

City of Fort Worth

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Compliance Plan



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Expect More. Experience Better.

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Abbreviations

ADA – Americans with Disabilities Act

ADAAG – Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines

CFR – Code of Federal Regulations

CIP – Capital Improvement Projects

DBE – Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program

DOJ – United States Department of Justice

DOT – United States Department of Transportation

FHWA – Federal Highway Administration

MCPD – Mayor’s Committee on Persons with Disabilities

MUTCD – Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices

PARD – Park & Recreation Department

PMD – Property Management Department

PROWAG – 2023 Public Rights-of-Way Accessibility Guidelines Final Rule

PSA – Programs, Services, and Activities

RAS – Registered Accessibility Specialist

TAC – Texas Administrative Code

TDLR – Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

TxDOT – Texas Department of Transportation

TMUTCD – Texas Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices

TPW – Transportation & Public Works Department

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Purpose

The purpose of this Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Compliance Plan is to summarize the activities completed to date related to ADA compliance and to create a roadmap for the City of Fort Worth to complete a Self-Evaluation and develop an ADA Transition Plan.

In an effort to provide the most accurate information, this document includes language directly from official sources, including, but not limited to, U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) Civil Rights Division (<https://www.ada.gov>), National ADA Network (<https://adata.org>), U.S. Access Board (<https://www.access-board.gov>), and the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR) (<https://tdlr.texas.gov>).

1.2 Legislative Mandate

The ADA is a comprehensive civil rights law prohibiting discrimination on the basis of a disability. The purpose of the law is to make sure that people with disabilities have the same right and opportunities as everyone else. The ADA protects the rights of individuals with disabilities in employment, access to state and local government services, places of public accommodation, transportation, and other important areas of life. The ADA also requires newly designed and constructed or altered state and local government facilities, public accommodations, and commercial facilities to be readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities. The ADA consists of five titles:

- Title I: Employment
- Title II: State and Local Government
- Title III: Public Accommodations
- Title IV: Telecommunications
- Title V: Miscellaneous Provisions

The City of Fort Worth is obligated to observe all requirements of Title I in its employment practices; Title II in its programs, services, and activities; and any parts of Titles IV and V that apply to the City and its programs, services, and activities.

1.3 Title II Requirements

Title II has the broadest impact on the City and is published in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at 28 CFR part 35. Per §35.130 (General provisions against discrimination), no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of a disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the City's programs, services, or activities or be subjected to discrimination by the City.

Title II includes administrative requirements for all government entities employing more than 50 people. These administrative requirements are:

- **§35.105 Self-Evaluation**
 - Evaluate current services, policies, and practices.
 - Modify non-compliant services, policies, and practices.
 - Provide an opportunity for interested persons to participate in the self-evaluation process by submitting comments.
 - For at least 3 years following the self-evaluation, maintain on file and make available for public inspection: 1) list of intersected persons consulted; 2) description of areas examined and any problems identified; description of any modifications made.

- **§35.106 Notice**
 - Provide notice to the public about the City's obligations under the ADA and its applicability to the City's programs, services, or activities.
- **§35.107 Designation of Responsible Employee and Adoption of Grievance Procedures**
 - Designate at least one employee to coordinate City efforts to comply with and carry out its responsibilities (commonly called the ADA Coordinator).
 - Provide the name, office address, and telephone number of the ADA Coordinator to the public.
 - Investigate any complaint communicated to the City alleging noncompliance or alleging any actions that would be prohibited by the ADA.
 - Adopt and publish grievance procedures providing for prompt and equitable resolution of complaints alleging noncompliance or alleging any actions that would be prohibited by the ADA.
- **§35.150(d) Existing Facilities, Transition Plan**
 - Develop a transition plan setting forth the steps necessary to complete structural changes to achieve program accessibility.
 - Identify physical obstacles in City facilities that limit the accessibility of City programs or activities to individuals with disabilities.
 - Describe in detail the methods that will be used to make facilities accessible.
 - Specify the schedule for taking steps necessary to achieve compliance for each year of the transition period.
 - Indicate the official responsible for implementation of the plan.
 - Include a schedule for providing curb ramps or other sloped areas where pedestrian walks cross curbs.
 - Provide an opportunity for interested persons to participate in developing the transition plan by submitting comments. A copy of the transition plan shall be made available for public inspection.

1.4 New Construction and Alterations

If the start date for construction is on or after March 15, 2012, all newly constructed or altered state and local government facilities must comply with the 2010 ADA Standards. Before that date, the 1991 Standards (without the elevator exemption), the Uniform Federal Accessibility Guidelines, or the 2010 ADA Standards may be used for such projects when the start of construction commences on or after September 15, 2010.

The most recent standard is the 2010 ADA Standards, which sets the minimum requirements – both scoping and technical – for newly designed and constructed or altered state and local government facilities, public accommodations, and commercial facilities to be readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities. It is effectuated from 28 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 35.151 and the 2004 Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG). However, the FHWA and DOJ recommend using PROWAG for designing facilities within the public rights-of-way as a best practice until it is adopted at the federal level.

Additionally, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has adopted PROWAG and incorporated the guidelines into design standards for pedestrian facilities. It is recommended that the City of Fort Worth adopt PROWAG to become an enforceable document for all City projects within the public rights-of-way, regardless of its adoption status at the state and federal level.

2010 ADA Standards

The Department of Justice's revised regulations for Titles II and III of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) were published in the Federal Register on September 15, 2010. These regulations adopted revised, enforceable accessibility standards called the 2010 ADA Standards. On March 15, 2012, compliance with the 2010 ADA Standards was required for new construction and alterations under Titles II and III. March 15, 2012 is also the compliance date for using the 2010 ADA Standards for program accessibility and barrier removal.

Public Rights-of-Way Accessibility Guidelines (PROWAG)

The U.S. Access Board recently published new guidelines under the ADA and the Architectural Barriers Act (ABA) that address access to sidewalks and streets, crosswalks, curb ramps, pedestrian signals, on-street parking, and other components of public rights-of-way. These guidelines also review shared use paths primarily for use by bicyclists and pedestrians for transportation and recreation purposes. The Accessibility Guidelines for Pedestrian Facilities in the Public Rights-of-Way (PROWAG) provide minimum guidelines for the accessibility of pedestrian facilities in the public rights-of-way. When these guidelines are adopted, with or without modifications, as accessibility standards in regulations issued by other federal agencies implementing the ADA, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, and the ABA, compliance with those enforceable accessibility standards is mandatory. The final rule was published on August 8, 2023, and became effective on September 7, 2023. PROWAG is the recommended best practice and can be considered the state of the practice that could be followed for areas not fully addressed by the 2010 ADA Standards.

In the state of Texas, the Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Chapter 68 (Elimination of Architectural Barriers), Rule §68.102 (Public Right-of-Ways Projects) references compliance with the latest version of PROWAG for the elimination of barriers for public rights-of-way projects. The Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR) adopted Rule §68.102, effective May 15, 2017. The applicable section of the rule states:

- (a) For public right-of-way projects, in addition to accepting compliance with applicable TAS requirements, the department will also accept compliance with the Proposed Accessibility Guidelines for Pedestrian Facilities in the Public Right-of-Way, published by the Architectural and Transportation Compliance Board (Access Board) on July 26, 2011, 36 CFR Part 1190 or its final adopted guidelines.*

Until the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) and DOJ adopt accessibility standards for pedestrian facilities in the public right-of-way, public entities have some degree of flexibility in determining how they will comply with the general obligation under Title II of the ADA (to operate each service, program, or activity so that it is "readily accessible and useable by" individuals with disabilities). Public entities are not required to adopt the Final PROWAG at this time but may turn to different resources for guidance (e.g., Final PROWAG, DOJ's 2010 ADA Standards for buildings and site, and other accessibility resources). However, it is recommended that the City of Fort Worth adopt PROWAG to become an enforceable document for all City projects within the public rights-of-way, regardless of PROWAG's adoption status at the state and federal level. When DOT undertakes its own rulemaking to adopt PROWAG as enforceable standards, DOT will determine how to ensure that there is no "conflict" within its own regulations (i.e., no inconsistencies between the adopted public rights-of-way accessibility standards and the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways (MUTCD).

Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)

The MUTCD defines the standards road managers use nationwide to install and maintain traffic control devices on all streets, highways, pedestrian and bicycle facilities, and site roadways open to public travel. The MUTCD is published by the FHWA under 23 CFR, Part 655, Subpart F and is a compilation of national standards for all traffic control devices, including road markings, highway signs, and traffic signals. It is updated periodically to accommodate the nation's changing transportation needs and address new safety technologies, traffic control tools, and traffic management techniques. On December 19, 2023, a Final Rule adopting the 11th Edition of the MUTCD was published in the Federal Register, effective January 18, 2024.

The current version of the Texas Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (TMUTCD) is Revision 2 of the 2011 TMUTCD, which became effective on October 9, 2014, and remains effective until the Texas Transportation Commission adopts a new TMUTCD into Texas law. A new version of the TMUTCD is being revised based upon the new federal MUTCD and Texas State laws. Texas has two years from the federal MUTCD effective date to adopt the new TMUTCD.

2013 Outdoor Developed Areas Guidelines

The Access Board is responsible for developing accessibility guidelines for the construction and alteration of facilities covered by the ADA and the Architectural Barriers Act (ABA) of 1968, which include outdoor developed areas. The Outdoor Developed Areas guidelines ensure that the facilities are readily accessible to and usable by people with disabilities. The Access Board issued the current guidelines in 2004. The 2004 guidelines contain provisions for several types of recreation facilities, including boating facilities, fishing piers and platforms, golf facilities, play areas, sports facilities, and swimming pools. The Access Board amended the 2004 guidelines in 2013 by adding new provisions for trails, picnic and camping facilities, viewing areas, and beach access routes constructed or altered by federal agencies or by non-federal entities on federal land on behalf of a federal agency pursuant to a concession contract, partnership agreement, or similar arrangement.

