



The City of Mobile  
Americans with Disabilities Act  
Transition Plan

2016 Update



## Table of Contents

Table of Contents .....	2
Introduction & Background .....	3
Notice of the City of Mobile Policy .....	6
Grievances and Request for Access and Accommodation .....	8
Public Participation and Input.....	111
City Departmental ADA Points of Contact.....	166
Implementation Progress .....	177
Inventory of City, Facilities, Programs, and Rights of Way .....	266
Plan to Achieve Right of Way Compliance .....	288
Plan Approval.....	311
<b>Enclosure A: Sidewalk Data Files .....</b>	<b>322</b>



## Introduction & Background

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan establishes the City of Mobile's ongoing commitment to providing equal access to all its public programs, services and activities for persons with disabilities. The City first developed a Transition Plan in 1993, and for many years has followed the program outlines and worklists set out in the plan. Since then, ADA guidelines have evolved, as have the City's services, facilities, and infrastructure. This update is a reset to build upon the work begun in the 1993 plan, to capture the progress since 1993, and plan for the City's continued path for improved accessibility for persons with disabilities. To develop this plan, the City of Mobile is undertaking a comprehensive evaluation of its facilities and programs to determine what types of access barriers exist for individuals with disabilities. This specific update is primarily focused on ADA accessibility along City rights-of way, but also captures other areas in which the City is focusing on full ADA compliance. The ADA Transition Plan process recognizes that full ADA compliance requires vigilant attention to the evolving nature of City programs, facilities, and infrastructure, standards for accessibility, technology, and perspectives on human disability. Regular review and updates to a City's compliance plan crystallize the City's commitment to ADA compliance. Subsequent annual updates will track progress on right-of-way access, but will also include continued identification of opportunities to improve accessibility.

### **Introduction to the ADA**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), enacted on July 26, 1990, provides comprehensive civil rights protections to persons with disabilities in the areas of employment, state and local government services, access to public accommodations, transportation and telecommunications. The ADA is companion civil rights legislation with the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. This legislation mandates that qualified disabled individuals shall not be excluded from participation in, denied the benefit of, or be subjected to discrimination under, any program or activity. The Act also protects employees with disabilities, and requires employers to make reasonable accommodation for applicants and employees with disabilities.



### Persons Protected under the ADA

In the ADA, the term disability means, with respect to an individual:

- (1) A physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of such individual;
- (2) A record of such an impairment; or
- (3) Being regarded as having such an impairment.

If an individual meets any one of these three tests, that person is considered to be an individual with a disability for purposes of coverage under the ADA.

The ADA is divided into five parts, covering the following areas:

#### Title I: Employment

Under Title I, employers, including governmental agencies, must ensure that their practices do not discriminate against persons with disabilities in the application, hiring, advancement, training, compensation or discharge of an employee, or in other terms, conditions and rights of employment.

#### Title II: Public Services

Title II prohibits state and local governments from discriminating against persons with disabilities or from excluding participation in or denying benefits of programs, services or activities to persons with disabilities. It is under this Title that this ADA Transition Plan has been prepared. The ADA Transition Plan is intended to outline the methods by which physical or structural changes will be made to affect the nondiscrimination policies described in Title II.

The administrative requirements contained in Title II that apply to the City are:

- Designation of an ADA Coordinator responsible for overseeing Title II compliance;
- Development of an ADA grievance/complaint procedure;
- Completion of a self-evaluation of facilities, programs and services; and
- Development of a transition plan if the self-evaluation identifies any accessibility deficiencies.





### Title III: Public Accommodations

Title III requires places of public accommodation to be accessible to and usable by persons with disabilities. The term public accommodation as used in the definition often is misinterpreted as applying to public agencies, but the intent of the term is to refer to any privately funded and operated facility serving the public.

### Title IV: Telecommunications

Title IV covers regulations regarding private telephone companies, and requires common carriers offering telephone services to the public to increase the availability of interstate and intrastate telecommunications relay services to individuals with hearing and speech impairments.

### Title V: Miscellaneous Provisions

Title V contains several miscellaneous regulations, including construction standards and practices, provisions for attorney's fees and technical assistance provisions.

## **Background**

This plan updates the previous self-evaluation and transition plan developed by the City and its departments in 1993, and will be used to help guide future planning and implementation of accessibility improvements. The City will update the plan annually and public comments on 2016's update of the Transition Plan will be accepted through June 21, 2016.

This document is being developed in accordance with federal requirements outlined in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and Title II of the ADA to update the progress the City of Mobile has made towards compliance, update policies and coordinator information, and define the City's continued commitment towards achieving compliance.



## Notice of the City of Mobile Policy

The City of Mobile is committed to becoming the safest, most business and family friendly city in America. Fair and humane treatment of everyone, especially those with disabilities, is reflective of our character as a city and community. Preventable access barriers to city services, programs, activities, or employment for disabled persons present an unwelcoming and unprofessional impression, and limit the city's potential and sense of community.

In accordance with the requirements of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ("ADA"), the City of Mobile will not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities on the basis of disability in its services, programs, or activities.

Employment: The City of Mobile does not discriminate on the basis of disability in its hiring or employment practices and complies with all regulations promulgated by the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission under Title I of the ADA.

Effective Communication: The City of Mobile will generally, upon request, provide appropriate aids and services leading to effective communication for qualified persons with disabilities so they can participate equally in the City of Mobile's programs, services, and activities, including qualified sign language interpreters, documents in Braille, and other ways of making information and communications accessible to people who have speech, hearing, or vision impairments.

Modifications to Policies and Procedures: The City of Mobile will make all reasonable modifications to policies and programs to ensure that people with disabilities have an equal opportunity to enjoy all of its programs, services, and activities. For example, individuals with service animals are welcomed in offices, even where pets are generally prohibited.

Anyone who requires an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication, or a modification of policies or procedures to participate in a program, service, or activity of the City of Mobile, should contact the office of the ADA Coordinator, as soon as possible but no later than 48 hours before the scheduled event. The ADA request form, found here and on the City of Mobile website, may be used for this purpose. Additionally, requestors may directly communicate their request with the city department organizing the event, or, for all City Council meetings and public hearings, the City Clerk's office.



