



MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE

ASSEMBLY INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM

AIM No. _____

Meeting Date: _____

1 **From:** Trevtorrs, Chairman, Americans with Disabilities Act Commission
2

3 **Subject:** Americans with Disabilities Act Advisory Commission Annual Report
4

5 It is a great pleasure to provide the Assembly with the Americans with Disability Act Commission (ADAC)
6 annual report. After extensive research of how the ADAC could be a resource to the Municipality in 2004,
7 we forged ahead to create our first strategic plan that covered the time span of June 2005 – May 2006.
8 Due to the success we experienced this year, the ADAC has committed itself to hosting an annual retreat
9 to strategize how to better achieve our mission ..
10

11 Below is a list of achievements the ADAC has made over the past year:

- 12 • Review of the plans for the new convention center and addition to the museum to ensure the
13 needs of individuals with disabilities are met.
- 14 • Reviewed Municipality's self-evaluation report in the early 1990's regarding compliance with the
15 ADA to ensure all identified areas for improvement have been achieved.
- 16 • Increased public notice of when and where the ADAC meets to encourage community
17 involvement. Included was the creation and maintaining an interested persons list of agencies
18 that serve those with disabilities.
- 19 • Partnered with the Equal Rights Commission to host a discussion focused on public
20 transportation.
- 21 • Partnered with community organizations to host the 25th anniversary of the ADA. The partnership
22 created a video highlighting the achievements made by the Municipality regarding access for
23 individuals with disabilities.
- 24 • Provided support to the Veteran's Games.
- 25 • Explored community wide issues with municipal staff that included such topics as:
26 - Access issues related to sky bridges.
27 - Snow removal
28 - Downtown parking – meters
29

30 Enclosed is a copy of the Commission's strategic plan for the up-coming year. This year's plan is built
31 upon the success from last year. Our goal is to continue to enhance the community's awareness and
32 create opportunities for people with disabilities to participate in their community.
33

34 We look forward to working with the Municipality to continue to make our city a great place to live for
35 individuals with disabilities.
36

37 Prepared by: Kenneth Takakuwa, Manager, Human Services Division, DHHS
38 Concur: Beverly K. Wooley, Director, Department of Health and Human Services
39 Concur: Denis C. LeBlanc, Municipal Manager
40 Respectfully submitted: Mark Begich, Mayor

ADA Commission
Retreat Outcomes
Goals & Action Steps

1 The ADA Commission (ADAC) chose the following as its priority issues for June 2006-May2007:

2 I. EDUCATION & OUTREACH

3 II. TRANSPORTATION

4 III. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

5 EDUCATION & OUTREACH

6 1. Enhance the community's awareness and understanding of the Americans with Disabilities Act.
7 (Trevor: November-December)

- 8 • Create and implement a Social Marketing campaign
- 9 • Compile an annual report on successes and work to be accomplished

10 2. Increase the visibility and effectiveness of ADAC.

- 11 • Solidify Municipal and other funding to support AD AC activities.
- 12 • Create and maintain an AD AC website. (Paula & Donald)

13 3. Engage the Disability Community in ADAC's activities.

- 14 • Identify and secure the most attractive and accessible facilities in which to hold ADAC meetings.
15 (Assembly Meeting Room. Reassess in Spring)
- 16 • Survey people with disabilities and service organizations to assess needs and raise awareness
17 of AAC among the community.

18 4. Create opportunities for People with Disabilities to participate in community

- 19 • Create a promotional program that supports the inclusion of person's with disabilities.
- 20 • Increase participation of people with disabilities on commissions, boards, and governing bodies.
21 (Beth Edmands)
- 22 • Develop an accessibility checklist and training for the Municipality of Anchorage to encourage
23 and enable people with disabilities to be full participants in meetings held by the MOA. (Paula &
24 David Feb 2007)
- 25 • Engage HAVA to come to present to AD AC.

26

27 TRANSPORTATION

28 1. Enhance the disability community's awareness and understanding of, as well as involvement in
29 transportation options in the Municipality of Anchorage. (Judy, Trevor & Barbara)

- 30 • Partner with the Equal Rights Commission to hold a 2nd forum on transportation issues
31 related to disabilities.
- 32 • Highlight Municipal success in transportation. (Complete)

33 2. Advocate for continued improvement of existing transportation options, as well as supporting new
34 alternatives to better meet the needs of those with disabilities.

- 35 • Engage the departments of Public Works; Properties, Facilities, and Fleet Maintenance; Traffic;
36 Parks & Recreation; and the State of Alaska to address and improve issues related to pedestrian
37 access.

38 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

39 1. Increase ADAC's understanding and involvement in issues related to capital improvements that
40 could enhance the lives of those with disabilities.

ADA Commission
Retreat Outcomes
Goals & Action Steps

- 41 • Engage the teams working on existing Capital Projects, especially during the design phase, to
- 42 take into consideration the needs of those with disabilities.

- 43 • Advocate for Capital Projects that will enhance the quality of life of people with disabilities, as
- 44 well as promote overall inclusion.