The new provisions for trails, picnic and camping facilities, viewing areas, and beach access routes are not included in the DOJ's 2010 ADA Standards and have no legal effect on state and local governments and private entities subject to the DOJ's ADA regulations. However, state and local governments and private entities may use the provisions for guidance when designing trails, picnic and camping facilities, viewing areas, and beach access routes. State and local governments and private entities are cautioned to check with DOJ about using the technical requirements for outdoor recreation access routes, instead of accessible routes, to connect elements at picnic and camping facilities, viewing areas, and trailheads.

1.5 Exceptions and Exemptions

Per 28 CFR Part 35 §35.150 (Existing facilities) and §35.139 (Direct threat), the City is required to operate each service, program, or activity so that the service, program, or activity, when viewed in its entirety, is readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities. However, this section does not:

- (i) **Necessarily require the City to make each of its existing facilities accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities.**

The City may choose to alter existing facilities and/or construct new facilities to meet the accessibility requirements of §35.150, but the City is not required to make structural changes in existing facilities where other methods are effective in achieving compliance. In choosing among the available methods for meeting the requirements of §35.150, the City shall give priority to those methods that offer services, programs, and activities to qualified individual with disabilities in the most integrated setting appropriate.

- (ii) **Require the City to take any action that it can demonstrate would result in a fundamental alteration in the nature of a service, program, or activity or result in undue financial and administrative burdens.**

According to the DOJ, an undue burden means a significant difficulty or expense. Whether something is a significant difficulty or expense will vary from agency to agency and may vary from year to year.

The City has the burden of proving that compliance would result in such alteration or burdens. The decision that compliance would result in such alteration or burdens must be made by the head of the City or his or her designee after considering all resources available for use in the funding and operation of the service, program, or activity and must be accompanied by a written statement of the reasons for reaching that conclusion. If an action required to comply would result in such an alteration or such burdens, the City shall take any other action that would not result in such an alteration or such burdens but would nevertheless ensure that, to the maximum extent possible, individuals with disabilities receive the benefits or services provided by the City.

- (iii) **Require the City to take any action that would threaten or destroy the historic significance of a historic property.**

In determining whether an alteration would threaten or destroy the historic significance of a historic property, the City should first confirm if the property is (or is qualified to be) on the National Register of Historic Places. The City may consider the assistance of the Historic and Cultural Landmarks Commission. The Commission has several duties including increasing public awareness of the value of the historic, cultural, architectural and archeological preservation; conducting ongoing surveys to identify and list significant historical, cultural, architectural and archeological resources; and holding hearings and recommending to the City Council that certain structures and property be designated as Historic Structures.

In meeting the requirements of § 35.150 in historic preservation programs, the City shall prioritize methods that provide physical access to individuals with disabilities. In cases where a physical alteration to a historic property is not required because it would: 1) threaten or destroy the historic significance of a historic property, 2) fundamentally alter the nature of a service, program, or activity; or 3) create undue financial or administrative burdens, alternative methods of achieving program accessibility include:

- Using audio-visual materials and devices to depict those portions of an historic property that cannot otherwise be made accessible;
- Assigning persons to guide individuals with handicaps into or through portions of historic properties that cannot otherwise be made accessible; or
- Adopting other innovative methods.

- (iv) **Require the City to permit an individual to participate in or benefit from the services, programs, or activities of the City when that individual poses a direct threat to the health and safety of others.**

In determining whether an individual poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others, the City must make an individualized assessment based on reasonable judgment that relies on current medical knowledge or on the best available objective evidence, to ascertain: the nature, duration, and severity of the risk; the probability that the potential injury will occur; and whether reasonable modifications of policies, practices, or procedures or the provision of auxiliary aids or services will mitigate the risk.

2.0 Community Engagement

2.1 Mayor's Committee on Persons with Disabilities (MCPD)

The Fort Worth Mayor's Committee on Persons with Disabilities (MCPD) is an organization consisting of citizen volunteers working with the Fort Worth Human Relations Commission to increase public awareness of the abilities of persons with disabilities and promote employment opportunities and housing accessibility. To accomplish these goals, the committee creates opportunities for dialogue and encourages open communication related to these issues as well as facilitate accessibility within the community and city government.

City staff coordinated with the MCPD to provide an overview of the ADA Compliance Planning process, seek feedback from the committee on how the City is doing regarding accessibility, and seek input on public outreach materials that will be used to solicit feedback for the ADA Compliance Plan. The MCPD also assisted in developing a stakeholder list that will be used for future community engagement efforts as the Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan is developed. The goal in developing the list was to have people representing a broad range of abilities and disabilities. Below is the initial list of organizations identified:

- ACCESS Paratransit
- Aging and Disability Resource Center
- American Red Cross
- American Associate of Retired Persons
- Business Accessibility for the Disabled
- Catholic Charities
- Deaf Action Center
- Dementia Friendly FtW
- Easterseals North Texas
- Governor's Committee on Persons with Disabilities
- Hearing Loss Association of America
- Historic Southside Association
- Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Council of Tarrant County
- Lighthouse for the Blind
- REACH
- Tarrant County ADA Coordinator

The following sections describe the public outreach tools developed to request public feedback for the ADA Compliance Plan. The City will continue to solicit feedback from the MCPD, stakeholders, and the public as the ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan is developed through various outreach platforms such as City News digital newsletter, social media (Facebook, Instagram, X, and Nextdoor), emails to community, neighborhood, and faith-based stakeholders, flyers at City buildings and City meetings, and pop-ups at neighborhood and City events.

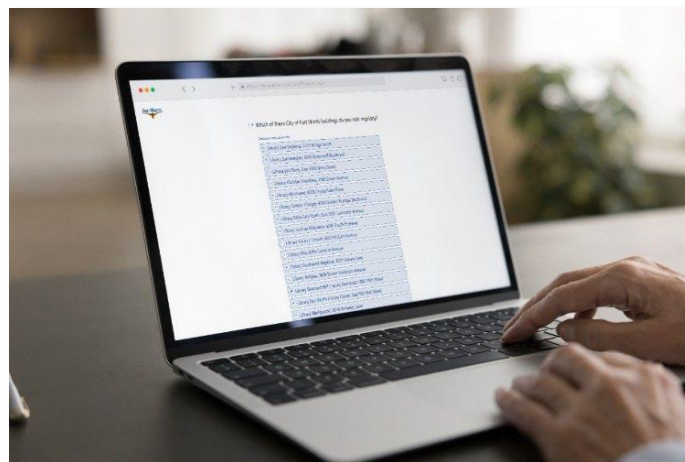


Figure 1. Web Survey

2.2 Web Survey

The City developed a web survey that is open to the public (<https://cfw.typeform.com/CFWPublicAccess>). The survey was designed to help the City locate areas of greatest concern to the public and help provide better access within the community. The survey was available on the City's website and advertised in the City News digital newsletter. It was made available in both English and Spanish. Feedback was documented between May 20, 2024, and July 9, 2024. An image of one of the web survey pages is shown in **Figure 1**.

Approximately 70% of those surveyed answered positively when asked about the accessibility of the City's buildings, parks, or public rights-of-way sidewalk corridors. 80% of those surveyed answered positively when asked if they have experienced any communication barriers when accessing the City's programs. Ella Mae Shamblee Library, Handley Meadowbrook Community Center, Southside East Community Center, and East Regional Library were the most visited facilities by respondents. Response summaries for the web survey are included in the Appendix.

2.3 Web Map

The City also developed an online map to allow the public to identify specific locations where they experience issues related to accessibility, safety, connectivity, or suggestions for accessibility improvements that are needed in Fort Worth (<https://wikimapping.com/Fort-Worth-ADA-Compliance-Plan.html>). The web map welcome page is shown in **Figure 2**.

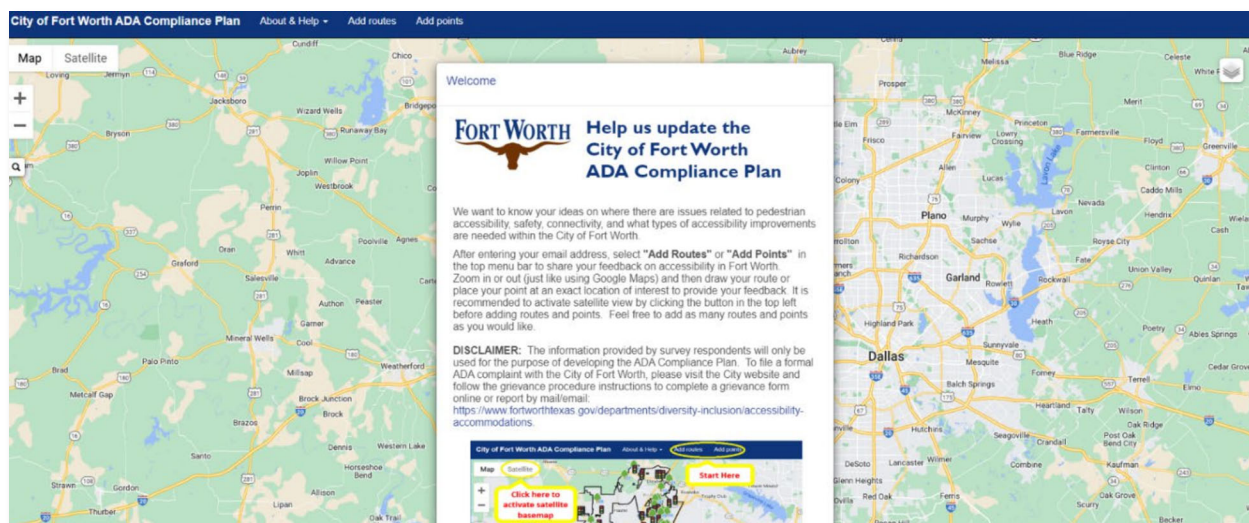


Figure 2. Web Map Welcome Page

The web map responses help the City locate areas where the public is making accessibility requests. The responses were grouped into three categories that highlight locations where the public is facing challenges.

- Areas where members of the public frequently walk with no sidewalks.
- Locations where the public rights-of-way sidewalks are in poor condition.
- Crossing locations that are made difficult due to the lack of a pedestrian signal and high traffic volumes.

A full summary of the responses for the web map is included in the **Appendix**.