The City of Mobile will not place a surcharge on a particular individual with a disability or any group of individuals with disabilities to cover the cost of providing auxiliary aids/services or reasonable modifications of policy, such as retrieving items from locations that are open to the public but are not accessible to persons who use wheelchairs.

The ADA does not require the City of Mobile to take any action that would fundamentally alter the nature of its programs or services, or impose an undue financial or administrative burden.

Guideline Standards: The City of Mobile adopts the ADA Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG)(2010) for use in evaluating and remedying barriers to accessibility in existing facilities and in construction of new facilities where services, programs and activities will be provided to the public. The City of Mobile adopts the proposed ADA Public Right-of-Way Accessibility Guidelines (PROWAG) (2011) for use in evaluating and remedying barriers to accessibility in public rights-of-way.

Complaints that a program, service, or activity of the City of Mobile is not accessible to persons with disabilities should be directed to the city's ADA Coordinator via the form linked to the City of Mobile web page, to the City of Mobile 311 call center, or directly to:

Don Rose, City of Mobile ADA Coordinator / Chief Procurement Officer  
Room 414, South Tower Government Plaza  
205 Government Street,  
Mobile, AL 36644  
251-208-7436  
[Donald.Rose@cityofmobile.org](mailto:Donald.Rose@cityofmobile.org)



## Grievances and Request for Access and Accommodation

This Access or Accommodation Request and Grievance Procedure is established to meet the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ("ADA"). It may be used by anyone who wishes to file a complaint alleging discrimination on the basis of disability in the provision of services, activities, programs, or benefits by the City of Mobile. It may also be used to request that access barriers be reduced or removed in anticipation of any access opportunity.

The process described here is for general public interactions with the City of Mobile. While this process may also be used to initiate employment related concerns, those issues will be moved to the employee resolution process managed by the Mobile County Personnel Board and the City of Mobile Human Resources Department.

Formal communication to the City of Mobile regarding accessibility concerns must be directed to the City of Mobile ADA coordinator and may be made by any means most convenient to the individual reporting the concerns. For ease of access, simplification, clarity, and tracking purposes, the City provides an online reporting process available through both the City of Mobile 311 call center and through [www.CityofMobile.org/ada](http://www.CityofMobile.org/ada). Persons may also submit communication in any written form in person or by mail.

Complaints of unfair discrimination must contain information about the alleged discrimination such as name, address, phone number of complainant and location, date, and description of the problem. Alternative means of filing complaints, or requests for accommodations or access, such as personal interviews or a tape recording of a complaint, will be made available for persons with disabilities upon request. The request/complaint should be submitted by the requestor/grievant and/or his/her designee as soon as possible but no later than 60 calendar days after an alleged violation through the Mobile 311 call center, through the City ADA web page, or at the below address:

Don Rose, City of Mobile ADA Coordinator / Chief Procurement Officer  
Room 414, South Tower Government Plaza  
205 Government Street  
Mobile, AL 36644





Within 15 calendar days after receipt of the complaint, the ADA coordinator will meet with the requestor/complainant to discuss the request/complaint and the possible resolutions.

Within 15 calendar days of the meeting, the ADA Coordinator will respond in writing, and where appropriate, in a format accessible to the requestor/complainant, such as large print, Braille, or audio tape. The response will explain the position of the City of Mobile and offer options for substantive resolution of the request/complaint. For complaints submitted online, or via electronic mail, an electronic mail reply may be used as the City's written communication.

If the response by the ADA Coordinator does not satisfactorily resolve the issue, the requestor/complainant and/or his/her designee may appeal the decision within 15 calendar days after receipt of the response to the Chief of Staff or designee. Within 15 calendar days after receipt of the appeal, the Chief of Staff or designee will meet with the requestor/complainant to discuss the request/complaint and possible resolutions.

Within 15 calendar days after the meeting, the Chief of Staff or designee will respond in writing, and, where appropriate, in a format accessible to the requestor/complainant, with a final resolution of the request/complaint. All written requests/complaints received by the ADA Coordinator designee, appeals to the Chief of Staff or designee, and responses from these two offices will be retained by the ADA Coordinator for at least three years.



## City of Mobile ADA Request and Grievance Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe the access barrier or limitation you observed or encountered.

Location(s) of access barrier(s).

What was the first date this access barrier was encountered?

What is the earliest date resolution is required?

Please describe how you believe the City can remove the barrier or improve access

Please provide the names of any persons, or attach any documents, that can provide additional information regarding this concern.

How may we best contact you?

Collection of this information is to help the City of Mobile improve access to City employment, facilities, programs, and services for everyone. The information provided will be used for that purpose, and may be shared with City staff in their official capacity. Questions regarding the completion of this form, its uses, or the process to resolve your concern may be addressed to

Don Rose, City of Mobile ADA Coordinator/Chief Procurement Officer  
Room 414  
205 Government Street  
Mobile, AL 36644  
251.208.7436

[Donald.Rose@cityofmobile.org](mailto:Donald.Rose@cityofmobile.org)

You will receive an initial notification regarding the City's receipt of this request and any initial follow up action or additional information required within five business days. Thank you for your interest in making Mobile the safest and most business and family-friendly city in America.



## Public Participation and Input

### Mobile Advisory Commission on the Disabled

Mobile City ordinance 65-031, Section 5, paragraph e, established the Mobile Advisory Commission on the Disabled (Commission) to advise City government on issues impacting the disabled community and assist the City with ADA implementation and compliance.

The Commission meets monthly and has been a regular supporter of City ADA implementation since its inception. The Commission maintains a web site with community information on events and issues related to human disability at [www.mobilemacd.com](http://www.mobilemacd.com), and has created the Mobile Accessibility Guide.

The City has awarded multiple performance contracts to the Commission since 1998 to provide the following support and services.

