

CITY OF FORT COLLINS

COMMISSION ON DISABILITY

MEMORANDUM

DT: February 6, 1987

TO: The Honorable Mayor and Members of City Council

FM: Jackie Davis, Staff Liaison *jd*

RE: The 1986 Commission on Disability Annual Report

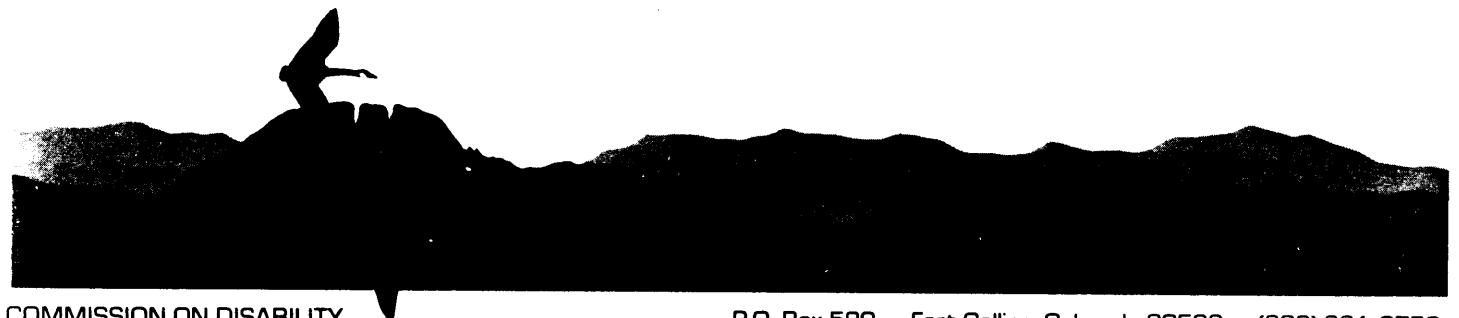
The Fort Collins Commission on Disability has had an active and successful year. Throughout the preceding year the Commission has continued in its efforts to promote awareness of and sensitivity to the handicapped members of the Fort Collins community. The Commission also continued to offer advice and guidance on handicapped issues to both the City Council and City staff.

The Architectural Barrier Removal Program and the Disabled Equipment Program are now being administered by Neighbor-to-Neighbor, Inc. and the Handicapped Information Office, respectively. This became effective October 1, 1986 due to the need for better coordination between the two programs. The Commission continues to oversee the two programs, and 5 qualified projects were completed.

Members of the Commission have also been active in several ongoing awareness efforts including reviewing public buildings for handicapped accessibility, i.e., the Lincoln Center ramp project, and the City's curb cut and ramp projects. Members have also been reviewing new building plans for handicapped accessibility on a monthly basis. Plans such as the Handicapped Fishing Pier and the Bathhouse Remodel were reviewed and approved.

The Commission continues to participate in establishing workable criteria for handicapped accessibility in new multi-family housing developments in the 5-year Handicapped Accessibility Plan. The Commission was also represented in the 1985 Uniform Building Code Review Committee in order to provide the City with modified handicapped accessibility requirements to the Uniform Building Code.

The Commission continues to offer input concerning City Hall signage, and suggested ways of solving oversights of accessibility to local businesses, such as the installation of functioning automatic door timers at the Foothills Fashion Mall.



A liaison to the Senior Board was established to obtain input on the needs of elderly people within the community, and a working relationship with Transfort was established on improving the accessibility of the city's transportation system.

A survey of the city's population was completed which determined the numbers of handicapped people who live within the city and the kinds of disabilities that occur. The survey revealed the need for more appropriate and affordable accessible housing in Fort Collins.

During CSU's Handicapped Awareness Days, the Commission helped sponsor a reception for keynote speaker Dr. Frank Bowe.

The Commission's largest awareness effort, The Annual Mayor's Awards Breakfast, was an unqualified success in 1986, with community members participating in disability simulation exercises. The simulations were videotaped and presented along with personal experiences at the Breakfast.

In general, the Commission members were very active in promoting awareness and support for disabled persons both professionally and personally.