2.4 Open House

The City hosted a 2050 Comprehensive Plan Vision Summit on June 18, 2024. To capitalize on the in-person attendance, the City set up a booth dedicated to the ADA Compliance Plan to distribute information to the public about the Compliance Plan development and how to provide feedback via the web survey and web map (see **Figure 3** and **Figure 4**). Computers were made available during the Vision Summit to allow people access to the online tools, and assistance was provided to help individuals use the tools.



Figure 3. ADA Compliance Plan Booth

The City will conduct additional community engagement during the Self-Evaluation and Transition Planning process. Input from the community engagement phases will help guide the prioritization of barrier removal and facility improvements as the City works to implement the ADA Transition Plan.


City of Fort Worth


ADA Compliance Plan

The City of Fort Worth is seeking input from interested persons to participate in the development of the City's ADA Compliance Plan. Feedback can be provided by completing an online survey or using an online map. QR codes and URLs for both methods are provided at the bottom of this page. The online survey allows the public to identify specific locations or facilities where barriers to access exist and to provide feedback on how the City is doing related to program accessibility. The online map is interactive and allows the public to identify specific locations or facilities where barriers to access exist. Feedback received prior to July 9, 2024, will be incorporated into the 2024 ADA Compliance Plan. Feedback received after that time will be incorporated into the next Plan update.

Learn more at: <https://www.fortworthtexas.gov/departments/diversity-inclusion/accessibility-accommodations>

We want your input.



Take our survey:
<https://cfw.typeform.com/CFWPublicAccess>



Locate areas of concern on our map:
<https://wikimapping.com/Fort-Worth-ADA-Compliance-Plan.html>

DISCLAIMER: The information provided by survey respondents will only be used for the purpose of developing the ADA Compliance Plan. To file a formal ADA complaint with the City of Fort Worth, please visit the City's website and follow the grievance procedure instructions to complete a grievance form online or report by mail/email: <https://www.fortworthtexas.gov/departments/diversity-inclusion/accessibility-accommodations>.

City of Fort Worth


ADA Compliance Plan

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a civil rights law that prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities in all areas of public life, including jobs, schools, transportation, and all public and private places that are open to the general public. The purpose of the law is to make sure that people with disabilities have the same rights and opportunities as everyone else. Title II of the ADA prohibits discrimination against qualified individuals with disabilities in all programs, activities, and services of public entities and requires state and local governments to complete an ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan to identify and remediate barriers to access. The City of Fort Worth is currently developing an ADA Compliance Plan which will guide the City in the completion of the Self-Evaluation and development of the Transition Plan over the next several years.



For more information about the Fort Worth ADA Compliance Plan contact:

Al Henderson
ADA | Title VI Coordinator | MCPD Staff Liaison
Diversity & Inclusion Department
City of Fort Worth
Office: 817.392.8421
Alfred.Henderson@fortworthtexas.gov

Figure 4. ADA Compliance Plan Flyer

3.0 Efforts To-Date

The City of Fort Worth has been actively working to improve accessibility throughout the City. The following sections document the City's efforts to date regarding ADA compliance.

3.1 Administrative Requirements

3.1.1 *Public Notice Under the ADA*

The ADA public notice requirement applies to all state and local governments covered by Title II, including entities with fewer than 50 employees. The target audience for the public notice includes applicants, beneficiaries, and other people interested in the entity's programs, services, and activities. This notice is required to include information regarding Title II of the ADA and how it applies to the programs, services, and activities of the public entity. The DOJ suggests including brief statements about:

- Employment;
- Effective communication;
- Making reasonable modifications to policies and programs;
- Not placing surcharges on modifications or auxiliary aids and services; and
- Filing complaints.

The notice should also include the name and contact information of the ADA/504 Coordinator. Publishing and publicizing the ADA notice is not a one-time requirement. State and local government entities should provide the information continuously, whenever necessary.

The City's Accessibility Policy is posted online (<https://www.fortworthtexas.gov/departments/diversity-inclusion/accessibility-accommodations>) and includes all the DOJ suggested content.

3.1.2 *ADA/504 Coordinator (Title II)*

Under ADA Title II, when a public entity has 50 or more employees based on an entity-wide employee total count, the entity must designate at least one (1) qualified responsible employee to coordinate compliance with ADA requirements. This individual's name, office address, and telephone number must be available and advertised to employees and the public. This allows someone to assist with questions and concerns regarding disability discrimination to be easily identified.

The City of Fort Worth has appointed Al Henderson as ADA/Title VI Coordinator for Title I and Title II. Below is the ADA Coordinator's contact information.

Al Henderson, ADA/Title VI Coordinator
Diversity & Inclusion Department
200 Texas Street
Fort Worth, TX 76102
Office: 817-392-8552
Relay: 711
ada@fortworthtexas.gov

The ADA/504 Coordinator's contact information must be provided to interested parties. The following distribution methods should be considered:

- Post on the City website;
- Prominently display in common areas that are accessible to all employees and areas open to the public;
- Provide in materials that are distributed by the City for meetings and events where requests for auxiliary aids or services for effective communication might be needed; and
- Provide in materials distributed by the City where ADA questions or concerns may arise.

3.1.3 Roles and Responsibilities of the ADA/504 Coordinator

Below is a list of qualifications for ADA Coordinators that are recommended by U.S. Department of Justice:

- Familiarity with the entity's structures, activities, and employees;
- Knowledge of the ADA and other laws addressing the rights of people with disabilities, such as Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act;
- Experience with people with a broad range of disabilities;
- Knowledge of various alternative formats and alternative technologies that enable individuals with disabilities to communicate, participate, and perform tasks;
- Ability to work cooperatively with local entities and people with disabilities;
- Familiarity with any local disability advocacy groups or other disability groups;
- Skills and training in negotiation and mediation; and
- Organizational and analytical skills.

The responsibilities of the ADA/504 Coordinator include coordinating the City's efforts to comply with Title II and investigating any complaints related to potential violations of Title II. The role of the ADA Coordinator typically includes being the primary contact when members of the public request an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication, such as a sign language interpreter or documents in Braille. An effective ADA Coordinator will be able to assist people with disabilities with their questions efficiently. These roles and responsibilities are consistent with the Department of Justice's guidance for "An Effective ADA Coordinator" (<https://www.ada.gov/pcatoolkit/chap2toolkit.htm>).

3.1.4 ADA/Title VI Coordinator Support Staff

The FHWA requires all state transportation agencies to monitor their subrecipients for compliance with Title VI and the ADA. Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) recently developed an online Subrecipient Compliance Assessment Tool. This assessment is a first step for TxDOT to determine subrecipient compliance, help subrecipients understand their ADA/504 and Title VI responsibilities, and assist TxDOT in planning future training and technical assistance. Upon completion, subrecipients were identified as having a satisfactory or unsatisfactory status. Title VI is referenced here solely for the purpose of highlighting the TxDOT assessment tool. However, the City will create and implement a separate Title VI Plan in accordance with the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

TxDOT issued a "red" rating for ADA noncompliance to the City of Fort Worth on May 16, 2023. Subsequently, the City regained its "green" rating based on the City's 1992 ADA Transition Plan (see **Section 4.2 Transition Plan**) and an agreement to update its ADA Transition Plan within 3 years of the original "red" noncompliance rating. The City is currently contracted with Kimley-Horn to provide a roadmap for ADA compliance, starting with creating of an ADA Compliance Plan (this document). As described in the following sections, a substantial amount of work required by the City of Fort Worth to complete and maintain the citywide ADA Transition Plan and additional staff with ADA expertise will be required for these initiatives.

3.1.5 ADA Liaison Committee

The City of Fort Worth has established an ADA Liaison Committee that is comprised of a representative from each City department. These representatives are tasked with serving as the ADA contact for their department and will consult with the ADA/504 Coordinator regarding all ADA issues impacting their department. Each representative is responsible for keeping a detailed log of all ADA inquiries within their department. This log shall be shared with the ADA/504 Coordinator and shall be retained for at least three (3) years.

To promote awareness of the committee and its activities, the ADA Liaison Committee information can be publicized in common areas that are accessible to employees and areas open to the public. This includes posting this information on the City website. It is recommended that the City hire or assign a full-time equivalent staff member to help administer Fort Worth's ADA Transition Plan.

3.1.6 ADA Grievance Policy, Procedure, and Form with Appeal Process for the Americans with Disabilities Act

Local governments with 50 or more employees must adopt and publish procedures for resolving grievances promptly and fairly that may arise under Title II of the ADA. The ADA grievance procedure aims to provide a mechanism for resolving discrimination issues at the City level, rather than requiring the complainant to resort to resolution at the federal level. Neither Title II nor its implementing regulations describe what ADA grievance procedures must include; however, the DOJ suggests the following content:

- A description of how and where a complaint under Title II may be filed with the City;
- If a written complaint is required, a statement notifying potential complainants that alternative means of filing will be available to people with disabilities who require such an alternative;
- A description of the time frames and processes to be followed by the complainant and City;
- Information on how to appeal an adverse decision; and
- A statement of how long complaint files will be retained.

The City's ADA grievance procedure and complaint form are posted online (<https://www.fortworthtexas.gov/departments/diversity-inclusion/accessibility-accommodations>) and include all the DOJ-suggested content.

3.2 Program, Services, and Activities Inventory

The City of Fort Worth has compiled a list of current services, policies, practices required to be evaluated for compliance with Title II of the ADA and the affected programs, services, and activities (PSAs) the City offers to the public. The City intends to evaluate the identified services, policies, and practices and modify those found to be non-compliant so that the City can operate each service, program, and activity to be readily accessible and useable by individuals with disabilities. Examples of items identified for evaluation or creation include:

- Department-specific handbooks, policies, procedures, and guidelines,
- Standard operating procedures
- Ordinances
- Reasonable modification request policy, procures, and request form
- Non-discrimination assurance
- Non-discrimination language for non-federal contracts, agreements, and waivers
- Non-discrimination policy statement
- Alternate format policy, procedure, and request form
- Effective communication policy, procedure, and request form

- Meeting agendas and minutes
- Videos
- Design standards
- Emergency management documents
- Service animal guidance/policy
- Event planning guidance/policy/checklist
- Event ticketing guidance/policy
- Other power-driven mobility device guidance/policy
- Retaliation and coercion policies

3.3 Facilities Inventory

The City completed a facilities inventory in 2024 to identify the total number of facilities the City is responsible for and to identify which had been previously evaluated for ADA compliance. City staff in the following departments collaborated to verify the inventory quantities:

- Property Management Department (PMD)
- Park & Recreation Department (PARD)
- Transportation & Public Works Department (TPW)

3.3.1 Buildings

The City maintains a detailed database of all properties the City owns and leases. The database contains property details such as year built, size, sponsor department, and if there is public access or employee access only. There are over 700 facilities in the database, but PMD is responsible for general fund-maintained facilities which includes all the public facing facilities. The City currently operates five enterprise funds consisting of Water and Sewer, Municipal Airports, Municipal Parking, Stormwater Utility and Solid Waste. The City will be reviewing all contractual agreements for enterprise fund-maintained facilities to verify the City's responsibility with respect to ADA compliance.