**1998** Mobile Leadership Trip

**1999** Development of Accessibility Guide  
Development of Informational Brochure regarding accessibility  
Forum for disabled citizen groups  
Disability awareness training for City employees

**2001** Receive concerns from residents and visitors  
Formulate Mobile Transit Authority (MTA) paratransit services; disability training for MTA employees; expand MTA services  
Disability awareness training for 400 City employees

**2003 & 2005** Assist in resolution of DOJ complaints regarding accessibility at certain City facilities

- Improve paratransit planning for conventions
- Improve recording of concerns of disabled residents
- Monitor quality of paratransit services
- Work with MTA to improve paratransit services
- Gain information regarding other cities' efforts for disabled
- Assist Mayor/City staff regarding disability issues
- Work with the Mobile County Emergency Management Agency to provide appropriate emergency preparation and sheltering for all Mobile area citizens.

**2006** All of the above from **2003 & 2005**, plus  
Provide funds to City departments for interpreter services for the deaf.  
Assure the Commission represents the area's diversity  
Monitor actions taken to address reported concerns  
Provide disability training for City employees



- Update Accessibility Guide for visitors/residents
- Improve public awareness of paratransit services
- Assist City Council regarding disability issues
- Provide training for public safety personnel
- Assist city officials in identifying necessary accommodations for citizens regarding new garbage services and public awareness efforts

**2007** Provide funds for City departments needing interpreter services or accessibility devices beyond their normal budgeted amounts

- Provide review of City building projects and accessibility training for City service providers
- Provide funds for service training of Commission members
- Provide emergency preparation training for citizens with disabilities
- Print accessibility information materials for area citizens
- Monitor the quality of transportation services for citizens with disabilities and collaborate with The Wave Transit system to improve public transportation accessibility;
- Work with City and County organizations in planning activities related to emergency preparation and the development accessible programs to better service Mobile's resident faced with a wide range of disabling conditions

**2008** All of the functions for **2007**, plus: provide public service messages to raise citizen's awareness of City services and other community services that promote full inclusion in community life.

**2009-2011** Provide funds for City departments needing interpreter services or accessibility devices beyond their normal budgeted amounts

- Provide funds for service training of Commission members
- Provide emergency preparation training for citizens with disabilities
- Print accessibility information materials, announcements, reports, and public awareness brochure for area citizens
- Provide training of city departmental staff and The Wave Transit personnel
- Work with City and County organizations in planning activities related to emergency preparation and the development accessible programs to better service Mobile's resident faced with a wide range of disabling conditions

**2013** All of the functions for **2009-2011**, plus,

- Maintain web site to inform citizens of commission, public awareness, information, etc.
- Hold a public forum to hear concerns of citizens regarding accessibility of city services and facilities

Two city representatives, one from permitting, and one from the City's 311 call system, are designated regular participants in Commission meetings, as is the City's ADA coordinator.





The draft of this update to the City of Mobile's transition plan was shared with the Commission members at their June 2016 monthly meeting. Comments regarding the plan were considered and incorporated into this final version.

### Public Meeting

A public meeting was conducted June 14, 2016, to receive public input on the transition plan. The following is a summary of the comments received at the meeting and online:

Several commenters expressed concern that portions of the City had no sidewalks, especially along Airport Blvd and in neighborhoods in west Mobile, and along Old Shell Road in Midtown. Pedestrian travel is on the street or grass areas. Persons with mobility limitations find street and grass travel especially challenging.

*Response: Initial City focus is on repair of and compliance of existing sidewalks. New sidewalks are being placed when feasible during repair work. Creation of new walks will occur as longer term projects consistent with the City's land use vision document, the Map for Mobile, as both private and public developments.*

One commenter also expressed concern with the condition of Midtown sidewalks – broken and unpassable for wheelchairs, lacking access ramps, or lacking connectivity. The commenter also advocated more tactile markings to alert blind pedestrians to transition areas, and larger width sidewalks.

One commenter asked for a curb cut at Seals Park to complement the new walking path in the park.

One commenter noted that some curb ramps are cut too steep and advocated that care be made when installing ramps to be sure they are accessible for wheelchairs.

One commenter noted two sidewalk deficiencies, one with broken pavement on the ramp at the bus stop at Springhill Avenue and Bay Shore Avenue, and another along his route along Bay Shore Avenue, Frederick Street, and Fredonia Street.

*Response: Sidewalk PROWAG compliance deficiencies are highlighted in the attached inventory and are being addressed in Capital Improvement Program and grant-funded initiatives.*

One commenter focused on persons disabled due to epilepsy. Persons with epilepsy are dependent on reliable mass transit due to driving limitations imposed post-seizure. Some may lose the ability to walk unaided or become wheelchair bound. The



commenter expressed concern whether City and WAVE transit staff were adequately trained to respond to an epileptic seizure and offered training for City staff.

One commenter advocated consideration for persons disabled due to Alzheimer's and proposed dementia-friendly features for City services.

*Response: The City is expanding training for City staff on ADA compliance, and reviewing City programs for accessibility across the range of potential disabilities.*

One commenter noted several locations where access was limited for wheelchair bound persons. These included the elevator and restroom facilities at the University of South Alabama and Bishop State, a bus stop at Highway 90 and Demetropolis Road without an accessible sidewalk, and roadside lift van parking to accommodate van loading and unloading around Bienville Square.

*Response: Consideration for improved access to bus stops, which usually involves creation of a new sidewalk route, will be considered as mentioned earlier as part of the City's Capital Improvement Program and Map for Mobile implementation. Additionally, where feasible without significant design issues, will be included in annual sidewalk repair contracts. City will review accessible on-street parking near public squares.*

One commenter noted lack of sidewalk access to many bus stops, and generally the lack of sidewalks in many locations.

*Response: See earlier comment regarding adding new sidewalks.*

One commenter encouraged the plan to consider accommodations for the disabled during emergency situations.

*Response: The City's emergency response plans are being reviewed. Input from the disabled community via the Advisory Commission on the Disabled will be sought in areas where disabled persons may have access barriers.*

One commenter mentioned the lack of sidewalks leading to bus stops in many locations, including Azalea Road at Hwy 90, Cottage Hill Road, and Airport Blvd., and wanted them considered in the City's repair plans, and that the City focus should not lose sight of transit sidewalk access issues.

*Response: See earlier comment on access to transit stops.*

One commenter suggested disabled needs during emergencies be considered as part of the City plan.

