



## ADA TRANSITION PLAN FOR PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY

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## **Vision**

Island County Public Works understands the important role it plays in providing tangible and meaningful equal access for persons with disabilities in their communities. In accordance with 28 CFR§35.150(d), Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Island County Public Works has created this ADA Transition Plan. This document provides a programmatic plan on how Island County Public Works will remove accessibility barriers from pedestrian facilities within Island County Public Works control. This transition plan addresses all ADA Facilities within our public right-of-way, including pedestrian ramps, pedestrian signals, crosswalks, sidewalks and independent shared use paths. Island County Public Works goal in implementing this transition plan is to become fully compliant with its ADA Facilities by providing barrier free pedestrian accessibility

In order to achieve this goal, Island County Public Works will rely upon and expand our partnerships with the disability community and other neighboring counties and state agencies that have common interests with us in addressing accessibility needs. Island County Public Works is driven to achieve its obligations under ADA Title II and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act to provide equal access for all who use Island County Public Works right-of-way facilities.

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**I. Transition Plan for Island County Public Works (ICPW)**

**1. Background**

Island County is mostly a rural county split into four road districts, each of these four districts border small towns, Rural Areas of Intense Development (RAIDS), or cities. These borders are where most of our accessible routes within public right-of-way are located. Title II of the ADA (28 CFR Part 35) pertains to the programs, activities and services of state and local governments. Since the passage of ADA in July 1990, Island County Public Works has taken steps to identify and remove barriers associated with pedestrian facilities within the public right-of-way as they fall within our transportation projects. Many of the ADA updates were performed based upon the standards of the 1991 ADA Accessibility Guidelines.

Over the past number of years it has been a priority to inventory and perform a self-evaluation of all our ADA features, and to determine where there might be barriers that make it difficult for pedestrians to maneuver. Using this information ICPW has developed the 2019 ADA Transition Plan. This transition plan identifies actions taken and sets forth actions that ICPW will take over the next several years to remove barriers within ICPW rights-of-way. This includes ICPW Strategies for public engagement and involvement, agency wide ADA roles and responsibilities, and an ICPW plan to prioritize and address ADA features in the public right-of-way.

**2. Strategies for Implementing ADA Compliance**

**a. Public Involvement**

Public involvement is essential in transportation decision making. A number of strategies have been identified to learn more from the community about their pedestrian accessibility concerns, by providing access to the following:

- An [ADA Transition Plan survey](#) distributed and available online.
- Public website with updated transition plan and interactive ADA facilities map
- Public open houses
- Transportation Equity Committee and network

ICPW also plans to reach out to local disability groups through our County Human Services Department. This will give the public a chance to give ICPW insight into what their ADA facility needs may be.

**b. ADA Coordinator – ICPW Right-of-Way**

Contact Information:

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The ICPW Rights-of-Way ADA Coordinator manages the inventory, self-evaluation, transition plan, and concerns from the public for ADA features within the right-of-way. The ADA Coordinator also priorities input on ICPW transportation projects and the removal of ADA barriers within our right-of-way, working closely with our public works engineers and project managers as they perform maintenance and construction projects. The ADA Coordinator's goal with respect to pedestrian accessible routes is to make ICPW right-of-way barrier free and with accessible routes, inviting and comfortable for all its users.

ADA access to Island County's Administration buildings are addressed through the Island County Facilities Department. If you have questions or concerns their contact information is;

Facilities Building:

107 NE 6th Street Coupeville, WA 98239-5000

Office: (360) 678-7870

Fax: (360) 240-5513

**c. ADA Complaint/Concern Procedure**

ICPW strives to make the ADA complaints & concerns procedure as easy as possible by using the [Service Request App](#) on the ICPW web page. The Service Request Application allows users to submit concerns or observations to Island County staff. It has been optimized for mobile devices including smartphones, tablets, as well as desktop computers.

