

July 19, 2006

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Disability Advisory Committee

The Disability Advisory Committee met on July 18, 2006 at the Cowlitz County Administration Building. The participants at the meeting are listed at **TAB A**. The meeting agenda is at **TAB B**.

All participants were impressed with the autoMARK. They thought people would use it if it was available and they knew about it. There was quite a bit of discussion on how to “market” the autoMARK and make the targeted audience aware of it. The ideas discussed included:

- Ad or spot on KLTV
- Ad on Radio
- Notice to Agencies
- Notice at Libraries, Post Offices, etc.
- Letter to the Editor
- Attendance and presentation at Community Services Coordination Council Meeting, which meets at the CAP Office on the third Thursday of each month
- Presentation at various other meetings, e.g., Lower Columbia Council of the Blind
- Contact the United Way
- Agency field trips to the Elections Office

Other discussion was on the potential use of a “mobile autoMARK” or on placing an autoMARK at various locations in the County. The mobile autoMARK, for example, could be transported to Woodland on one day of the week, Kalama on another day, and Castle Rock on another day. Or, an autoMARK could be located for a longer term at key locations. There was some concern on the cost of these approaches and whether there would be sufficient use. Everyone agreed that marketing and making the targeted audience aware of the autoMARK was extremely important. The group agreed to focus on marketing the autoMARK in the near term and making an autoMARK available at the County Administration Building for the primary election on September 19. During that time, we would monitor use and decide on how the autoMARK could be used in future elections.

Other observations/comments made at the meeting were:

- The door knobs in the Administration Building are not handicapped accessible. [With the relocation of the elections office, that problem should be resolved]
- The instructions on the autoMARK might be too complex for those that are developmentally disabled. [Will monitor during use for the Primary Election]

- It is important to include people with disabilities and make them a part of the community. [Marketing the autoMARK and making the autoMARK available will help accomplish this]
- There are many “Agencies” in the County and they could help make the targeted audience aware of the autoMARK. [There is a book that lists all agencies that would be useful in our marketing campaign]
- 90% of visually impaired cannot read Braille

The attendees agreed that we would take the following actions:

- 1- Sunnie will provide the Elections Office a book that lists the Agencies in the area
- 2- The Elections Office will prepare a flyer or information package on the autoMARK [Attendees will be given an opportunity to provide input]
- 3- The Elections Office will send the flyer/package to the Agencies, libraries, post offices, schools, and other locations in the county
- 4- The Elections Office will prepare a Press Release on the autoMARK for the media
- 5- All attendees will identify opportunities for marketing and presentations on the autoMARK at their meetings or other venues and notify the Elections Office
- 6- Sunnie will prepare a Letter to the Editor

The attendees expressed an interest in continuing the dialogue and meeting again when appropriate. We agreed to take the actions identified above and determine when a follow on meeting should be scheduled.

The minutes of this meeting will be sent to all attendees. The minutes will also be sent to other invitees that were not able to attend. They include the LCC ADA Coordinator (Sherri Fittro), Residential Resources (Wendy Keegan), Lower Columbia Council of the Blind (Ginger McCallum), and the Washington Protection and Advocacy System (David Lord). Please pass on the minutes to others that have an interest.

**DISABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**July 18, 2006**

**SIGN IN SHEET**

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