*Response: See earlier comment on City emergency planning.*



One commenter expressed concern that the Wave bus service is generally not accommodating for disabled community.

*Response: The Wave transit service is not being considered in this transition plan. The Wave administers its own Title VI plan.*

One commenter requested information on where to find grievance procedures in the plan.

One commenter asked whether Title III and Title IV of the ADA were addressed in the plan.

*Response: Grievance procedures are in the plan, and Title's III (Public accommodations by commercial facilities) and IV (Telecommunications services) are not directly applicable to City government's transition plan requirements.*

One commenter asked how the City helps new businesses become compliant with the ADA.

*Response: Though not addressed in the transition plan, the City's permitting and code enforcement functions provide advice and direction for business owners.*



## City Departmental ADA Points of Contact

ADA Coordinator.....	Don Rose, Chief Procurement Officer
Accounting .....	Rebecca Christian
Animal Shelter .....	Ellen Lursen
Architectural Engineering.....	Cindy Klotz
Archives .....	Ned Harkins
Art Museum .....	Deborah Velders
Civic Center .....	Bob Brazier, SMG
Community and Housing Development.....	Nigel Roberts
Convention Center.....	Bob Brazier, SMG
Cruise Terminal .....	Sheila Gurganus
Electrical .....	Doug Davis
Engineering.....	Tammy Olivero
Fire Department.....	Chief Doug Cooper
Garage.....	Greg Beckham
Geographic Information Systems.....	Scott Kearney
Golf Course` .....	Brian Aaron
Historic Development.....	Cart Blackwell
Human Resources .....	Leslie Rey
Keep Mobile Beautiful .....	Bob Haskins
Legal .....	Ashton Hill
Mechanical Systems .....	Clifton Thomas
Municipal Information Technology .....	Tony Phillips
Mobile 311 .....	Jo Piscioneri
Municipal Court.....	Nathan Emmorey
Parks & Recreation .....	Matthew Capps
Payroll.....	John Noletto
Planning & Development .....	Kina Andrews
Police Department .....	Chief Joe Kennedy
Public Buildings .....	Steve Elmore
Public Works.....	John Windley
Purchasing.....	John Paine
Revenue .....	Gwen Hall
Saenger Theater.....	Bob Brazier, SMG
Safety.....	Gary Gamble
Special Events .....	Ann Rambeau
Traffic Engineering.....	Marybeth Bergin
Treasury.....	Pandora Cunningham





## Implementation Progress

The City has made substantial progress towards ADA compliance since adoption of the City's initial transition plan on June 21, 1993.

### Programs and Ordinances:

On July 6, 1993, the City made amendments to the City Code to improve access to City programs and make the Code language inclusive of the needs of the disabled persons. These amendments included provisions for alternate receipt of written documents and the provision of auxiliary aids and services to facilitate access to meetings.

The City has taken steps to improve receptivity to public requests for accommodation at City sponsored events, and then to honor those requests. These steps include better identification public request processes, training of city employees, and reconnection with interpretation and captioning services.

Additionally, the City has expanded its communication to the disabled community. The City has implemented a comprehensive 311 trouble call system, and has oriented its attentiveness to public facility access and program accommodation requests. The City has more broadly used web services to reach more citizens, and the City's website contractor, Dogwood Productions, remains attentive and attempts to implement the latest software tools to ensure the City's web site accommodates the needs of disabled citizens. Additionally, the City has recently begun to livestream numerous public meetings, including City Council meetings, and is exploring the addition of live captioning services. The City is focusing on making e-commerce applications more disabled-friendly, and is studying proposed new federal guidelines for web accessibility.

### City Facilities:

The City has maintained a steady program of access improvements to City facilities. All City projects that may have had ADA compliance components were not tracked as such, but the below list captures projects, identified by their City-assigned project number, that had major ADA compliance components in them. ("CDBG-funded" refers to federal Community Development Block Grants as a funding source for the project.)

- AD-072-94J: Langan Park restroom, Lyons Park Tennis Center, and Cox-Copeland Tennis Center ADA modifications (completed 1999)
- PR-068-97: Matrie Park Fields B and C- Wheel chair access and ADA Improvements (completed 1999)



- PR-130-99: Laun Park ADA Improvements (completed 1999)
- PR-139-99 and DB-044-01: Dearborn YMCA ADA modifications (completed 2001)
- ND-042-02: Joe Jefferson Playhouse- ADA Alterations (completed 2006)
- PR-043-02: Ladd Stadium ADA Accessibility and Additions (completed 2002)
- GP-036-04: Gov't Plaza ADA Restroom Requirements (completed 2005)
- MX-083-11: Western Administration Complex ADA Modifications (completed 2013)
- PR-130-11: Kidd Park, Figures Park, Hillsdale Park, Trinity Gardens Park, and Thomas Recreation Center, Crawford-Murphy Park, Harmon Park, Laun Park, Lyons Park, and Rickarby Park - ADA Pool Accessibility (completed 2012)
- PR-163-13: ADA Signs for Springhill Recreation Center (completed 2012)
- SC-075-14: Installation of ADA Accessible Telephones in the Elevators of various City Facilities (completed 2014)
- PR-076-98: Lyons Park Tennis Center Handicap Alterations- completed 9/2/1998
- PR-099-10: Baumhauer-Randle Park Wading Pool Access Ramp (CDBG funded)- completed 9/17/2012
- PR-101-10: Taylor Park Wading Pool and Splash Pad (CDBG funded)- completed 5/14/2012
- PR-123-11: Denton Park Playground (CDBG funded)- completed 12/22/2011
- PR-124-11: Joe Bailey Park Playground Equipment (CDBG funded)- completed 9/17/2012
- PR-125-11: Theodore Park Playground (CDBG funded)- completed 12/22/2011
- PR-126-11: Herndon Park Walking Trail (CDBG funded)- completed 9/25/2012
- PR-127-11: Baumhauer-Randle Park Playground Equipment (CDBG funded)- completed 10/31/2012
- PR-128-11: Hillsdale Park- Construct Playground (CDBG funded)- completed 9/17/2012
- PR-129-11: Kidd Park Playground Equipment (CDBG funded)- completed 2/10/2012
- PR-141-11: Howard Johnson Park Walking Trail and Parking Reconfiguration (CDBG funded)- completed 3/10/2014
- CC-123-13: Civic Center Parking Lot Repairs and Reconfiguration for ADA compliance- completed 4/2/2014
- PR-151-13: James Seals Park Walking Trail (Sloped to remain within the ADA allowance)- (CDBG funded)- completed 12/3/2015
- PR-028-14: Taylor Park Pool House Improvements- completed 12/17/2014