A summary of the general fund-maintained facility counts by sponsor department and year built are provided in **Table 1** and **Table 2**. **Table 2** only quantifies those facilities with public access.

Table 1. General Fund-Maintained Building Inventory Summary

Sponsor Department	Year Built: 1848 - 1991	Year Built: 1992 - Present	Total
Code Compliance	3	10	13
Economic Development	3	---	3
Fire	37	26	63
Fort Worth Public Library	8	10	18
Information Technology Solutions	3	8	11
Municipal Court	3	1	4
Neighborhood Services	6	2	8
Park & Recreation	41	16	57
Police	11	12	23
Property Management	18	11	29
Public Events	4	2	6
Transportation and Public Works	5	4	9
Total	142	102	244

Table 2. General Fund-Maintained Buildings with Public Access

Sponsor Department	Year Built: 1848 – 1991	Year Built: 1992 – Present	Total
Code Compliance	---	8	8
Economic Development	1	---	1
Fire	---	---	0
Fort Worth Public Library	8	7	15
Information Technology Solutions	---	---	0
Municipal Court	---	---	0
Neighborhood Services	6	2	8
Park & Recreation	20	9	29
Police	5	5	10
Property Management	6	2	8
Public Events	3	2	5
Transportation and Public Works	1	---	1
Total	50	35	85

Over the past 10 years, the City has conducted facility assessments to either review a building's overall accessibility to determine compliance with Texas Accessibility Standards (TAS) or observe the conditions of the site, facility, and system to provide a list of life safety and maintenance items to be addressed. Below is a list of buildings that have been reviewed to date. The year of evaluation is noted in parentheses.

1. Andrew "Doc" Sessions Community Center (2023)
2. Bradley Community Center (2023)
3. Cowtown Coliseum (2013)
4. Convention Center (2016)
5. Fort Worth Community Arts Center & W.E. Scott Theater (2022)
6. Gateway Park Concession Restroom Building (2023)
7. Greenbriar Community Center (2023)
8. Guinn Complex (2023)
9. Haws Athletic Center (2023)
10. Highland Hills Community Center (2023)
11. Handley Meadowbrook Recreation Center (2017)
12. Hardwicke Visitor Center (2023)
13. Log Cabin Village and Van Zandt Homestead (2023)
14. McCray Recreation Center (2017)
15. McLeland Pro Shop (2023)
16. McLeland Tennis Courts (2023)
17. Northside Community Center (2017)
18. North Tri-Ethnic Community Center (2017)
19. R.D. Evans Community Center (2023)
20. Riverside Community Center (2023)
21. Rose Marine Theater (2023)
22. Southwest Community Center (2023)
23. Sycamore Community Center (2019)
24. Thomas Place Community Center (2023)
25. Will Rogers Memorial Center (2018)
26. Worth Heights Community Center (2017)

3.3.2 Parks

The City owns and maintains 302 parks. PARD maintains a digital database of all parks on the City's website: <https://www.fortworthtexas.gov/departments/parks/parks-and-trails>. The database contains property details such as dedication year, size, amenities, and rental information. All community centers are contained in the PMD database.

The City has not evaluated any parks for ADA compliance to date.

3.3.3 Public Rights-of-Way

TPW maintains an extensive Geographic Information System (GIS) database that contains records for the following pedestrian facilities in the public rights-of-way:

- 730 signalized intersections
- 3,150 miles of sidewalk corridors
- 11,500 unsignalized intersections
- 33,900 curb ramps
- 2,730 on-street marked or metered parking spaces, including approximately 110 accessible on-street parking spaces
- 174 railroad crossings, including 42 at-grade pedestrian railroad crossing

In 2021, TPW conducted an asset inventory of public rights-of-way facilities using LiDAR. The primary goal was a pavement condition assessment, with a secondary goal of collecting transportation assets. The collected assets consisted of pavement, sidewalks, curb ramps, streetlights, signs, poles, pavement striping, and speed bumps.

The following attributes were collected for 3,036 miles of sidewalk:

- Material
- Width
- Qualitative condition (see **Figure 5**)
- Cross slope



Figure 5. Screenshot of 2021 TPW Asset Inventory for Sidewalk

The following attributes were collected for 33,263 curb ramps:

- Curb ramp type
- Curb ramp run width
- Cross slope
- Running slopes
- Landing area
- Landing length
- Landing running slope
- Flare slopes
- Detectable warning
- Visual facility condition
- Condition
- Obstruction type and severity

3.3.4 Facility Inventory Summary

Based on the completed inventory, the City has identified the following facilities for future evaluation:

- 52 buildings
- 302 parks
- 89 miles of trails
- 114 miles of public rights-of-way sidewalk
- 628 curb ramps
- Pedestrian street crossings at approximately 11,500 unsignalized intersections along the sidewalk corridors
- 730 signalized intersections (pedestrian signal equipment and pedestrian street crossings only)
- 110 on-street accessible parking spaces
- 42 at-grade pedestrian railroad crossings.

Additional buildings may need to be evaluated once the contractual agreements for the enterprise fund-maintained facilities are reviewed and the responsibility for those facilities is confirmed.

3.4 Ongoing Accessibility Efforts

The City of Fort Worth currently includes ADA compliance through the following efforts:

3.4.1 Property Management Department

As discussed in **Section 3.1.1 Buildings**, PMD contracted for accessibility reviews of 15 facilities in 2023. The evaluation cost was approximately \$100,000 with a rough order of magnitude construction estimate of \$4.6 million. Based on the 2023 reviews, PMD outlined the department's 6-year (2024-2029) budget needs for assessing 90 facilities and associated remediations. Using a 20% annual escalation, the future assessments are estimated to cost approximately \$895,000, and the associated rough order of magnitude construction interpolation estimate is \$55 million.

The "2020 Vision: A System Master Plan for the Fort Worth Library" was prepared in 2011. It outlines a 20-year strategy for renovating and improving access to existing libraries while also identifying areas where access to services can be expanded and improved in underserved neighborhoods as the City of Fort Worth continues to grow.

All development projects, whether new construction or renovation since 1991, meet ADA requirements. Facilities built before 1991 are being renovated and brought into compliance based on facility usage numbers. Construction documents for individual capital projects of more than \$50,000 are filed with the State (TDLR) and reviewed by a Registered Accessibility Specialist (RAS) to ensure they comply with current standards. Additionally, once a project is complete, the RAS inspects the site to verify it was constructed according to approved plan documents. For example, PARD opened the Diamond Hill Community Center in 2023, which replaced the 1969 building.

Other examples of current projects include: Chisholm Trail Community Center, Como Community Center, Fort Worth Far North Branch Library, Reby Cary Youth Library, and Fort Worth Police Department South Patrol Division. PMD continues to budget and request ADA accessibility reviews of unevaluated facilities through Capital Improvement Program (CIP) funding, bonds, and grants.

3.4.2 Park & Recreation Department

As part of the 2022 Bond Program, voters approved Fort Worth Proposition B which authorizes the sale of \$123,955,500 in General Obligation public securities to finance parks, recreation, and community center-related improvements to enhance the number, quality, and accessibility of park land and facilities and to address growth in developing/redevelopment areas. These improvements include development, design, construction, enhancement, expansion, renovation, major repair, and/or replacement of: aquatic facilities; athletic fields; community centers; community parks; neighborhood parks; special-use parks and facilities; park and recreation facilities; roadways, parking, and/or drainage facility improvements at or integrated into parks; playgrounds; the City's walks and trail systems; and supporting facilities and infrastructure for any or all of these as well as the purchase and/or improvement of land, as necessary, to support these improvements.

PARD's 5-year (2024 – 2028) CIP represents the department's roadmap for future project expenditures for city-wide park system improvements. These fiscal resources reflect the department's commitment to replacing and renovating existing park infrastructure and providing new facilities for developing and redeveloping areas. This plan outlines about \$55 million in improvements such as:

- erosion repair,
- road and parking lot repaving projects,
- playground replacement projects,
- development of new athletic field facilities,
- construction and sustainment of walks and trails,
- installation of security lighting,
- irrigation improvements, and
- development of reserve parks.

The City's Park, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan is currently under development. This master plan outlines the City's commitment to improving Fort Worth residents' quality of life by ensuring equitable access to the parks and recreation system. A comprehensive and detailed analysis of the park system, features, and locations was completed to aid this objective. Community input highlighted the need for more park and recreation facility locations, the need for amenities, the need for connected sidewalk/multi-modal trail systems, and the need for more variety in the look and feel of the parks. The master plan carefully considers vital factors such as environmental and socioeconomic vulnerabilities. It aims to address both immediate needs and future requirements, aligning with the City's commitment to equity.

3.4.3 Transportation & Public Works Department

TPW outlined \$264 million for CIP work in the 2022 Bond Program. These projects would focus on improving the streets and mobility infrastructure. TPW has grouped these projects into the following categories:

- Corridor improvement projects that are focused on pedestrian, bicycle, motorist, and transit improvements that increase safety, accessibility, and connectivity to the surrounding community, such as sidewalks, bicycle facilities, special bus lanes, facilities to provide safe roadway crossings, public transportation stops, median islands, accessible pedestrian signals, curb extensions, and intersection and travel lane reconfiguration.
- Street construction, reconstruction, or rehabilitation projects that include pedestrian improvements alongside travel lane and intersection improvements.