Users can anonymously submit new reports, review existing reports, and vote on reports or observations submitted by other users. If a user includes their e-mail address during the request submission they will receive e-mail updates when the status of their submission changes. Any contact information included in the submission allows staff to contact the concerned individual for more information on a submitted request, if needed.

If a Service Request App user cannot find the type of request in the dropdown menu, or want to talk to someone directly they can use the following information to contact the appropriate staff with their concern:

Administrative Assistants Island County Public Works: (360)-679-7331

Please note Island County staff can only respond to requests within their jurisdiction. Requests submitted for locations outside of Island County's jurisdictional boundary such as towns, cities or state facilities, will have a status of 'Outside of County Boundary.'

### **3. Plan to Identify and Address ADA Features in Public Rights-of-Way**

#### **a. Self-Evaluation and Data Collection Plan**

ICPW used the [Washington State Department of Transportation Field Guide for Accessible Public Rights of Way \(2012 Edition\)](#) to evaluate each of the ADA facilities within Island County Right-of-Way. ADA measurements, notes, and photos of each ADA feature were collected on site. Each ADA feature was then identified as being compliant or non-compliant, based on a non-compliant codes tool that helped standardize the evaluation process.

After ICPW evaluated the data and determined where barriers are located within accessible routes, we created easy to read maps of all right-of-way ADA features. This effort not only identified ADA features, but also helped ICPW visualize where, and what public facilities the ADA features are servicing.

ADA facilities evaluated included, but were not limited to:

- Accessible Pedestrian Signals (APS)
- Crosswalks
- Curb ramps
- Detectable warning surfaces (DSW)
- Driveways crossing sidewalks
- Shared use pathways
- Walkways
- Pedestrian protection Islands
- Sidewalks

As ICPW moves forward with the implementation of the transition plan, new and updated ADA features will be added to the ADA Feature Database.

**b. Right-of-Way – Removal of Barriers**

Proposed projects in the public right-of-way must address ADA compliance as described in the design standards adopted in the WSDOT Design Manual Chapter 1510 Pedestrian Facilities. In addition, when ICPW resurfaces a road, curb ramp barriers will be removed, pedestrian push buttons will be made accessible, and sidewalks will be evaluated for spot improvements.

An inventory list outlining the location, detailed modification, planning date, and planning level cost estimate is found in a database maintained by ICPW [Island County ADA Inventory Evaluation Data](#), and will be updated as ICPW resurfacing projects are determined. ICPW uses the design standards adopted in the [WSDOT Design Policy Manual Chapter 1510 Pedestrian Facilities](#)

**c. Prioritized Barrier Removal Plan**

As noted earlier, most of the ADA features in Island County right-of-way are clustered together in more populated areas. Priority for removal of barriers was based on what destinations were nearby. Three priority fields for common pedestrian destinations were identified **HIGH**, **MEDIUM**, and **LOW** based on the intensity of use of the facilities served.

- **HIGH**

Intersections and roadway segments serving facilities including:

- Government /public buildings and spaces
- Schools
- Downtown core areas
- Shopping centers

- **MEDIUM**

Intersections and roadway segments serving facilities including:

- Neighborhoods/residential areas
- High-demand recreational facilities

- **LOW**

Intersections and roadway segments serving facilities including:

- Rest areas
- Parks
- Shared use trails

## **II. ADA Transition Plan Updates**

ICPW updates the inventory of pedestrian facilities on county right-of-way on an on-going basis. The transition plan will be updated on a yearly basis as needed. The construction and improvement schedule may be altered at ICPW discretion, based on changes in guidance from the United States Access Board, federal policy, and/or ICPW policy. The most current ICPW transition plan is available to the public through our ICPW website.

## **III. Conclusion**

The majority of ICPW ADA facilities were compliant with standards when they were constructed. However standards and regulations frequently change. As a result, it is common for local agencies to have a majority of ADA facilities non-compliant. ICPW plans to continue to update ADA facilities on a prioritized and planned basis, and to also incorporate input from the ADA concern process and public involvement plan.