- PR-070-14: Springhill Avenue Recreation Center Ramp- completed 9/8/2014
- LI-007-15: Mobile Public Library West Regional Branch- Handicap Parking & Ramps- completed 11/4/2014
- PR-038-15: Doyle Park Improvements- Sprayground & Playground Equipment (CDBG funded)- completed 9/30/15
- PR-051-15: Dearborn YMCA- Install Pool Lifts (CDBG funded)- in progress
- PW-093-15: Public Works Complex- Construct New Women’s Toilet and Shower- completed 3/22/2016
- PR-135-11: Woodcock School Renovations (ADA restroom with accessible shower and toilet rated for heavier users)- (CDBG funded)- completed 7/18/2012
- PR-084-12 Woodcock School Renovations (Reconfigure two men’s and one women’s toilets for ADA compliance/ renovate classroom)- (CDBG funded)- completed 11/18/2013
- PR-086-14: Woodcock School Renovations (Construct HC women’s toilet and add an additional ADA ramp)- (CDBG funded)- completed 3/9/2016
- PR-058-15: Figures Park Walking Trail – includes ADA slope/ grade adjustments – still open.
- PR-064-15: Crawford-Murphy Park Walking Trail– includes ADA slope/ grade adjustments – in progress.
- PR-016-16: Robert L. Hope Community Center Walking Trail– includes ADA slope/ grade adjustments – in progress.
- PR-090-16: Taylor Park Walking Trail– includes ADA slope/ grade adjustments – in progress.

Right of Way Infrastructure:

The City has maintained a steady pace of roadway and sidewalk repair contracts accomplished since 1993 as funds allowed and work could be programmed. Below is a partial list of awarded contracts to repair sections of sidewalks throughout the city in the last 10 years.

Resolution Number	Contracting Party	Project Number	Project Description	Additional Description
01-153-2012	STATE OF ALABAMA		SIDEWALKS, CROSSWALKS, SIGNS & SIGNALS	HOLLOWAY & HOWARD ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS
01-163-2014	MCCRORY & WILLIAMS, INC.	TAPMB-TA13(900)	OLD SHELL ROAD	TAP GRANT





01-367-2014	STATE OF ALABAMA	TAPMB-TA13 (905)	PEDESTRIAN LIGHTING	PEDESTRIAN LIGHTING
01-370-2015	C THORNTON INC	TAPMB-TA14 (905)	FEDERAL AID PROJECT	OLD SHELL RD / MCGREGOR / MYRTLEWOOD DR
01-397-2009	ALABAMA DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION	STMTE-TE09(907)	SIDEWALK ON UNIVERSITY BLVD	SIDEWALK ON UNIVERSITY BLVD
01-437-2013	ALABAMA DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION	TAPMB-TA13(900)	TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROJ	OLD SHELL RD
01-437-2013	ALABAMA DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION	TAPMB-TA13(900)	SIDEWALKS ON OLD SHELL RD	OLD SHELL RD
01-546-2014	MOBILE COUNTY & CITY OF MOBILE		BURROUGHS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	BURROUGHS LN / WASHINGTON BLVD
01-555-2013	ALABAMA DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION	TAPAA-TA13(927)	UPGRADE SIDEWALKS & RAMPS TO ADA COMPLIANCE	CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT - WEST
01-555-2013	ALABAMA DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION		ADA COMPLIANCE	CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT - WEST
01-595-2002	ALABAMA DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION		INSTALLATION & MAINTENANCE OF SIDEWALKS	MUSEUM DR / BILLY BEDSOLE RUN
01-611-2008	ALABAMA DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION		INSTALL SIDEWALKS ON EAST SIDE OF LLOYD'S LN	LLOYD'S LN
01-704-2007	ALABAMA DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION	STPTE-TE07(907)	FOR PEDESTRIANS AND BICYCLES	OLD SHELL RD SIDEWALKS
13-029-2015	CHRIS BREWER CONTRACTING INC	2013-202-12	SIDEWALKS PHASE 1C REPAIRS	MISC INFRASTRUCTURE REPAIRS PHASE 1C
13-558-2009	PEAVY CONSTRUCTION CO INC	2008-202-08	SIDEWALK CONSTRUCTION	HILLSDALE HGTS
13-623-2010	APEX CONSTRUCTION LLC	2007-202-04	SIDEWALK CONSTRUCTION	ST STEPHENS RD
13-674-2009	M C WILLIAMS CONTRACTING CO INC	2007-202-05	SIDEWALKS ALONG OLD SHELL RD	OLD SHELL RD