- Citywide reconstruction of intersections to improve ADA compliance, safety, and traffic flow with modifications to turn lanes, medians, signal devices, and pedestrian equipment. There are also projects focused on upgrading and improving the pedestrian hybrid beacons throughout the City.
- Neighborhood and school safety projects that focus on pedestrian mobility and safety improvements near schools, such as new sidewalks, rehabilitation of existing sidewalks, ADA ramps, and the installation of crosswalks.

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4.0 Action Plan

As described in **Section 1.3 Title II Requirements**, the City must evaluate current services, policies, and practices and develop a Transition Plan setting forth the steps necessary to complete the structural changes to achieve program access. The following sections describe the City's Action Plan to complete the Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan.

4.1 Self-Evaluation

The goal of the Self-Evaluation is to meet the requirements in §35.130 (General prohibitions against discrimination) that no qualified individual with a disability shall, based on a disability be excluded from participation in or be denied benefits of the services, programs, or activities of the City, or be subjected to discrimination by the City.

To complete the Self-Evaluation the City will evaluate all current services, policies, and practices to confirm there is an equal opportunity for people with disabilities to participate in services, programs, and activities and that there are no circumstances in which the participation of a person with a disability would be excluded or restricted from participating unless the exclusions or restrictions are necessary to the operation of the program or the safety of other participants. The evaluation will consider several areas, including but not limited to:

- Contracting with external organizations
- Reasonable modifications
- Service animals
- Wheelchairs and other power-driven mobility devices
- Surcharges and costs
- Ticketing
- Availability of information about the City's accessible services, activities, and facilities that are available to the public and current and future program participants
- Auxiliary aids and services
- Policies and procedures
- Telecommunications

The City will modify all non-compliance services, policies, and practices and provide an opportunity to interested persons to participate in the self-evaluation process by submitting comments.

4.2 Transition Plan

The Transition Plan aims to identify physical obstacles in City facilities that limit the accessibility of City programs or activities to individuals with disabilities and to develop an implementation plan to complete structural changes to achieve program accessibility. The plan will specify the steps necessary to achieve compliance for each year of the transition period, including a schedule for providing curb ramps or other sloped areas where pedestrian walks cross curbs. The plan will also indicate the official responsible for implementing the plan. An opportunity will be provided to interested persons to participate in developing the transition plan by submitting comments, and a copy of the Transition Plan will be made available for public inspection.

The City of Fort Worth developed an ADA Transition Plan in July 1992 that consisted of inspections of facilities with a large volume of public traffic (e.g., City Hall, recreation centers, multipurpose centers, Public Safety Building, Police Department, etc.) and worksites with little public traffic (e.g., service centers, water plants, storage warehouse, etc.). The original Transition Plan identified changes that needed to be made to the facilities with a large volume of public traffic over a three-year period to achieve program accessibility. Approximately 10% of the intersections within the

City of Fort Worth were also evaluated to determine where curb ramps were needed. The initial emphasis was placed on areas of the city which are most traveled and visited by the general public, including the Central Business District, the Cultural District, the Hospital District, the Stockyards, intersections adjacent to all public schools, Texas Christian University area, Texas Wesleyan area, and the Southwestern Baptist Seminary area. The original Transition Plan also included several opportunities for public input.

The City will be updating the ADA Transition Plan to reflect current conditions.

4.2.1 Unevaluated Facilities

After comparing the evaluations completed to date to the total number of facilities the City is responsible for, the City has identified the facilities listed in **Table 3** that need to be evaluated for ADA compliance:

Table 3. Unevaluated Facilities

Facility Type	Quantity
Facilities and Associated Parking Lots	52
Parks and Associated Parking Lots	302
Stand-alone Shared Use Paths and Trails (miles)	89
Sidewalks (miles)	114
Curb Ramps	628
Pedestrian Street Crossings (unsignalized intersections)	11,515
Pedestrian Signal Equipment (intersections)	730
On-street Accessible Parking Spaces	110
At-grade Pedestrian Railroad Crossings	42

4.2.2 Phased Self-Evaluation Approach

The City intends to phase the evaluation of the unevaluated facilities in **Table 1**. In selecting which facilities to evaluate first, the City has identified the following considerations:

Prioritization Considerations for all Facilities

- **Facility type** – Selecting various facilities (e.g., public rights-of-way, buildings, parks) to be evaluated during each phase instead of all of the same facility type, may provide a better understanding of different issues.
- **Spatial distribution of facilities** – Selecting facilities to be evaluated evenly across different areas of the City or Council Districts might be more well-received by the public, assuming all the risk factors above are equal.
- **Upcoming Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Projects** – If curb ramps are completely removed and replaced as part of an upcoming project, the ADA compliance of the new construction should be confirmed during construction inspections, and resources would be better spent evaluating curb ramps that are not planned for reconstruction.
- **Equity factors** – Underserve/disadvantaged communities based on the Social Vulnerability Index.
- **Number of existing complaints** – If the public has already identified locations as problem areas through a complaint, these locations should be evaluated as soon as possible to determine whether the area(s) of concern are in compliance.

- **Public Input** – Receiving and considering feedback from the public to better understand their concerns is recommended. While formal complaints may not have been filed, areas of concern to the public are more likely to have a higher risk for litigation if no improvements are made where an issue exists.
- **Age of facility** – Facilities constructed or remodeled after July 26, 1991, are at a higher risk than those constructed before the 1991 Standards for Accessible Design were published because they were constructed out of compliance.

Additional Prioritization Considerations for Buildings and Parks

- **Public access** – Facilities with public access are more likely to have a higher risk than facilities without public access or employee-only areas of a facility with public access. PMD maintains a database that specifies public access, as summarized in **Table 1**.
- **Usage/patronage** – Facilities with higher patronage and where City services are offered, and programs and activities are hosted are more likely to have a higher risk than those with lower patronage and no hosted programs or activities. PARD maintains a database of program registrations, membership usage, and park patronage.

Additional Prioritization Considerations for Public Rights-of-Way

- **Proximity to pedestrian attractors** – Locations near pedestrian attractors (e.g., hospitals, retirement facilities, medical offices, parking garages, major employers, disability service providers, event facilities, bus or transit stop/routes, schools, government and public facilities, parks, libraries, churches) are more likely to have a higher risk compared to those locations without pedestrian attractors.
- **Proximity to residential areas** – Locations near residential areas are more likely to have a higher risk than those adjacent to industrial areas where pedestrians are less likely to travel.
- **Number of crashes** – Locations with pedestrian-related crashes should be evaluated to determine if there is a design issue that may be contributing to the crashes (e.g., a push button is not within the required reach range, so pedestrians are not activating the button and crossing the street without a protected phase).
- **Street classification** – Arterials typically have higher pedestrian activity than local roadways and may be a higher risk.
- **Pedestrian/vehicle volumes** – Higher pedestrian/vehicle volume roadways are more likely to have higher risk than lower volume pedestrian/vehicle roadways. Pedestrian volumes may be quantified using indicators such as the number of pedestrian activations at a signalized intersection.
- **Existing sidewalks** – The ADA does not require sidewalks to be installed, but existing sidewalks must be compliant, and the accessible route must be maintained in an accessible condition. Locations with existing sidewalks are at higher risk than locations without existing sidewalks.

4.2.3 Best Practices and Considerations

The following sections describe best practices and considerations for evaluation criteria, evaluation methodology, reporting capabilities, implementation, and progress monitoring.

Evaluation Criteria

Building and park facilities should be evaluated for compliance with Title II of the ADA based on the applicable ADA standards in effect at the time of construction or alteration:

- Properties constructed before September 15, 2010 will be reviewed against the 1991 ADA Standards for Accessible Design (ADA Standards) or Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards (UFAS).
- Properties constructed between September 15, 2010 and March 15, 2012 will be reviewed against the 1991 ADA Standards, UFAS, or the 2010 ADA Standards.
- Properties constructed after March 15, 2012 will be reviewed against the 2010 ADA Standards.

Evaluations will initially be limited to all publicly accessible areas. Employee-only areas and work areas, including con-use spaces located in employee-only areas, will be excluded from the evaluations. However, if reasonable accommodations are requested by a City employee, evaluations of the employee-only areas may be conducted at that time.

In addition to building interiors, other elements to be evaluated will include but are not limited to, accessible parking, the path of travel from the accessible parking lot to the building/park entrance, access to buildings, signage, drinking fountains, telephones, restrooms, counter heights, and park amenities. All on-site sidewalks and all associated curb ramps, ramps, stairs, pedestrian bridges, and other paths of travel required to be ADA-compliant will also be evaluated.

The following City-maintained pedestrian facilities in the public rights-of-way will be evaluated based on PROWAG: sidewalk, curb ramps, pedestrian street crossings at unsignalized intersections, pedestrian signal equipment, on-street accessible parking spaces, and at-grade pedestrian railroad crossings.

State and local building codes under which projects were originally constructed will be excluded from all evaluations.

Evaluation Methodology

Several technologies are currently available to aid in the data collection process. At a minimum, the equipment used to collect the data should be capable of the following:

- Measuring slopes to the nearest tenth of a percent;
- Measuring dimensions to the nearest inch or the nearest foot, depending on the compliance threshold units;
- Isolating the measurements for each element listed in the applicable ADA Standards or PROWAG; and
- Creating output in GIS file format with geospatially referenced photos of evaluated elements.

Reporting Capabilities

For the data to be readily usable by the City for developing its ADA Transition Plan, the reporting methodology should provide the following output:

- Compliance status of each element evaluated based on the applicable ADA Standards or PROWAG;
- Possible solutions to remove any barriers and bring the element into compliance;
- Conceptual budget estimates to implement each possible solution; and
- Prioritization of the individual facility or element, independent of other facilities or elements of the same type, so that severity of non-compliance can be compared.

Implementation

After the Self-Evaluation is complete, possible solutions have been identified, and conceptual budget estimates have been determined for each improvement, an implementation plan can be developed. Depending on the conceptual budget estimates of all improvements, a typical implementation plan for an entity the size of the City of Fort Worth can range from 15 to 20 years. The implementation plan needs to show both a strong commitment toward upgrading ADA elements identified in the inventory of barriers in the short-term (planned capital improvement projects) and a strong commitment over time toward prioritizing curb ramps at walkways serving entities covered by the ADA.

