

Commission on Disability

2012 Annual Report

The City of Fort Collins Commission on Disability consists of nine members and two city staff liasions, all of which maintained their position for the calendar year. The following individuals were represented:

Leadership

Jeffrey Coon – Chair

Michael Devereaux – Vice Chair

Michelle Miller – Secretary

Hettie Hueber – Historian

Members at Large

Terry Schlichting

Jennifer Arndt

Michael Dunlap

Wendie Robinson

Gwendolyn Dillman

City Liasion

Ethan Cozzens

Rosanne McDonnell

Summary

The following highlights the many issues addressed during 2012 by the Commission on Disability as they relate to persons with disabilities in the City of Fort Collins:

Hearing Loops

Initiated in 2011, the installation of a hearing loop system in city council chambers was completed and it is now fully operational. Based on the commission recommendation, hearing loop technology is now a part of the City of Fort Collins design standards for new construction and remodels of city owned buildings.

Wheelchair/Power Chair in Bike Lanes

In collaboration with the city transportation department, a “soapbox” article was developed as a reminder to city residents of the proper use of powered chairs in bike lanes throughout the city. This soapbox was authored by vice-chair Devereaux and published in the Coloradoan.

Elder Abuse Forum

The commission partnered with the Human Relations Committee and provided representation at the Elder Abuse Forum held in October.

Bike to Work Day

The commission contacted the Bike to Work Day organizers to ensure that wheelchair and device users were to be included in this event. The transportation planning department made lights and reflective devices available at little or no cost to persons in wheelchairs so they could safely participate.

Fair Housing Action Plan

The commission on disability received a request for and provided input on the Fair Housing Action Plan developed by the Affordable Housing Board.

Mason Corridor Station Naming

Members of the commission attended the workshop aimed at determining an appropriate name for what will now be referred to as the Spring Creek Station on the MAX BRT system.

City Sidewalk Survey

The city engineering department presented updates on the ongoing city sidewalk survey and the commission on disability provided feedback regarding issues facing persons with disabilities as it relates to the survey. This project will be ongoing into 2013 and the commission intends to monitor and provide appropriate feedback toward the goal of making all sidewalks within the city safe and accessible for persons with disabilities.

Mayor's Awards 2012

The 2012 Mayor's Awards were presented to:

Dorothy Lasley Memorial Award	Connor Kelly
Employee of the Year Award	Sarah Belleau
Employer of the Year Award	Gib's New York Bagels Sprouts Market
Service Provider of the Year Award	Elderhaus
Spirit of Fort Collins Award	Fort Collins Service League
Volunteer of the Year Award	Lois Douthit
Partnership Award	Arc Thrift Store