21-015-2004	ADS LLC	2004-202-03	SIDEWALK REPAIR	CLARIDGE RD
21-018-2011	PEAVY CONSTRUCTION CO INC		SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENT	LLOYD LN
21-026-2000	DURBIN CONTRACTING CO INC	99-202-28	MISC SIDEWALK REPLACEMENT	MISC SIDEWALKS
21-028-2005	C THORNTON INC	2005-202-04	BROOKLEY SCHOOL TO CLUB HOUSE RD	DAUPHIN ISLAND PKWY / BROOKLY SCHOOL
21-040-2010	PEAVY CONSTRUCTION CO INC	2009-202-08	SIDEWALK EXTENSION	UNIVERSITY CHURCH OF CHRIST TO ZEIGLER INTERCHANGE
21-053-2013	BURK-KLEINPETER INC	2013-202-01	SIDEWALKS / CURBS/GUTTERS/GUARDBAILS	2013 MISC INFRASTRUCTURE REPAIRS PHASE I
21-102-2012	C THORNTON INC	2012-202-03	SIDEWALK PHASE 3	HILLSDALE HGTS
21-132-2012	URS CORP	2012-202-04	VARIOUS MOBILE SITES	ADA SIDEWALK COMPLIANCE
21-155-2014	URS CORP	2014-202-07	UPGRADING RAMPS TO ADA COMPLIANCE	CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT - WEST
21-167-2009	PEAVY CONSTRUCTION CO INC	2008-202-08	SIDEWALK CONSTRUCTION	HILLSDALE HEIGHTS
21-191-1988	C I & I CONSTRUCTION CO INC		SIDEWALK CONSTRUCTION	NEAR MURPHY SCH & DAUPHIN ST AT CEDAR
21-197-2009	GOODWYN, MILLS & CAWOOD		DESIGN OF SIDEWALKS	LLOYD'S LANE / GIRBY RD
21-215-2009	M C WILLIAMS CONTRACTING CO INC	2007-202-05	SIDEWALK CONSTRUCTION	OLD SHELL RD
21-241-2010	ALABAMA DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION	STMTE-TE09(907)	SIDEWALK CONSTRUCTION	UNIVERSITY BLVD
21-243-2014	ASPHALT SVCS INC	TAPMB-TA13(900)	SIDEWALK CONSTRUCTION	OLD SHELL RD
21-249-1995	AML CONTRACTORS INC	95-202-06	INSTALL CONCRETE SIDEWALKS	TRINITY GARDEN / MAIN ST / RUBY ST / BUTLER ST



21-249-1995	A.M.L. CONTRACTORS INC	95-202-08	SIDEWALK CONSTRUCTION	TRINITY GARDEN / MAIN ST / RUBY ST BUTLER ST
21-287-1996	C B E INC	1095-01-03	SIDEWALK REHABILITATION PHASE II	SCOTT ST / CLAIBORNE ST
21-295-2012	ASPHALT SVCS INC		SIDEWALK CONSTRUCTION	ADA SIDEWALK COMPLIANCE
21-309-1996	HARPER & GARRATT ENGINEERING		SAFETY BARRIERS	THREE MILE CREEK / FILLINGIM ST / MOBILE ST
21-327-2004	DURBIN CONTRACTING CO INC	1004-01-39	INFRACTURE REHAB PHASE 6	INFRACTURE REHAB PHASE 6
21-327-2004	DURBIN CONTRACTING CO INC	1004-01-39	INFRASTRUCTURE REHABILITATION PHASE 6	CHURCH ST / DEARBORN ST
21-332-2007	ECS CONSULTING ENG INC		ST STEPHENS RD / OLD SHELL RD / BIT & SPUR	ST STEPHENS RD / OLD SHELL RD / BIT & SPUR
21-348-2010	BURK-KLEINPETER INC		SIDEWALK CONSTRUCTION PHASE 2	HILLSDALE HGTS  OLD SHELL RD / UNIVERSITY BLVD / MCGREGOR
21-359-2007	MCCRORY & WILLIAMS INC		SIDEWALKS	
21-366-2015	TERRACON CONSULTANTS INC	2014-202- 07	ADA COMPLIANCE AREA 2	CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT WEST
21-368-2015	ASPHALT SERVICES INC	2014-202- 07	ADA COMPLIANCE AREA 2	CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT WEST
21-391-2011	GOODWYN, MILLS & CAWOOD INC	STPTE- TE08(955)	FEDERAL FUNDING / SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS	LLOYD'S LN
21-441-2010	DURBIN CONTRACTING CO INC	2010-202- 07	SIDEWALK CONSTRUCTION PHASE 2	HILLSDALE HEIGHTS
21-501-2000	DURBIN CONTRACTING CO INC	2000-202- 17	SIDEWALK REPLACEMENT	FATHER RYAN PARK & CRICHTON AREA
21-509-2008	BURK-KLEINPETER INC	2008-202- 08	SIDEWALK CONSTRUCTION	HILLSDALE HEIGHTS
21-523-2014	MCELHENNEY CONSTRUCTION CO INC	2014-202- 18	2014 CDBG SIDEWALK CONSTRUCTION	TEXAS & CHATHAM



21-579-2014	A G GASTON CONSTRUCTION CO INC	2015-202- 04	SIDEWALK REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	
21-583-2014	HUTCHINSON, MOORE & RAUCH LLC	2014-202- 13	CDBG FUNDED SIDEWALK REPAIRS	TOULMINVILLE
21-584-2013	PEAVY CONSTRUCTION CO INC	2014-202- 03	SIDEWALK CONSTRUCTION	THE BOTTOMS COMMUNITY
21-595-2011	NEEL-SCHAFFER INC	2012-202- 03	SIDEWALK CONSTRUCTION	HILLSDALE HGTS
21-603-1991	L & D CONSTRUCTION CO	91-202-26	SIDEWALK CONSTRUCTION	ANN ST
21-606-2009	APEX CONSTRUCTION LLC	2007-202- 04	SIDEWALK CONSTRUCTION	ST STEPHENS RD / THREE MILE CREEK
21-611-1988	CI&I CONSTRUCTION CO INC		SIDEWALK CONSTRUCTION	PERSIMMON ST / LIVE OAK ST
21-684-1987	CI & I CONSTRUCTION CO INC	87-202-17	REMOVE WALK, INSTALL CONCRETE BASE	STATE STREET / JOACHIM ST
21-727-2007	MCCRORY & WILLIAMS ENGINEERS & SURVEYORS INC		SIDEWALK CONSTRUCTION	OLD SHELL RD
23-035-1999			STREET PAVING, WHITE WAY	SIDEWALK, SEWER, LOT CLEANING, WATER LINE, WHITE WAY,
25-182-2011	SMALL`S ENTERPRISES LLC		951 & 953 MARINE ST	KENTUCKY ST / MARINE ST

### Map for Mobile and City Planning

In 2014, the City initiated the planning process for Map for Mobile with the goal of shaping a citywide vision for the community and using it as a guide for future development. The City conducted a robust publicity and outreach campaign to ensure that participation in the process was a choice for as many citizens as possible, especially including the disabled community.



The Map for Mobile placed considerable focus on mobility and accessibility in the built environment, and serves as an important vision document that reinforces the City's commitment to a safe, family-friendly, and business-friendly community.