To aid in developing the implementation plan, all identified compliance issues should be prioritized for remediation. The same prioritization considerations provided in **4.2.2 Phased Self-Evaluation Approach** can also be used to prioritize remediation projects in addition to the severity of non-compliance, DOJ priorities, and available funding. The DOJ's priorities are:

1. Issues with accessible approach and entrance
2. Issues with access to goods and services
3. Issues with access to public restrooms
4. Issues with other measures to provide access to goods and services

The implementation of the Transition Plan should also be incorporated into all City projects, including:

- Bringing required elements into ADA compliance during road reconstructions and widenings;
- Bringing required elements into ADA compliance as facilities are reconstructed;
- Reviewing design plans for all reconstructions to verify ADA-required elements are included and designed to meet the ADA standards or PROWAG; and
- Inspecting all new construction to ensure facilities were built per the design plans.

Progress Monitoring

The City should establish a working database that will allow staff to track and monitor progress as projects are implemented and barriers are removed. The database should allow staff to report progress by facility type on a periodic basis as required by City management (e.g., quarterly reports) or as requested by enforcing agencies such as DOJ and FHWA, or agencies that are required to monitor the progress of their federal funding recipients such as the TxDOT.

There is no one-size-fits-all solution to progress monitoring, and the City should make a citywide collaborative effort to understand what existing City project information and accessibility evaluation data need to be integrated into the database to make progress monitoring usable by City staff in maintaining the City's ADA Transition Plan.

5.0 Funding Opportunities

The City has several alternative funding sources available to complete the improvements in this Transition Plan. These opportunities include applying for resources at the federal, state, and local levels. The following sections detail some different funding options.

5.1 Federal and State Funding

Federal and state funding is available for the City to apply for through numerous agencies for various improvements. A copy of this information is also available on the FHWA website:

https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bicycle_pedestrian/funding/.

Most of these programs are competitive-type grants; therefore, the City of Fort Worth is not guaranteed to receive these funds. It will be important for the City to track these programs so that they can apply for the funds. Federal-aid funding programs have specific requirements that projects must meet, and eligibility must be determined case-by-case.

5.2 Local Funding

There are several local funding options for the City to consider, including:

- Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)
- Community Improvement District (CID) – A geographically defined district where commercial property owners vote to impose a self-tax. Funds are then collected by the taxing authority and given to a board of directors elected by the property owners.
- General fund (sales tax and bond issue)
- Scheduled/funded CIP projects that are funded through bonds
- Sidewalk or Access Improvement Fee
- Special tax districts – A district with the power to provide some governmental or quasi-governmental service and raise revenue by taxation, special assessment, or service charges.
- Tax Allocation District (TAD) – A defined area where real estate property tax monies gathered above a certain threshold for a certain period (typically 25 years) is to be used for a specified improvement. The funds raised from a TAD are placed in a tax-free bond (finance) where the money can continue to grow. These improvements are typically for revitalization and especially to complete redevelopment efforts.
- Tax Increment Financing District (TIF) – A TIF allows cities to create special districts and to make public improvements within those districts that will generate private-sector development. The tax base is frozen at the predevelopment level during the development period. Property taxes continue to be paid, but taxes derived from increases in assessed values (the tax increment) resulting from new development either go into a special fund created to retire bonds issued to originate the development or leverage future growth in the district.
- Transportation Reinvestment Zone
- Transportation User Fee / Street Maintenance Fee

6.0 Conclusion and Next Steps

This document serves as the ADA Compliance Plan for the City of Fort Worth. The next steps for the City of Fort Worth are:

1. Finalize the prioritized list of programs, services, activities, and facilities to be evaluated in the first phase of the Self-Evaluation. Phase 1 will begin in fiscal year 2025 with a \$1M budget to begin evaluations and develop a Transition Plan.
2. Complete a Self-Evaluation for all City programs, services, activities, and facilities. Facility evaluations should include the following:
 - a. Facility reports with the compliance status of each element evaluated based on the applicable ADA Standards and PROWAG;
 - b. Possible solutions to remove any barriers and bring the element into compliance;
 - c. Conceptual budget estimates to implement each possible solution; and
 - d. Prioritization of the individual facility or element, independent of other facilities or elements of the same type, so that severity of non-compliance can be compared.
3. Develop an Implementation Plan, including a schedule for completing the recommended facility improvements and funding sources to be used.
4. Update the City's Accessibility & Accommodations webpage (<https://www.fortworthtexas.gov/departments/diversity-inclusion/accessibility-accommodations>) to clearly document the City's efforts toward ADA compliance.
5. Complete remaining Self-Evaluation phases and update the City's ADA Transition Plan after each additional phase.
6. Continue to update the City's ADA Transition Plan as projects are implemented and citizen requests/complaints are received and addressed. At a minimum the ADA Transition Plan will be updated every three to four years.
7. Determine the best approach for receiving public input on the Self-Evaluation and ADA Transition Plan.

Appendix

Web Survey Response Summary

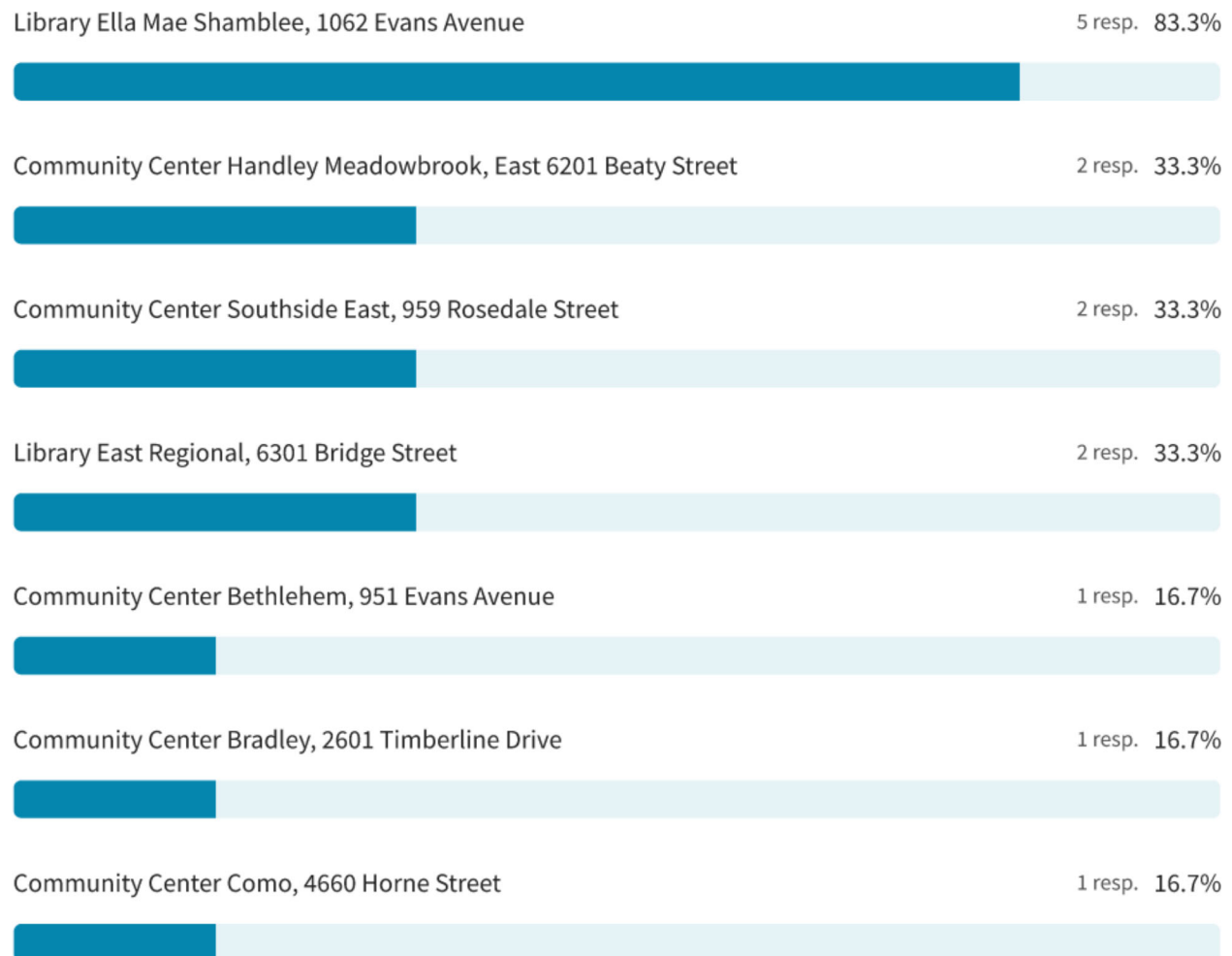
Web Map Response Summary



City of Fort Worth Public Access Survey

Which of these City of Fort Worth buildings do you visit regularly?

6 out of 6 answered





Community Center McCray, 4932 Wilbarger Street

1 resp. 16.7%



Community Center Riverside, East 3700 Belknap Street

1 resp. 16.7%



Library Reby Cary Youth, East 3851 Lancaster Avenue

1 resp. 16.7%



Municipal Complex City Hall, 200 Texas Street

1 resp. 16.7%



Thinking only about City-owned, public properties in City of Fort Worth, have you experienced any physical barriers or obstructions in a public building or parking structure/parking lot you currently use or would like to use?

6 out of 6 answered

No

3 resp. 50%



Yes

3 resp. 50%





Have you encountered any physical barriers or obstructions within a City of Fort Worth building or parking structure/parking lot that prevented you from using or participating in a City program, service or activity?

5 out of 6 answered

No 2 resp. 40%



No, but someone I know has. 2 resp. 40%



Yes 1 resp. 20%



Have you encountered any communication barriers in a City of Fort Worth building, parking structure/parking lot that kept you from using or participating in a City program, service, or activity?

6 out of 6 answered

No 5 resp. 83.3%



Yes 1 resp. 16.7%



No, but someone I know has. 0 resp. 0%





Have you encountered any other accessibility-related challenges/concerns related to City of Fort Worth buildings or parking structures/parking lots not covered by the questions above?

