



# **City of Lake Oswego ADA Stakeholder Group Meeting: ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan 3/15/2022 - 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM**

## **Attendees**

Stakeholders Georgena Moran, Cynthia Johnson, Jan Steinbock, Karen Logsdon, Lisa Strader, City staff Kelli Byrd (ADA Coordinator), Erica Rooney, Jan Wirtz, Jeff Munro, Stefan Broadus, Katy Kerklaan, Guilain del Rio, MIG consultants Heather Buczek, Alexa Vaughn, Hayden Agnew-Wieland, Vanessa Hostetter

## **Location**

Online meeting venue using Zoom

## **Agenda**

The following summary is organized by the agenda topics provided for the meeting.

- No new items were added to the agenda.

## **Welcome and Introductions**

Meeting participants introduced themselves to the group. Kelli Byrd introduced herself as the ADA Coordinator for the City.

## **Americans with Disabilities Act**

MIG provided an overview of the ADA and the City's obligations under Title II, which prohibits discrimination in the provision of programs, services, and activities by local governments. The City of Lake Oswego is committed to providing equal access to citizens with disabilities. To make Lake Oswego more accessible to all, the City is developing an ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan (SETP). The project involves four main components:

- Reviewing all City programs, services, and policies;
- Evaluating the accessibility of City facilities (buildings, parks, and parking lots);
- Assessing facilities in the public right-of-way; and
- Developing a strategic plan and tools for implementing the recommended changes to City facilities and practices.

## **Project Overview**

MIG and the City gave a brief update of the project to date. The City has established a public information portal on the website regarding their ADA title II program, ADA grievance procedure, and notice to provide ongoing communication throughout the project. Throughout 2020, the City completed a self-evaluation assessment of its services, policies, and practices. This included a staff questionnaire administered by MIG and a concurrent review of policy



documents and City communications. City staff provided comments and edits on the draft self-evaluation report, which will be incorporated into the draft transition plan. The City evaluated City-maintained pedestrian access routes in the public right-of-way for ADA barriers in the summer and fall of 2020. The right-of-way evaluation identified barriers to accessibility and included curb ramps, sidewalks, pedestrian hazards, crosswalks, pedestrian pushbuttons, and on-street parking. The City evaluated the buildings, parking facilities, and parks where City programs, activities, and services are provided in late 2020 and early 2021.

## **Needs, Challenges, and Opportunities**

MIG asked the group a series of questions about the current state of accessibility in Lake Oswego. This discussion was tracked on-screen during the meeting and is reprinted here.

### What's working well?

Stakeholder comments:

- The City has listened to community input and added important staff positions for addressing ADA and Diversity/Equity/Inclusion concerns.
- 50+ advisory board and other local committees in the City are more often focusing on accessibility goals and concerns.

Staff comments:

- The City is learning to recognize and proactively address accessibility issues in existing infrastructure when improvements are required based on an increased awareness of accessibility issues.
- The new Adult Community Center provides a much more accessible facility than the one it replaced.
  - The new Indoor Tennis Center does as well; this facility resulted from needs observed during Special Olympics.

### What are the biggest needs?

- To focus on more than just physical accessibility and beyond minimum legal requirements.
  - Bigger picture things like being able to fully participate in meetings remotely and to fully and effectively participate in City programs/activities/services
- To minimize how often people are required to ask for accommodation by providing accessible and inclusive programs from the start.
  - Generally providing more flexible options upfront
- Better information about who to contact regarding accessibility issues or accommodations
  - “Virtual Accommodation Coordinator” as a possible dedicated staff position (focusing on the technology side of accommodations)



- Better customer service (staff training) surrounding accommodations and requests
  - It's draining for people to always have to explain why they need an accommodation.
- Better maintenance of accessible features after construction to keep them accessible
  - Including sidewalks with accumulated gravel or moss or protruding vegetation

### What are the biggest challenges?

- A lack of available outlets in public places for people that need to power their devices.
- Sidewalk maintenance and effectively sharing that responsibility between the City and private property owners.
  - Need for effective communication about existing policies for sidewalk maintenance.
- Lack of curb cuts/curb ramps at some intersections
- Lack of information on public websites about public transportation to parks/facilities
- Lyft doesn't drop off anywhere that does not have a hard address, which includes many parks. Can addresses be assigned to all parks?
- Lack of accessible parking at some facilities; Stevens Meadow noted as an example.
- Availability of accessible housing
- Lack of information about who to contact about the sidewalk and curb ramp barriers in the right-of-way.
  - City staff offered a phone number (503-635-0208) to call for maintenance issues in the right-of-way. However, while this number is dedicated to the right-of-way, staff noted that they would be happy to forward non-right-of-way concerns to the appropriate department.

## **Summary of Analysis Results**

MIG provided an overview of the Self-Evaluation Report, Right-of-Way Barrier Summary Report, and Facility Barrier Analysis Summary Report, which were included in the meeting materials and distributed to participants prior to the meeting.

### Self-Evaluation Report

The City of Lake Oswego's evaluation included three elements: a staff questionnaire, a review of City policies, and a review of the City's standards and specifications. This report describes the staff questionnaire results, the policy review observations, and the evaluation of standards and specifications.

- MIG requested public participants to review and send comments on the self-evaluation report to the ADA Coordinator.



