

Transportation Resiliency, Accessibility and Climate Sustainability (TRACS) Workshop for Transportation Professionals



WORLD INSTITUTE ON DISABILITY
AND
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

SUPPORTED BY
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ENSURING ACCESS IS EVERYONE'S JOB
Workshop for Transportation Professionals

FEB 3, 2021

Agenda for TRACS Transportation Professionals

- Welcome, Quick Introductions
- Brief Review of TRACS project
- Workshop Goals
- Disability Awareness & Concepts
- Speakers
- Recommendations
- Commitment to Accessibility



TRACS Mission and Realm



- TRACS is a 2.5-year research, policy analysis and public education initiative to improve collaboration between transportation agencies and people with disabilities in the 9-county San Francisco Bay Area (Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Solano, Sonoma)
- Funded through “Sustainable Communities” focus of Caltrans SB1 Grant program.
- Thank you to Caltrans for your commitment to accessibility.

Briefly, Achievements of TRACS



- Creation and participation of our Policy Advisory Board
- Completion of our research & documents
- Community workshops & events over two years
- Final workshops and dissemination of resources

Workshop Goals



- Final workshop, focusing on Disability Inclusion Concepts
- Send you off with perspectives and ideas for improving accessibility
- Our slogan is, “Ensuring access is everyone’s job.”
- Solicit commitments from you to make contact with disability organizations for a sustained relationship that will help improve accessibility in your work

Let's Set the Stage



“ACCESSIBILITY MUST BE CONSIDERED AT THE FOREFRONT OF ALL POLICY DEVELOPMENT RATHER THAN TREATING IT LIKE AN AFTERTHOUGHT OR A BOX CHECKING EXERCISE. WE REALLY NEED STRONG LEADERSHIP FROM YOU.”

**- SENATOR TAMMY DUCKWORTH, JANUARY 21, 2021
(CONFIRMATION HEARING OF PETE BUTTIGIEG FOR THE SECRETARY OF
TRANSPORTATION)**

Disability Awareness Basics



- “Don’t ask, don’t stare” may seem polite but keeps us uninformed. If you need information, respectfully ask. If you are just curious, don’t, unless you are friends.
- Staying away out of fear (you might “say something wrong!”) IS discrimination, prevents connection, adds to isolation.
- People with disabilities have full lives. Their impairments aren’t the main focus or the hardest thing in life.

Disability Awareness Basics (cont.)



- The “Medical Model” of disability locates the “problem of disability” in the individual’s body. The “Social Model” locates problems in discriminatory attitudes and policies, and barriers in the environment.
- “Nothing About Us Without Us,” our slogan, challenges assumptions that “others know best.” People with disabilities are experts in access and accommodations.
- People with “hidden” or “invisible” disabilities (90% of our population, e.g. arthritis, hearing impairment, cancer) are equally entitled to accommodations with wheelchair users or blind people.

Universal Design Concepts



1. Equitable Use
2. Flexibility in Use
3. Simple and Intuitive Use
4. Perceptible Information
5. Tolerance for Error
6. Low Physical Effort
7. Size and Space for Approach and Use

Our goal is to fully implement these in transportation design and operation.

Ensuring Access for the Future



Inclusive practice is **REQUIRED** by law

But how do we make community and advisory board input more impactful?



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Speaker Presentations



- Annette Williams, Accessible Services Director, SFMTA
- Ernest Rogers, Chair, Solano County Paratransit Coordinating Council
- Susan Rotchy, Executive Director, Independent Living Resources of Solano & Contra Costa Counties
- Q&A

Recommendations for Transportation Agencies



- Internship programs
- Foster relationships with “go to” organizations in your county
- Pay organizations for community input
- Participate in county and regional emergency planning
- Include *disability and access* into equity frameworks in addition to race, ethnicity, sex, etc.

Don't Be Afraid of Commitment



Commit today:

- Establish relationships with the Disability Community
- Accept that ensuring access is our job



Thanks for your participation and
commitment!



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