6 out of 6 answered

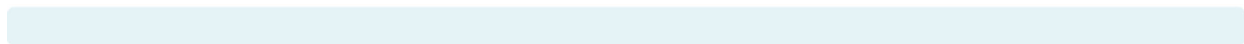
No 4 resp. 66.7%



Yes 2 resp. 33.3%



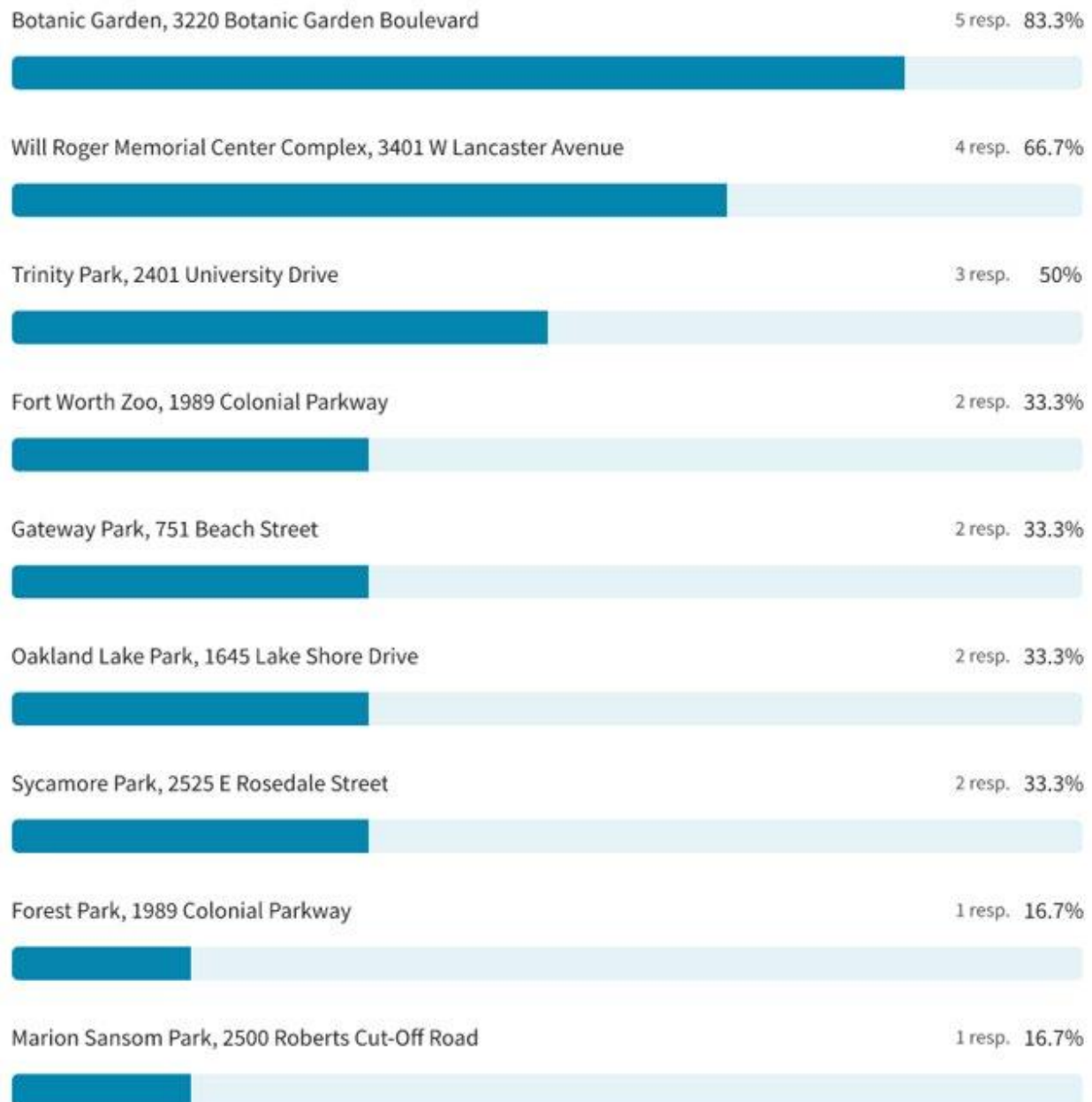
No, but someone I know has. 0 resp. 0%





Which of these City of Fort Worth parks do you visit regularly?

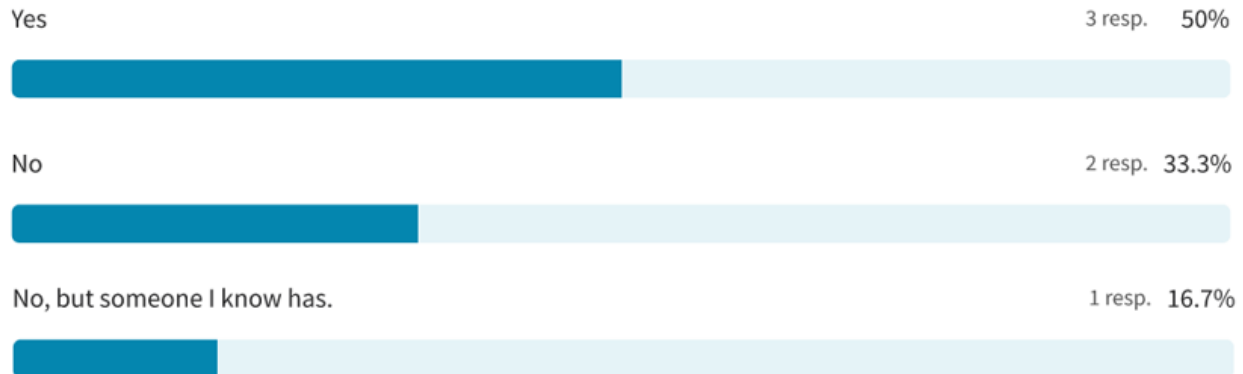
6 out of 6 answered





Thinking only about City-owned, public properties in City of Fort Worth, have you experienced any physical barriers or obstructions in a public park or along a public trail you currently use or would like to use?

6 out of 6 answered



Have you encountered any physical barriers or obstructions within a City of Fort Worth park or along a trail that prevented you from using or participating in a City program, service or activity?

5 out of 6 answered





Have you encountered any communication barriers in a City of Fort Worth park or along a trail that kept you from using or participating in a program, service, or activity?

6 out of 6 answered

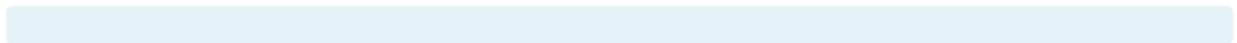
No 5 resp. 83.3%



Yes 1 resp. 16.7%



No, but someone I know has. 0 resp. 0%



Have you encountered any other accessibility-related challenges/concerns related to City of Fort Worth parks or trails not covered by the questions above?

5 out of 6 answered

No 3 resp. 60%



Yes 2 resp. 40%



No, but someone I know has. 0 resp. 0%





Thinking only about City-owned, public rights-of-way in City of Fort Worth, have you experienced any physical barriers, inaccessible sections, or poor conditions along a pedestrian path (e.g., sidewalks, pedestrian street crossings, pedestrian driveway crossings, curb ramps, etc.) you currently use or would like to use?

6 out of 6 answered

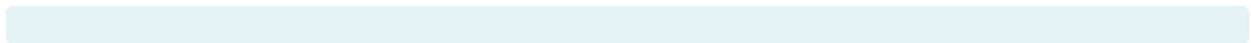
Yes 4 resp. 66.7%



No 2 resp. 33.3%



No, but someone I know has. 0 resp. 0%



When using sidewalks along the public rights-of-way within the City of Fort Worth, have you encountered locations without curb ramps as you enter or exit a street or driveway crossing?

6 out of 6 answered

Yes 4 resp. 66.7%



No 1 resp. 16.7%



No, but someone I know has. 1 resp. 16.7%





Have you encountered difficulties crossing a street near a City of Fort Worth building or park due to lack of pedestrian push buttons and pedestrian signals?

6 out of 6 answered

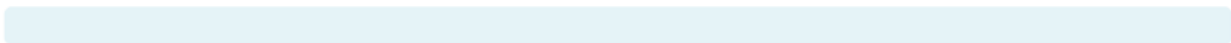
No 3 resp. 50%



Yes 3 resp. 50%



No, but someone I know has. 0 resp. 0%



Have you encountered any other accessibility-related challenges/concerns related to the public rights-of-way within the City of Fort Worth not covered by the questions above?

6 out of 6 answered

No 3 resp. 50%



Yes 3 resp. 50%



No, but someone I know has. 0 resp. 0%





Are there programs, services or activities sponsored by the City of Fort Worth that you would like to participate in or use but have been unable to?

6 out of 6 answered

No 4 resp. 66.7%



Yes 2 resp. 33.3%



No, but someone I know has. 0 resp. 0%



Are there programs, services or activities sponsored by the City of Fort Worth that you have tried to participate in or use but were unable to?

6 out of 6 answered

No 4 resp. 66.7%



No, but someone I know has. 1 resp. 16.7%



Yes 1 resp. 16.7%





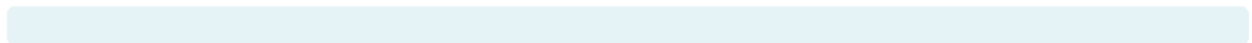
Are you able to obtain available information from the City of Fort Worth website?

6 out of 6 answered

Yes 6 resp. 100%



No 0 resp. 0%



Are you able to obtain available information from the City of Fort Worth social media sites?

6 out of 6 answered

No 4 resp. 66.7%



Yes 2 resp. 33.3%





Have you encountered any other accessibility-related challenges/concerns related to programs, services or activities sponsored by the City of Fort Worth not covered by the question above?