Seven Principle Statements in the Map for Mobile outlined those foundational values.

1 Stronger neighborhoods with:

- Unique identity and sense of place
- A mix of housing types that provide for residents' diverse needs
- Community amenities within walkable distances

2 Functional roadway corridors with:

- An attractive and welcoming public realm
- Safe accommodations for people and vehicles
- A variety of thriving businesses that support a robust economy

3 Strategic infill and redevelopment with:

- A mix of uses that serve the needs of the community
- A focus on vacant properties and blighted areas
- Concentrated activity that creates vibrancy

4 A connected community with:

- Ease of mobility for pedestrians, automobiles, and bicyclists
- Safe and appealing transportation options
- Access to businesses, parks and open spaces, cultural amenities, and other destinations

5 High quality design of the built environment with:

- An attractive and distinctive streetscape and public realm
- Maintenance of existing private property to minimize degradation and blight
- New private property development that is distinguishing yet in keeping with City and neighborhood character

6 A stronger downtown with:

- A greater intensity of uses and activities
- Pedestrian-friendly streets and interesting restaurants and entertainment options





- Accommodations for tourists as well as those who live and work in Mobile

7 Greater opportunities to enjoy natural and recreational assets with:

- Quality parks and open spaces
- Appropriate and inviting development at key waterfront and riverfront locations
- Proximity and connections to residential and commercial areas

The Map for Mobile has become the overall vision that will instruct, inform, and guide the City's planning, zoning, permitting, and even budgeting and capital contracting. With a strong emphasis on public access and mobility, the Map for Mobile expresses in a practical context the City's full commitment to the ADA in all areas of City life. The full plan, and plan history, is available at: [www.mapformobile.org](http://www.mapformobile.org).

#### Capital Improvement Plan

In 2015, the City implemented a formal Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) to better capture, prioritize, and effect the completion of City infrastructure repairs, maintenance, and new construction. This process will have a dramatic effect on the City's ability to budget, plan, track, and implement the City's transition to ADA compliance, especially with regard to right-of-way infrastructure repairs and improvements.

The CIP uses a need based algorithm to score hundreds of projects identified for completion through city staff observation or citizen request. The overall score for any project is based on multiple factors to include likelihood and consequence of failure, consistency with the Map for Mobile, risk of implementation, and overall benefit. The highest scoring projects are vetted with elected officials and then are programmed for completion.

The CIP has committed up to \$21 million per year for public infrastructure projects annually under the current revenue structure, with 10% of that total committed for improvement and repair of sidewalk infrastructure in 2016, and 6-8% commitment in future years. This level of funding assumes current City capital revenue and budget projections, and does not account for major disasters, major changes in ADA program requirements, or significant changes in the City's financial position. Such developments would be reflected in future amendments to this plan. In addition, the City intends to seek alternative funding for accessibility projects from grant programs, including Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grants, Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) and Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) to supplement CIP funding..



## **Inventory of City, Facilities, Programs, and Rights of Way**

The City of Mobile has begun a coordinated effort to re-assess City rights-of-way, facilities, and programs for compliance with ADA requirements, identify compliance gaps, and continually map out compliance strategies. This plan recognizes that “compliance” requires continual attention to processes, programs, and facilities over time, and will use an annual update process to identify

### City Facilities

Updated inventories of all city-owned facilities, including public buildings and parks, are planned as CIP projects for future fiscal years. These inventories will allow for better planning and budgeting for life-cycle maintenance of city facilities, including the cataloging and remediation of ADA compliance deficiencies. Updates to this plan will provide a more detailed assessment of city facility compliance gaps and accompanying compliance transition plans. In the interim, the City will ensure all projects are completed in accordance with ADA Access Guidelines, and access issues raised related to City facilities are promptly addressed.

### City Programs

Similarly, current City programs are being assessed for ADA compliance, which will be more thoroughly addressed in subsequent updates to this plan. In the interim, senior City leaders received ADA awareness training in January, 2016 to help them apply current accessibility guidelines to the programs they administer. The City also has refreshed its ADA complaint and access request process to be immediately responsive to identified program access issues.

### City Rights-of-Way

The City of Mobile has approximately 3.6 million linear feet (nearly 700 miles) of sidewalk, and 5,100 sidewalk curb- ramp locations. This Transition Plan update provided an opportunity to obtain a comprehensive review of this substantial sidewalk network within the City.

The mechanics for conducting the sidewalk survey has informed the City’s approach towards ADA transition planning. The Mobile Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), of which the City is a member, administered a contract with a consulting firm to provide an inventory of existing sidewalk facilities inside the public right-of-way that were within the MPO’s Planning Boundary. From this master inventory for the entire MPO, a sidewalk inventory for the City was created that included ADA compliance scores for every section of City sidewalk.

The inventory concentrated on the existing sidewalk networks servicing public facilities, programs, and activities, along with curb ramps and sloped areas at intersections.





These inventories included a two-step process. The first step was a windshield survey. The windshield survey was used to document the location of sidewalks and determine compliance/non-compliance on visible barriers from the vehicle. Curb ramps were noted as non-compliant if they were missing truncated domes or missing entirely. Sidewalk segments were noted as non-compliant if visible displacement was noticed from trees, settlement, utilities, etc. Sidewalk segments were also noted non-compliant for utilities or trees that blocked the sidewalk path.

Once all the sidewalks that were inventoried by the windshield survey were digitized in maps, intersections and sidewalk segments that were marked as compliant were revisited on foot. These curb ramps and sidewalk segments were measured for width by a tape and slope by a digital level to determine compliance/non-compliance.

Maps of the inventory were produced. Red squares show the location of missing or non-compliant curb ramps. Green lines illustrate the location of sidewalk segments that were documented as compliant at the time of the inventory.

These assessments reflect the condition of a sidewalk at a single point in time. The sidewalks within the City can change daily due to the many trees along the roadways, or damage from exterior sources, that can disturb or displace pavement. Yellow lines illustrate the location of entire sidewalk segments that were documented as being non-compliant, but on average there were only two to three locations along the segment where the sidewalk could be removed and replaced to remedy the issue. Red lines illustrated the location of sidewalk segments that were documented as being non-compliant and a majority of the segment would need to be removed and replaced. The maps of the inventory are located in the Appendix.

