

Agenda Item: 4.a

Meeting Date: June 29, 2021

MEMORANDUM

To: City Commission

Date: 2021-06-04

From: Terri Kearnes

Subject: Disability Advisory Committee Request to launch a Public Survey

Presenter(s): Susan John; Dr. Sara Green

Recommend: Staff recommends Commission approval to launch survey

Epic Goal(s): Epic Goal # 5: Enhance community relationship strategies that strengthen inclusiveness, respect, transparency and collaborative engagement.

Boards & Committees: Disability Advisory Committee

Budget Impact: N/A

Past Action: N/A

Next Action: N/A

Attachments: [A. Disability-Friendly Dunedin Survey-Class Pre-test \(2\).pdf](#),

Background: Goal: Designing a Disability Friendly Dunedin.

In 2019, the Dunedin Disability Advisory Committee (DAC) and Dr. Sara Green, Professor of Sociology at the University of South Florida, collaborated on a project designed to help the city improve access and inclusion for people with disabilities and their caregivers who live, work, or visit Dunedin.

In the summer of 2019, Committee members reviewed the disability-related

data from the Dunedin: Shaping our Future Together survey (previously conducted by Dr. Green and the Dunedin Committee on Aging). They then consulted with City staff and local disability-related organizations including Caring and Sharing Center for Independent Living and the Pinellas County Council for Persons with Disabilities to design the overall project.

In the fall of 2019, advanced undergraduate students enrolled in Dr. Green's senior seminar took this project on as an undergraduate community engaged research project. Students consulted with Dunedin Disability Advisory Committee members about the overall goals of the project and worked with Dr. Green to review existing social scientific literature. They then assisted in the development of a draft online survey that will provide detailed information on ways to improve inclusion and participation in community life for people with disabilities and their care givers. Committee members pre-tested and edited the draft survey; collaborated in the design of recruitment flyers; and planned the process for distributing a link to the online survey through their contacts in the disability community.

The project has been reviewed and approved by the USF Institutional Review Board for ethical research with human subjects; the survey was also reviewed by the City's ADA Coordinator and DAC Liaison, HR/Risk Manager Terri Kearnes and City Manager Jennifer Bramley. The survey was originally anticipated to be launched the end of February 2020; however, was delayed due to the pandemic. The DAC requests Commission approval to launch the survey, and for the survey link to be advertised and published on the City's website.