6 out of 6 answered

No 4 resp. 66.7%



Yes 2 resp. 33.3%



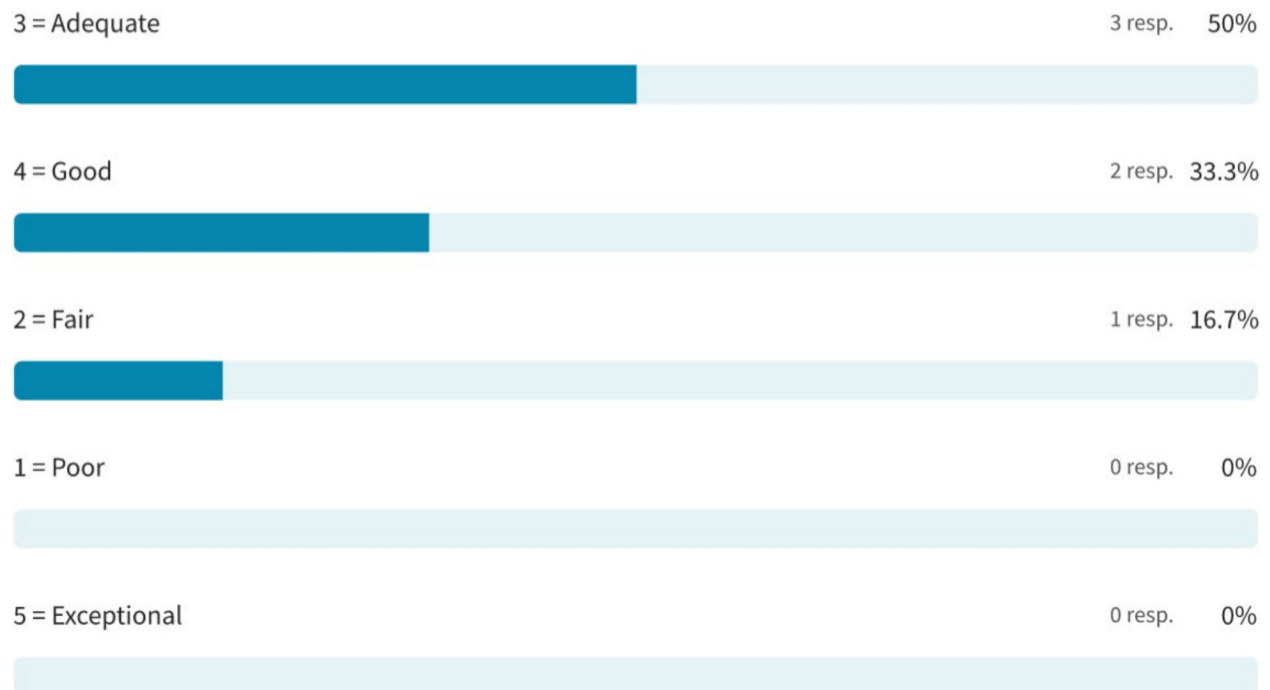
No, but someone I know has. 0 resp. 0%





On a scale of 1 to 5, how would you rate the accessibility of the City of Fort Worth's public amenities overall?

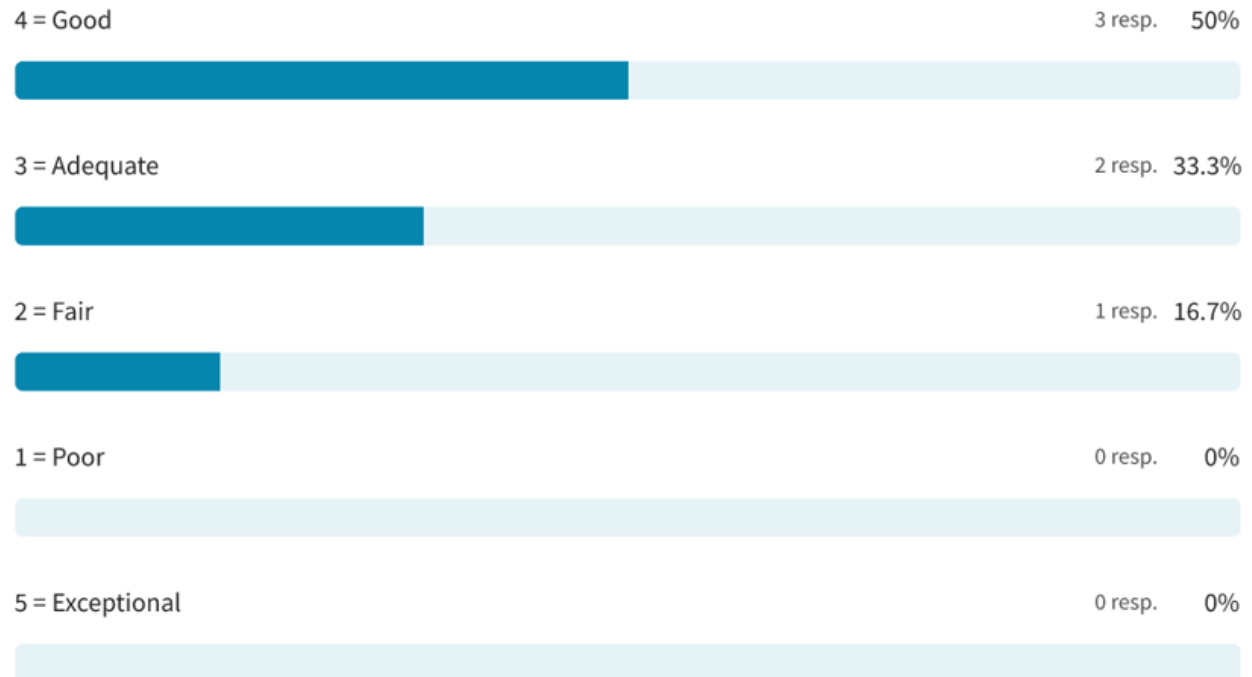
6 out of 6 answered





On a scale of 1 to 5, how would you rate the accessibility of the City of Fort Worth's programs, services, and activities overall?

6 out of 6 answered





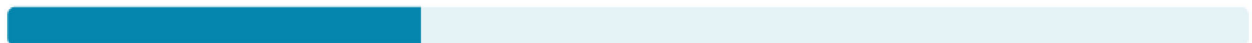
Is the City of Fort Worth accommodating of persons with disabilities?

6 out of 6 answered

Yes 4 resp. 66.7%



No 2 resp. 33.3%



In your opinion, what is the best platform in which to submit ADA complaints to the City?

6 out of 6 answered

MyFW Mobile Application 3 resp. 50%



City of Fort Worth Website 1 resp. 16.7%



311 (phone) 0 resp. 0%



Other 2 resp. 33.3%





Do you have any general comments or items regarding accessibility that you would like the City to be aware of that were not covered by the questions above?

6 out of 6 answered

No 3 resp. 50%



Yes 3 resp. 50%





Which of the following describes you? (OPTIONAL TO ANSWER)

6 out of 6 answered

I am a resident of the City of Fort Worth 4 resp. 66.7%



I'm a person with one or more disabilities 3 resp. 50%



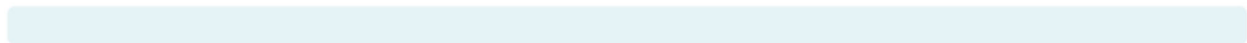
I have a family member with one or more disabilities but I'm not their caregiver 2 resp. 33.3%



I am a caregiver for a person with one or more disabilities 0 resp. 0%



I have clients who have one or more disabilities 0 resp. 0%



I live in the Fort Worth area, but reside outside the City limits of Fort Worth 0 resp. 0%



None of these choices describe me 0 resp. 0%



Web Map Response Summary

The City of Fort Worth received nine (9) comments for locations within the City where the public would like improvements made along the public rights-of-way (see **Table A**). A map showing the areas of concern is provided in **Figure A**. The “Map ID” in **Table A** correlates to a location in **Figure A**.

Table A. Web Map Comments Received

Map ID	Issue Type	Comment
1	Sidewalk Missing	Major corridor in the Rolling Hills/Highland Hills NA/ Glencrest Civic League has no sidewalk or handicap accommodations to McDonald YMCA community center and Renaissance Square for shopping for pedestrian or bike access. Sidewalks are missing. Need wide boulevard sidewalks and lighting with pedestrian crosswalk and signage to allow safe crossings on this very busy community road that connects and transverses thru our communities. Safe pedestrian Access especially for seniors and youth and ADA access to the Y is the key emphasis. The population is more senior, but youth exist in nearby multifamily housing which does not have direct sidewalks for handicap accommodations or signage. Pls work with Glencrest Civic League and Whisky Ranch on this project to add ADA and sidewalks for overall safety.
2	Sidewalk Missing	Sidewalks missing for this area connecting to city park greenbelt in neighborhood. Use area along fence line on Glen Garden Dr to place curbs and sidewalk and potential bike lane improvements to join community with ADA features to accommodate the elderly residents in the community
3	Sidewalk Missing	Ph 2 extension of Glen Garden Dr sidewalk and ADA compliance to area shopping access at Family Dollar and Nearby elementary school.
4	Sidewalk Missing	Sidewalk to service as connector to Villa by the parks multifamily housing unit and park areas. Students and residents must walk on grass path. Units are isolation on a hill and have no sidewalks at all in the area to even access the nearby McDonald YMCA. They must drive
5	Sidewalk Missing	Add route for wider pedestrian community pathway of large community multifamily housing Palladium
6	Sidewalk in Poor Condition	Sidewalk upheaval in several areas. ADA hazard and elderly fall risk due to uplifting and subsiding of existing sidewalk plates in high traffic areas. City public works and MyFW app was used to report issues but no action is planned to address this immediate risk. 1001 E Terrell ave is address. Area around both church and school (Fortress YDC) have sidewalks that are in poor condition and represent a hazard especially to elderly and wheel chair bound citizens in the community of the historic Southside 76104 area.
7	Sidewalk Missing	900 block of new York and 1000 block of Terrell Ave needs new sidewalk on a short section. Grass only and no curbs or ADA features in this area used by elderly and mobility challenged individuals. Safety risks of falling.
8	Sidewalk Missing	<i>No comment provided.</i>



Map ID	Issue Type	Comment
N/A	Pedestrian Signal Requested	High traffic cross street with popular churches near the intersection and community building on New York Ave crossing street. Youth programs at both churches and school nearby (Our Mother of Mercy Catholic Church and Fortress YDC school) have active pro

[Remainder of page intentionally left blank]