While the inventory counts and scores for compliance short “gap areas,” it does not account for areas completely unserved by sidewalks. ADA accessibility compliance for those areas is a more complicated determination based on pedestrian demand, disparate disabled impact, and alternative routes. The unserved areas are not highlighted or coded. That said, the assessment of current sidewalks does, by default, show where sidewalks do not exist.

The inventory scored 2.5 million linear feet of sidewalk as ADA compliant, 412,000 linear feet as moderately compliant, and 1.1 million feet as primarily non-compliant.



## Plan to Achieve Right-of-Way Compliance

The City of Mobile has committed to a defined program of annual capital investment in public infrastructure and facilities. Additionally, the City has committed renewed emphasis on long range planning and coordinated design of public spaces to incorporate accessibility needs for all of the City's citizens and visitors.

The City's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) is especially well-suited to incorporate the inventory findings by the MPO contractor into the City's annual commitment to remediate non-compliant sidewalks.

The City is completing the City-wide sidewalk repair work in the CIP in the form of annual time and material contracts with specific repair locations prioritized and directed by the City Engineer. The City Engineer will incorporate the inventory report of the MPO contractor into his prioritization of repair work to assign the sidewalk contractors. The work will be prioritized by geographical "Division"-type, and then further sorted into "Tiers". The Divisions rank the deficiencies based on the type of location usage while the Tiers address the elements by condition and quality.

### Divisions

The City will separate the work to be completed into divisions based on the location. The Divisions are grouped based on the pedestrian use of the roadways. The Divisions are as follows:

- Division 1- High Use Pedestrian Areas – The areas that would be included in this Division would be near government-owned buildings, schools, hospitals, etc.
- Division 2- Citizen Complaints or Request.
- Division 3- Functionally Classified Roadways – Functionally Classified Roadways are roadways that are designated as arterials and collectors that are eligible for federal funding through the MPO or the Alabama Department of Transportation.
- Division 4- Local Roadways – Local roadways would include all other roadways that are not included in the other divisions and would include subdivisions and industrial areas.

### Tiers

The work will be divided into two Tiers, barriers and curb ramps. The first priority will be to address the insufficient curb ramps to allow disabled individuals to access the services and facilities offered by the City. After and during the installation/repair of the curb ramps, barriers shall be corrected or removed.

The City's public right-of-way sidewalk network can only be made accessible with the installation and retrofitting of curb ramps. Therefore compliant curb ramps will be installed at all locations where they are necessary. Existing ramps not meeting





standards set forth in the current PROWAG shall be retrofitted or replaced. Priority was based upon location in reference to buildings and facilities covered under Title II.

To obtain the level of accessibility desired, the removal of barriers is essential to providing access to specific elements under the jurisdiction of the City. Barriers will include any physical obstructions, damaged sidewalk, and non-compliant sidewalk that prevents any individual from accessing walkways serving the City's facilities. ADA barriers may be due to broken or displaced sidewalks, or they may arise to improper slopes due to improper initial placement of the sidewalk, or, frequently, due to the improper slope of a driveway that intersects the sidewalk. Additionally, ADA barriers may exist if the sidewalk is not the appropriate width required by the ADA guidelines.

Barriers due to broken, displaced sidewalks will be given priority over sidewalks that are in good repair but are non-compliant exclusively due to slope or width deficiencies.

#### Schedule to repair or replace.

The City CIP will be the primary mechanism for the City to improve ADA compliance for sidewalks and curb ramps. City public works crews will make emergency repairs, but the bulk of the planned work identified by this inventory will be completed by contractors. At the intended investment amount strictly for sidewalks, with associated programmatic improvements in landscaping to reduce the likelihood of root intrusion, and the additional benefit of \$5-8 million annual investment in road resurfacing, and \$1M annual investment in lane striping and signaling, it is anticipated that the bulk of City curb ramp deficiencies due to absent access ramps or truncated domes, and barrier deficiencies due to broken or severely displaced sidewalks, will be repaired within the next 8 years.

The City will continue to pursue other funding sources outside of internal capital funds to complement programmed work and to expedite sidewalk compliance.

Width and slope deficiencies will be addressed as higher priority repair work is accomplished. It is anticipated that no specific work will be targeted where the only deficiency in the sidewalk is an intervening improper driveway slope, absent other factors to merit specific attention. This type of deficiency will be addressed prospectively in new development construction inspection and permitting.

In summary, the City is committed to:

- Continue to annually invest a substantial portion of capital revenue to repair or modify curb ramps and sidewalks to meet PROWAG standards. The City will repair or modify non-compliant curb ramps when streets are overlaid.
- continue to pursue grants that are available to repair or replace non-compliant curb ramps and sidewalk segments.



- address and correct elements located adjacent to City facilities as part of projects to improve and maintain the facilities.
- require private developments to install curb ramps and compliant sidewalks. A comprehensive review of the City zoning ordinances and permitting requirements, consistent with the access principles identified in the Map for Mobile will further facilitate implementation of private compliance along city rights of way.
- require utility companies to install new curb ramp and sidewalk when they excavate under existing sidewalks.



## Plan Approval

This ADA Transition Plan for the City of Mobile is a commitment to the citizens of Mobile to make our citizen the safest, most business and family-friendly city in the United States, paying particular attention to the needs of the disabled. This Plan can only succeed through public collaboration, strategic vision, and financial stewardship, and will be revisited annually to track our progress.

I hereby approve this Transition Plan for 2016-2017 this 30<sup>th</sup> day of August 2016.

W Stimpson

William S. Stimpson  
Mayor

Aug 30, 2016 Date

ATTEST:

P. C. Lambert

City Clerk

August 30, 2016 Date



## **Enclosure A: Sidewalk Data Files**

Attached are the maps of City of Mobile sidewalks created in late 2015/early 2016 by Neel-Shaffer for the City under contract with the South Alabama Regional Planning Commission.

These files provide a snapshot in time picture of the City's sidewalks and their general compliance with PROWAG.

These maps form the basis for City Engineer Division and Tier prioritization as discussed in the plan.