

**Policy Title: ADA Transition Plan: Pedestrian Facilities in the Public Rights-of-Way**

**Policy and Procedure Number: E-331**

**Adoption Date: May 26, 2010**

**Mayor and Council Approval Date: N/A**

**Updated: December 18, 2013 and February 8, 2018**

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**1. Background:**

The Engineering Division is responsible for the City of Hagerstown's American Disabilities Act (ADA) Transition Plan in the rights-of-way of City streets. Most of the problems in the rights-of-way concern physical barriers, which cannot be addressed through other options such as policy changes, alternative methodologies, or adaptive aids. Therefore, the public rights-of-way can only be made accessible via a realistic and fundable strategy for curb ramp installation and sidewalk modifications. To achieve this, the Public Rights of Way Accessibility Guidelines (PROWAG, latest draft July 2011) will be used as a guide.

Since 1989, the City has administered a curb ramp retrofit program, with the assistance of public input to prioritize ramp locations. These ramp installations were primarily funded by Community Development Block Grant program through the Division of Community Development.

**2. Obstacles in the Public Right of Way**

The City conducted an assessment to verify the number of curb ramps that are needed adjacent the 119 miles of streets within the City limits. Staff placed the survey data in a Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping program which also identifies land use (i.e., commercial, recreational, residential, and governmental, etc.). These maps will be used to determine the number of ramps required and to develop accessible routes.

The City estimates there are about 3,800 potential ramp locations at street intersections and at alley/street intersections. We further estimate that approximately 3,755 ramps are in place. However, we estimate only about 25% are fully compliant (or are complaint with a necessary waiver of specific criteria due to site constraints) with the *current* ADA regulations. Please see the attached map that inventories the ramps.

**3. Barrier removal priorities:**

Based on 2017 construction bids, the average cost for installing one ramp is \$2,000. Therefore, we estimate that \$6,000,000 is needed to complete all the curb ramp installation. Since our entire street *pavement* program is just over a million dollars annually, priorities must be established to effectively and efficiently complete the work over time.

Priorities for the construction or replacement of non-compliant curb ramps are as follows:

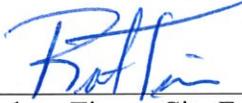
- Public Buildings
- Schools
- Shopping Centers
- Employment Centers
- Residential Areas

**6. Public Input:**

The City welcomes comments on this transition plan and we will post it on our website for public review.

To file a request or to offer suggestions regarding accessibility of a sidewalk or curb ramp, contact the City Engineer (preferably in writing) who will route this information to the appropriate staff for inspection and appropriate action.

Authorized and Approved By:



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Rodney Tissue, City Engineer



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Date

*Attachment: ADA Ramp Inventory*