## Right-of-Way Barrier Summary Report

The evaluation of pedestrian access routes in the public right-of-way included the assessment of curb ramps, sidewalks, crosswalks, pedestrian pushbuttons, and hazards. The 2010 ADA Standards, 2011 Proposed Accessibility Guidelines for Pedestrian Facilities in the Public Right-of-Way (PROWAG), and the 2009 r1 and r2 Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) were used to identify barriers at right-of-way facilities under the City's responsibility. This report summarizes each of the types of facilities evaluated and the information collected.

## Facility Assessment Summary Report:

The barrier assessments for buildings, parking facilities, and parks included all public interior and exterior elements of a site. The assessments identified physical barriers in each facility that limit accessibility and compared each facility to the 2010 ADA Standards, 2019 OSSC, and the 2015 ABA. A summary of the barriers identified within City facilities is included in this report.

- For more detailed information about the barriers at a specific site, people are welcome to reach out to the ADA Coordinator to get a copy of the ADA Facility Assessment Summary Report.
- It was noted that the number of barriers to be removed was quite high and asked if the staff anticipate how long it will take to remove these barriers and if it is funded.
  - Staff responded that identifying funding for projects is an ongoing process and accessibility projects are a focus.
- The question was asked if additional barriers are identified will they be addressed in a timely manner.
  - Accessibility barrier complaints are handled on a case-by-case basis, but this lead to a discussion of how barrier removal projects are prioritized.

## **Planning Priorities**

Prioritizing the removal of barriers at City facilities is an essential component of developing and implementing an ADA transition plan. MIG discussed draft criteria to consider for determining the schedule for removing barriers when looking at the City's programs in their entirety.

- MIG asked the group if there are any unique or inherent elements to Lake Oswego that should affect the priority categories.

## Prioritization for Facilities:

- Stakeholders noted that there are a high number of seniors in Lake Oswego, with that percentage likely to increase due to the trend of aging in place.
- Stakeholders expressed their desire to prioritize facilities that can be accessed via transit.



### Prioritization in the ROW:

- Can “Danger” be prioritized - is the barrier putting someone in a potentially dangerous situation?
  - It was noted that street classifications based on traffic volume are incorporated in draft criteria to reflect safety concerns should someone find themselves in the roadway due to a barrier.

### General Discussion Comments:

- There was a question of whether seniors and elders can provide input if they are not technically savvy
  - City staff noted that they are planning additional outreach efforts and making the materials available in multiple formats.
- The complaint process was discussed and the means for contacting City staff. The ADA Coordinator’s role and contact information was shared and reinforced.

## **Next Steps**

MIG asked stakeholders to send any other questions or comments that they did not get addressed during the meeting, including feedback on the draft self-evaluation report, prioritization for barrier removal in the ROW and at building and park facilities, or any other general concerns about accessibility to the City’s ADA Coordinator.

Based on the policy and program evaluation, the facility evaluations, the prioritization and scheduling process, and feedback from this group, MIG will develop a draft of the self-evaluation and transition plan. City staff and stakeholders will have a chance to review and provide edits before the draft plan is released to the public for comment.

### Review of Staff Facility Prioritization Exercise

It was shared with the group during the Planning Priorities discussion that City staff met to discuss the draft prioritization criteria provided in the meeting materials. If stakeholder participants have comments on the draft ranking of facilities, please share your comments with the ADA Coordinator. The following are the resulting City ranked facilities taking into consideration the criteria described in the materials:

- identified complaints or requests;
- level-of-use by the public;
- program uniqueness;
- citizen rights and responsibilities;
- diversity, equity, and inclusion plan;
- geographic distribution;
- recognized user groups; and
- planned obsolescence.



The following list did not take into consideration access to transit, which was discussed during the meeting. Additionally, the list does not include the parking structures and facilities as the staff responsible for these facilities was not in attendance on the day of the meeting. The City intends to have a meeting to set the draft priorities for parking structures and facilities before the draft plan is presented to the public.

### *Highest Priority Facilities*

- **Parks:** Foothills Park, George Rogers Park, Millennium Plaza Park, Hazelia Field, Luscher Farm, Waluga Park East, Westlake Park, Sundeleaf Plaza
- **Buildings:** Public Golf Course & Clubhouse, Library, Main Fire Station
- **Leased Facilities:** Teen Lounge

### *Middle Priority Facilities*

- **Parks:** Charlie S. Brown Water Sports Center, Roehr Park, Waluga Park West, Stafford Basin/Rosement Trail, Bryant Woods Nature Park, Pilkington Park
- **Buildings:** Iron Workers Museum, Westlake Fire Station
- **Leased Facilities:** Greentree Art Studio, Mary S. Young Park

### *Lower Priority Facilities*

- **Parks:** Lake Oswego Swim Park, Rossman Park, McNary Park, Westridge Park, Freepons Park, Greentree Park, Tryon Cove Park, Pine Cone Park, Hide-A-Way Park, Glenmorrie Park
- **Buildings:** Public Works/Maintenance Building, Water Treatment Plant, Jean Road Fire Station, South Shore Fire Station
- **Leased Facilities:** (all programs moving to new Recreation Center upon completion): Christ Church Parish Additional, Oswego Heritage House, Forest Hills Elementary, Lake Grove Elementary Athletic Field, Lake Oswego Junior High, Lakewood Center for the Arts, Academy of Ballet & Dance Arts