importance to establish the bylaws for the committee.

Carden W. told the committee she may not be able to continue with the committee after her seat as a councilperson is confirmed, we are unsure if she will not be able to serve the committee or not Shauncey will follow up.

Self -Evaluation and Grievance Policy was reintroduced to the committee by Shauncey B.

Next Meeting to be determined.

Public Comment:

Sally F. brought to the floor the Grievance policy as it is written it is not user friendly. She believes there could be more added to the policy that may reflect all people not just those putting in grievance about sidewalk concerns. A grievance to her is a consistent egregious act continued neglect of a situation. ex. Signage continually left in the right of way or scooters left in the middle of the sidewalk.

The language to the grievance policy needs to be so that a school age person could relate.

Also have a low vision recommendation for the document. Sally F. and Matt R. will work together on those efforts.

Chairperson Kimberly W. suggested the committee go through the documents and pull out the information that needs to be updated or changed. Send that information to her for review and dissemination of the information within the committee.

Shauncey responded by stating the policy was put in place so that people would have someone a name they could go to for concerns in the right of way. The policy is written to address those concerns. Someone feeling as though they have been neglected in/by a service ATLDOT provides.

Matt R. mentioned that the policy for ARC which was provided by Shauncey as a reference point Matt believes that the document is a better working document that the committee can adopt and modify it to fit the City of Atlanta policy and procedures for grievance.

Maria S. inquired about the purpose of the Grievance policy. She asked if it was for structural repairs or just regular everyday repairs; or is it about how a person was treated.

Shauncey B. responded that the grievance policy is not just about a repair request. Initiate those sidewalk/street repair requests through 311 first, the policy is designed so that when a grievance is encountered the policy was put in place for ATLDOT to follow the process and make sure it is carried forward. The committee is here to review and make recommendations on what you believe works with the document and those policies set before the committee needs to see what works and does not work in your opinions.

Angela B. stated that there are several layers of the grievance policy and depending on what's being discussed it goes over into another person's responsibility which expands the scope of the policy.

Sally F. stated that she believes at an intersection/ walk signal it should be required at the intersections to have audible equipment installed. This needs to be a policy change citywide.

Shauncey B. mentioned that the Strategy and Planning division of ATLDOT is working on updating the Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) and that members of that team will come and host one of our meetings in October or November. to discuss accessibility and Transportation issues.

Maria S. and Carden W. brought up robots that are being utilized for food delivery, and inquired if ATLDOT could possibly partner with the company or companies to assist with roads, sidewalks for camera feed for the ATLDOT infrastructure.

Angela B. asked Chairperson Kimberly W. about providing a plan for the year, that way the committee can stick to the goals set going forward in the committee. Ensuring the committee is utilizing the best time management for the committee goals set.

Shauncey B. reiterated that the efforts of the committee are to flush the information out., for the services that ATLDOT provides. – Look at Atlanta Streets Alive how DOT is active with the self-evaluation plan.

Matt R. mentioned that infrastructure requests or specific areas should be treated the same way in the grievance document.

Sally F. mentioned that grievance policy is when something is done to someone continually. – A pattern with renewed practices. Not having to go through the ATLDOT grievance policy. She gave the example of signs on a sandwich size sign board impacting a low vision impaired person not being able to access the sidewalk due to improper signage construction work site is not disability compatible.

Shauncey B. distinguished the grievance policies stance as was written prior to any changes. The ADA coordinator being available to address the concerns with the grievance customers needing immediate assistance.

Sally and Matt will work together to form a new document, will be prepared to discuss next meeting. They will work together online and by email. (ARC document) ATLDOT revamped grievance policy.

Shauncey B. told the committee about a meeting location at 7th Peachtree- Gensler (Midtown) offered to host our next meeting. Shauncey will check on parking validation prior to the meeting schedule.

Training for ATLDOT personnel will be reviewed going forward- what the training looks like with the construction activities-city engineers, inspectors, consultants, and design. The committee will have a say in the approval of the training plan regarding ADA compliance. Hands on Recommendation from the committee required.

Darin Givens-Pending Member asked if the committee could get an idea of what's going on with the upcoming work for ATLDOT. Wants a more productive, proactive approach instead of reactionary.

Michele W. responded which projects are you referring to construction/design? You can give input to any of those projects. Right now, the focus is on resurfacing and ADA, the World Cup is coming those areas are being worked on currently.

Sally F. mentioned the 25 yr. plan for the consent decree.

John G. (DOL) responded that the work being completed as a part of the consent decree is part of the plan the committee must oversee. Consider schedule, different work groups, how to prioritize the work of the committee. Work sessions to get the work done and adopted.

Sally F. stated that new ramps installed in Midtown were replaced in error and they are not compliant for ADA standards. The slopes were out of compliance and the ramps were at 16% in some locations and replaced and put back at 12%. Recommendation: Before signing off on these ramps get a wheelchair and see if you can navigate the ramp before accepting and paving the roads.

Meeting Adjourned at 5:05p.m.