## **IV. Title VI Notice to Public**

It is the ICPW policy to assure that no person shall, on the grounds of race, color, national origin or sex, as provided by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise discriminated against under any of its federally funded programs and activities. Any person who believes his/her Title VI protection has been violated, may file a complaint with Island County Public Works Title VI Coordinator. For additional information regarding Title VI complaint procedures and/or information regarding our non-discrimination obligations, please contact Island County Public Works Title VI Coordinator at (360) 679-7330.

## **V. Notificación de Título VI al Público**

Es la directiva del Coordinador de Título VI Island County Public Works de asegurar que ninguna persona sea excluida de participación o sea negada los beneficios, o sea discriminado bajo cualquiera de sus programas y actividades financiado con fondos federales sobre la base de raza, color, origen nacional o sexo, como proveído por el Título VI del Acto de Derechos Civiles de 1964. Cualquier persona que cree que sus protecciones de Título VI han sido violadas, puede presentar una queja con Coordinador de Título VI de la Island County Public Works. Para información adicional con respecto a procedimientos de quejas de Título VI y/o información con respecto a nuestras obligaciones sin discriminación, por favor comuníquese con el Coordinador de Título VI de la Island County Public Works (360) 679-7330.



## VI. Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Information

This material can be made available in an alternate format by emailing the Island County Public Works Title VI Coordinator at <mailto:C.Herrera@islandcountywa.gov> or by calling toll free, 855-362-4ADA (4232). Persons who are deaf or hard of hearing may make a request by calling the Washington State Relay at 711.

Información del Acta Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Este material es disponible en un formato alternativo. Envíe su petición por correo electrónico al equipo de Coordinador de Título VI de la Island County Public Works en <mailto:C.Herrera@islandcountywa.gov> o llamando gratis, 855-362-4ADA (4232). Personas sordas o con problemas de audición pueden solicitar llame la red del estado de Washington al 711.

## VII. Glossary

**Accessible:** Describes a site, building, facility, or portion thereof that complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

**Accessible Pedestrian Signal (APS):** A communication device located at traffic signals allowing for pedestrian walk phases using non-visual cues such as; audible tones, vibrotactile features or auditory announcements.

**Accessible Route:** An unobstructed, continuous route for pedestrian travel along a public sidewalk, crosswalk or ramp.

**Code of Federal Regulations (CFR):** An annual codification of the general and permanent rules published in the Federal Register by the executive departments and agencies of the Federal Government.

**Crosswalk:** A designated, marked pedestrian path across a roadway.

**Curb:** A vertical or rolled transition from the roadway or gutter to the sidewalk or planting strip.

**Curb Ramp:** A short ramp cutting through a curb or built up to it.

**Detectible Warning Surface:** A standardized surface feature built in or applied to a walking surface or other elements along a public access path to warn visually impaired persons of a hazard.

**Driveway:** A vehicular path serving as an access point to public roadway from adjacent properties.

**Facility:** All or any portion of buildings, structures, site improvements, equipment, roads, walks, passageways, parking lots or other real or personal property located on a public rights-of-way.

**Traffic Island:** A small raised area in the middle of a road which provides a safe place for pedestrians to stand and marks a division between two opposing streams of traffic.

**Perpendicular Curb Ramp:** A curb ramp with a main slope running perpendicular to the curb line. May include one or more flared side slopes.

**Public Right-of-Way (ROW or R/W):** A type of easement granted or reserved over the land for transportation purposes, this can be for highway, public footpath, bike trails or electrical transmission lines.

**Shared Use Pathway:** A form of infrastructure that supports multiple recreation and transportation opportunities, such as walking, bicycling, inline skating and people in wheelchairs. Motorcycles and mopeds are normally prohibited.

**Walkway:** A passage or path for walking along, especially a raised passageway connecting different sections of a building or a wide path in a park or garden.