

From: [Collin Thoma](#)
To: [City Council Public Comments](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment Agenda Item 3.2
Date: Monday, August 2, 2021 4:49:02 PM

Dear whom ever this concerns,

Here is my public comment item on Agenda Item 3.2

Hello my name is Colin Thoma I am the systems change advocate with Disability Services and Legal Center (DSLCL). A priority needs to be evaluating how the city communicates during an emergency/natural disaster, its evacuation plan/procedure and, how it will provide assistance. This is important as people with disabilities can become very vulnerable during an emergency/natural disaster. The city should take a look at past emergencies like the 2017 firestorm to see if there are any areas that can be improved on for future emergencies. When rebuilding damaged infrastructure, buildings and, homes destroyed by the various fires the city should try and make these structures ADA accessible. The city should also consider how COVID-19 affected the city's services/facilities and improve on areas that need it. Any services/programs that were implanted during or due to COVID-19 that benefited those with disabilities should be continued. While conducting the elevation the Sant Rosa Forward Plan should be kept in mind. Attention should be paid to bus stops accessibility and usability by those who have limited to no mobility. Para transit should also be evaluated to identify area of improvement and to see if service should be expanded. Projects like the Howarth and Galvin Park improvements should be continued if this is not already the case. While evaluating parks and open space the city should consider how accessible amenities such a play structure and others are. For sidewalks ones that have cracks and bumps should be repaired as soon as possible for existing and any future cracks/bumps. Crosswalks/pedestrian signals should be able to alert the person through audio and touch ques when it is safe to cross. There should also be enough time to allow for someone who has mobility issues to cross safely. To improve access to public areas and building's there should be an adequate amount of handicap spaces that provide easiest access. The city should also examine it's website to make it easier to find the accessibility features to help with navigation of the site. Finally, I would like to see the city look into see if there are any additional sources of funding to help complete ADA projects. I would also like to see these projects become a higher priority.

Thank You!

Sincerely,
Collin Thoma
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