

LARIMER COUNTY | EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION ADVISORY BOARD

P. O. Box 1190, Fort Collins, Colorado 80522-1190, 970.498.7010 www.larimer.gov/bocc

Date: Wednesday, January 24, 2024

Time: 5:30 PM

Location: Hybrid | In-Person: Carter Lake Conference Room, Larimer County Administrative Services, 200 West Oak Street, Fort Collins, CO 80521; Online: Please register in advance for this webinar: https://larimer-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_JmTXrU6VQlaADVl1QE5hzQ

EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

Call To Order

Vice Chair MacWaters call the meeting to order at 5:32pm.

Members present: Lynne Adame, Laura MacWaters, Hillel Katzir, Fred Garcia, Jaxen Manor, Karina Ledezma (virtual), Vishvesh Singh (virtual), Daysi Sweaney, Luis Montalvo

Staff present: Laurie Kadrich, Assistant County Manager, Lesli Ellis, Director, Community Planning, Infrastructure & Resources, Danielle Reimanis, Mark Pfaffinger, Chief Information Officer, Melissa Farr, Senior Administrative Specialist

Discussion Items

1. Icebreaker

Board members and County staff answered the question: What was your birth order and how did it impact your life?

2. [Accessibility Laws](#) – Mark Pfaffinger, Chief Information Officer

Description of the laws and the County's approach to compliance Officer

House Bill 21 – 1110 makes it a state civil rights violation for a government agency to exclude people with disabilities from receiving services or benefits because of the lack of accessibility. All state agencies and local governments must be compliant with state standards by July 1, 2024. The law and standard are based on the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2, that the state is following to set the standards. These guidelines are organized under 4 principles: perceivable, operable, understandable, and robust. The standards range from colors, font size to recommendations on language. Most is based on visible access and accessible use of systems. This relates to all technology, software and hardware that are public and internal facing.

Senate Bill 23-244 helps to clear up any ambiguity within HB21 – 1110 by requiring the Office of Information Technology (OIT) to adopt rules and standards for IT systems. Ensuring there is accessibility for all types of disabilities by allowing reasonable accommodations to be made to avoid fines. This will also help clarify how violations are handled. Archival information could be exempt from the law.

The steps that Larimer County is taking to fall into compliance:

- Develop and inventory of technology touchpoints
- Actively remediating county website
- Developing a plan to prioritize work to achieve compliance
- Monitoring and participating in the OIT Rules Making process
- Regional Accessibility Workgroup meetings
- Developing a Larimer County Accessibility Plan

3. Water Master Plan – Danielle Reimanis, Planner

Overview

Lesli Ellis stated that this master plan is a work in progress. The Community Planning, Infrastructure and Resources Department is reaching out to the ED&I Board for feedback and perspectives on language to be inclusive.

The steps being taken:

- Stakeholder Engagement – made up of Water & Technical Advisory Groups, County Core Team and other interested parties.
- Data-Driven Approach (current step) - identifying spatial data sets and relevant plans.
- Mapping and Analysis – Identify high -risk watersheds based on defined criteria.
- Mitigation Strategies – what can be done to lessen the risks and vulnerabilities to these watersheds
- Draft Water Master Plan – voted on by the Board of County Commissioners and ratified by the Planning Commission

Draft Vision: Larimer County, guided by a commitment to stewardship, is dedicated to safeguarding local and regional water systems, aligning future land use with available water resources, and helping to build resilient communities and ecosystems equipped to address future water challenges.

Draft Goal (high level):

- Minimize the Threat of Natural Hazards
- Communicate and Collaborate to Support Water Sustainability
- Promote Water Literacy in Our Community
- Address Water Supply and Demand Dynamics
- Enhance Water Efficiency and Conservation Measures

Risk Categories:

Modeled using spatial data

- Reduced water supply and increased water demand
- Watershed/natural hazards
- Water rights
- Infrastructure risks or limitations

Incorporated following mapping

- Lack of water conservation policies or measures
- Lack of water education

ED&I Board Feedback/Questions:

Adame suggested reaching out to the 10 Tribes Partnership for their ideas and feedback on the Water Plan. The board expressed concern about the cost, quality, and availability of water in low-income communities. Could the plan include a list of water literacy and educational resources along with local advocates to help those who are experiencing water issues. Manor suggested reaching out to the CSU Sustainable Watershed Department.

Due to time constraints, the remaining agenda items, Work Plan Assignments and Commissioner Policy Review will be tabled to the February meeting.

Montalvo moved to table the remaining items to the next meeting, Garcia seconded and all approved.

Approval of Minutes

1. Draft minutes from December 20, 2023

Garcia moved to approve the minutes, Montalvo seconded and all approved.

Adjourn

Chair Adame adjourned the meeting at 7:31pm.

Per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Larimer County will provide a reasonable accommodation to qualified individuals with a disability who need assistance. Services can be arranged with at least seven (7) business days' notice. Please email us at bcc-admin@larimer.org, or call (970) 498-7010 or Relay Colorado 711. "Walk-in" requests for auxiliary aids and services will be honored to the extent possible but may be unavailable if advance notice is not provided.