

City of Joliet

150 West Jefferson Street
Joliet, IL 60432



Meeting Minutes - Pending Approval

Tuesday, April 15, 2025

1:30 PM

City Hall, Council Chambers

Committee on Citizens with Disabilities

Committee Members

Anthony Arellano

Pam Heavens

Billie Jo Adams

Kim Hudgens

John Jamontas

Gary Jones

Veronica Pollard

Riley Spreadbury

Sherry Voight

Steven Voight

Citizens who are unable to attend the meeting can email comments in advance of the meeting to publiccomment@joliet.gov.

ROLL CALL

Present	Billy Jo Adams, Chairperson Anthony Arellano, Pam Heavens, Kim Hudgens, Gary Jones, Riley Spreadbury, Sherry Voight, Steven Voight and John Jamontas
Absent	Veronica Pollard

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

None

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD ON AGENDA ITEMS

This section is for anyone wanting to speak regarding agenda items and are allowed a maximum of 4 minutes. It is not a question and answer period and staff, and the Committee members do not generally respond to public comments. The City Clerk has a copy of the public speaking procedures; please note, speakers who engage in conduct injurious to the harmony of the meeting shall be called to order by the Presiding Officer and may forfeit the opportunity to speak.

NEW OR OLD BUSINESS, NOT FOR FINAL ACTION OR RECOMMENDATION

Discussion: Transportation - Elizabeth Gonzalez with PACE Bus Service will speak about Disability informed transportation; Routes, Safety, and Reliability.

[TMP-8461](#)

Elizabeth Gonzalez discusses the services that PACE offers for the ADA Para-transit and Dial a Ride Program. Other services include RTA Reduced fare card for disabled individuals or 65 and older, and Free Ride Passes. Applications are available for these passes through Illinois Benefit Access Program at illinois.gov. New PACE routes can be viewed on the Ventra or CTA Transit App.

Discussion: Federal Changes to ADA Compliance Measures

[TMP-8462](#)

The Committee discusses the removal of 11 pieces of guidelines to the Americans with Disabilities Act, effecting ADA related guidance to local businesses and hotels. The guidance removed can be viewed at the Department of Justice website at:

<https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-announces-actions-combat-cost-living-crisis-including-rescinding-11#:~:text=The%20Justice%20Department%20today%20announced,guidance%20to%20streamline%20Americans%20with>

Discussion: Disability Hiring/Employment Advocacy within local Agencies

[TMP-8463](#)

The Committee has a discussion around advocating and overcoming stereotypes for hiring of persons with disabilities within the local community.

Discussion: July Disability Fair Updates

[TMP-8464](#)

The Disability Pride Fair is scheduled to take place Saturday July 26th at Bicentennial Park 11am to 4pm to commemorate the Americans with Disabilities Act. Service providers, additional resources, and inclusive activities/music will be available.

Discussion: Communications Department Pamphlet Update

[TMP-8465](#)

Attachments: [Citizens with Disabilities Brochure v3.pdf](#)

A brochure has been drafted by the City's Communications Department to include the Committee's achievements and mission statement. This draft will be reviewed by the Committee further for more input.

PUBLIC COMMENT

This section is for anyone wanting to speak regarding non-agenda items and are allowed a maximum of 4 minutes. It is not a question and answer period and staff, and the Committee members do not generally respond to public comments. The City Clerk has a copy of the public speaking procedures; please note, speakers who engage in conduct injurious to the harmony of the meeting shall be called to order by the Presiding Officer and may forfeit the opportunity to speak.

None.

ADJOURNMENT

This meeting will be held in an accessible location. If you need a reasonable accommodation, please contact The City Clerk Office, 150 West Jefferson Street, Joliet, Illinois 60432 at (815) 724-3780.

This was approved