

City of Columbia, Missouri

*701 E. Broadway
Columbia, Missouri*



Meeting Minutes - Final

Thursday, January 8, 2026

3:00 PM

Regular

City Hall

Council Chambers

701 East Broadway

Columbia, Missouri

Disabilities Commission

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ann Marie Gortmaker called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

(John Bowders, Hazel Fields, Koda Inman-Ahlstrom, Richard Perkins, Ken Rice appeared virtually)

Staff Present: Adam Kruse, Cody Moore

No members of the public appeared in person. No members of the public appeared virtually.

II. INTRODUCTIONS

Statement by Chair on Virtual Participation

Ann Marie Gortmaker makes a statement on virtual participation and reminds members to keep their cameras on and to speak in to the microphone.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commission discussed the agenda.

Alexis Simmerman made a motion to approve the agenda. Marlee Walz seconded the motion. All in favor; motion approved.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

DRAFT December 11, 2025 Disabilities Commission Meeting Minutes

Commission discussed the December minutes. The Commission wished to amend the minutes to correct the misspelling of "Joseph" in New Business under the portion on Missouri Commission on Human Rights Training, and to correct the roman numerals for the sections which are incorrect.

Alexis Simmerman made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Ken Rice seconded the motion. All in favor; motion approved.

V. SPECIAL ITEMS

Cody Moore, Graphic Artist in the City's Communication Division, to talk to the Commission about draft logos for the DawnZ Award

Cody Moore presented three draft logos for the Dawn Z Business Accessibility Award. The Commission discussed the three logos. Commission members provided feedback that the logos looked good and one idea might be to combine two drafts, in particular the one with the modern international accessibility symbol and the draft with the pedestrian safety flag. Cody Moore said that she would work on a new draft logo with that feedback in mind.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

Update on the Missouri Commission on Human Rights (MCHR) Training with the Columbia Human Rights Commission

Adam Kruse and Joseph Facticeau provided an update. This is a proposed outreach event to bring MCHR to Columbia and provide an educational event on accessibility and disability etiquette that is open to anyone in the public. The event is expected to take place in March or April.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

Commission's Annual Report to City Council - Review & Discuss Draft of 2025 Activities

Ann Marie Gortmaker and John Bowders discuss a draft document for the Commission to send to City Council as an annual report. The Commission discussed the proposed annual report.

John Bowders made a motion to send the annual report to City Council. Richard Perkins seconded the motion. All in favor; motion approved.

2026 Draft Speaker Schedule for Commission Meetings - updated January 2026

The Commission discussed the proposed speaker schedule for the Commission for the 2026 calendar year, including the update. The Commission discussed having Parks & Recreation Department attend in February and to present along with Koda Inman-Ahlstrom with DASA. The Commission also discussed for March, the current plan is to have the Director of the City Airport attend as well as someone from Services for Independent Living.

VIII. REPORTS

Future Agenda Items

No further report.

Chair

No report.

Staff Report

Adam Kruse provided an update that there will not be any increases to Board or Commission Budgets for the next fiscal. Adam Kruse provides an update on the proposed pedestrian safety ordinance and that it is scheduled for public comment and vote at the first Council meeting in February.

MU Committee on Persons with Disabilities

No report.

Safe Streets for All Working Group

John Bowders says that this board can be referred to as Vision Zero, Safe Streets or CoMo to Zero. John Bowders talks about some of the statistics

from last year including that fatalities, crashes and significant injuries from automobiles were all down in 2025 compared to 2024. John Bowders also spoke about the Pedestrian Comfort Level Map which is expected to be out in May or June. And that the Bicycle Pedestrian Commission is expected to have three openings in June. John Bowders talked about an upcoming webinar called "Killed by a Traffic Engineer" and discusses how people can register.

Airport Steering Committee

John Bowders says that this board can be referred to as Vision Zero, Safe Streets or CoMo to Zero. John Bowders talks about some of the statistics from last year including that fatalities, crashes and significant injuries from automobiles were all down in 2025 compared to 2024. John Bowders also spoke about the Pedestrian Comfort Level Map which is expected to be out in May or June. And that the Bicycle Pedestrian Commission is expected to have three openings in June. John Bowders talked about an upcoming webinar called "Killed by a Traffic Engineer" and discusses how people can register.

IX. GENERAL COMMENTS BY PUBLIC, MEMBERS AND STAFF

Alexis Simmerman commented that Alexis will have to miss the February meeting.

Ann Marie Gortmaker commented on interest in the upcoming webinar that John Bowders talked about and also commented on the great opportunity available for the upcoming vacancies on the Bicycle Pedestrian Commission.

Cathy Dolles commented that Cathy is on the Mayor's Council on Physical Fitness and Health, and there is an upcoming Wellness Fair on February 28, 2026.

X. NEXT MEETING DATE: February 12, 2026

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Alexis Simmerman made a motion to adjourn. Rene Powell seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 4:06 p.m.