

7.0 ADA Transition Plan

Background Information

In 2004, WDSRA hired an accessibility consultant to review all of our facilities for compliance with the American's with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG). This report included a picture of each non-compliant item or area and cited the specific guideline. This resulted in several hundreds of pages of reports with little direction on how to proceed with correcting deficiencies.

In 2007, WDSRA hired a new consultant to review the initial reports and prioritize the items. The prioritization rates items from one through four. These categories have not been specifically defined, but basically range from making sure that people can get to our facilities and participate in our programs to modifications that are more for comfort than barriers to participation. The attached report provides a summary of the items identified and a brief recommendation on how to proceed with each location.

Issues to be Corrected

Many issues are minor and can be corrected by replacing or relocating hardware, fixtures, and signs. Other issues can be addressed during scheduled replacements. Some items will need to be specifically contracted or purchased. Significant areas that are out of compliance, such as those that are present in some of our older facilities, do not necessarily need to be corrected as long as there is a contingency plan to accommodate a patron with special needs.

The following categories are some of the more common issues that were identified for various locations:

- Paths do not extend to all amenities and have changes in elevation or exceed the maximum slopes
- Signs and fixtures are mounted outside of the recommended height ranges
- Additional quantities of accessible amenities are needed (picnic tables, benches, parking spaces, etc.)
- Counters are too high
- Hardware requires the use of two hands or a pinch and grab motion that is not recommended
- Storage of materials and equipment limits accessible routes in some areas

There are a number of facilities that have significantly changed or were not included in the original review that should be reviewed:

- Arrowhead Golf Clubhouse
- Graf Park Playground

- Seven Gables Playground
- W.W. Stevens Park
- Community Center Playground
- Lucent Fields

Requirements for Compliance

Compliance with these guidelines is not mandatory but strongly recommended. The recommendation is in response to situations where patrons have filed complaints with the Department of Justice (DOJ) that an agency discriminated against individuals with disabilities. If the DOJ determines that your facilities do create barriers, they may levy fines and require the issues to be addressed immediately.

By creating a plan for addressing these issues we can assure that over time we will be compliant with the guidelines. This will also ensure that we can implement the plan according to our schedule and budgetary limitations opposed to having a schedule imposed upon us.

Improvements Completed to Date

Listed below is a summary of the revenues and expenditures showing the impact of the legislation that allowed the district to levy taxes for accessible recreation outside of the tax cap.

	For the Fiscal Period Ending:					
	12/31/08	3/31/08	3/31/07	3/31/06	3/31/05	3/31/04
REVENUES						
Property Taxes	875,117	864,939	801,449	739,592	682,404	185,199
Interest	6,004	2,711	11,033	583	192	43
Total Revenues	881,121	867,650	812,482	740,175	682,596	185,242
EXPENDITURES						
General Government						
Administrative						
Salaries		33,594	11,426	21,910	13,930	
Contractual Services			544	640	3,810	
Supplies		9,945				
Other charges					215	
Park development						
Capital outlay		90,438	13,802	76,628	152,686	
Special Recreation						
Disbursement to WDSRA	986,957	401,948	370,148	298,400	280,025	185,242
Transfer to other Funds *			398,400			
	986,957	535,925	794,320	397,578	450,666	185,242
Net	(105,836)	331,725	18,162	342,597	231,930	-

These numbers are preliminary.

These funds have allowed us to make many improvements throughout the parks including:

- Accessibility related components of the Park Services Center
- Accessibility related components of Arrowhead Golf Club
- Annual replenishment of engineered wood fiber playground surfacing
- Upgrading playground surfacing to solid accessible surfaces

Five Year Plan

- All priority 1 items that are at current facilities and can be completed within house staff through minor modifications should be completed.
- More significant priority 1 items should be budgeted for completion in subsequent years.
- Additional assistance in prioritizing improvements may be necessary through WDSRA's existing consultant or a similar professional.
- Any new projects should be evaluated to ensure that they adhere to current guidelines and any accessibility accommodations should be paid for with 5/8 levy funding.

Summary of ADA Recommendations

Listed below is a summary of the recommendations made by WDSRA's consultant.

Albright Park

Recommendation – No action required prior to development

American Legion

- No accessible parking and route to fields

Recommendation – Discuss necessary improvements with legion representative and potentially incorporate into paving projects

Appleby Park

Recommendation – No action required prior to development

Arboretum Mews

- Bench is not accessible design or connected to accessible path

Recommendation – Bench may belong to homeowner's association, verify location

Arrowhead Golf Course

- Port-a-potties should be an accessible design and connected to paths
- Driving range is difficult to access
- Course shelters have 4" steps to access
- Course amenities cannot be approached and are too high or inoperable for standards
- Building was under construction during initial assessment.

Recommendation – Planned restrooms will address port a potty issues. Consider accessibility with redesign of driving range. Address remaining amenities according to priority as budget allows. New clubhouse should be assessed.

Arrowhead Park

Recommendation – No action required prior to development

Atten Park

- Additional accessible parking and routes to amenities are needed
- Accessible picnic tables are needed
- Garden plots need a raised bed, accessible routes, and improvements to watering devices
- Several paths are out of compliance with standards
- Bathrooms need renovations to adjust features to meet standards

Recommendation – Develop paving scope to address access issues. Address remaining amenities according to priority as budget allows.

Atten Park Playground

- Access, equipment, and seating are out of compliance

Recommendation – Renovation planned for current fiscal year. Address all issues with redesign.

Blacksmith Park

Recommendation – No action required prior to development

Briarknoll Park Playground

- Access, equipment, drinking fountain, and seating are out of compliance

Recommendation – Renovation planned for current fiscal year. Address all issues with redesign.

Briarpatch Park

- Paths and play area entrances have slopes that are too steep
- Accessible routes to ball fields and amenities are lacking or inadequate
- Shelter/restrooms have various fixtures that do not meet standards
- Benches are inaccessible and do not have armrests
- Accessible picnic tables are needed

Recommendation - Develop paving scope to address access issues. Address remaining amenities according to priority as budget allows.

Brighton Park

- Path slopes are too steep and do not access several amenities
- Accessible picnic tables are needed

Recommendation – Address path issues when existing path is scheduled for replacement in CARF and order accessible picnic tables.

C.L. Herrick Park

- Sections of path are too narrow or steep
- Benches and picnic tables are inaccessible
- Playground components do not meet guidelines

Recommendation – Address path and playground issues when they are scheduled for replacement in CARF and order accessible picnic tables.

Central Park

- Path slopes are too steep and do not access several amenities
- Benches are inaccessible and do not have armrests
- Access, equipment, drinking fountain, and seating are out of compliance
- Accessible picnic tables are needed

Recommendation - Potential proposal to redevelop park with Hubble redevelopment, no significant action until decision is made

Central Park Administration Building

- Accessible entrance needs to be renovated
- Registration counter is too high
- Signs and fixtures are mounted too high
- Size of bathrooms and width of doorways are inadequate

Recommendation – Potential proposal to relocated administrative office, no significant action until decision is made

Chatham Park

Recommendation – No action required prior to development

Clocktower Commons

- Sections of plaza and skate park exceed slope limitations for accessibility
- Miniature golf exceeds limitations for accessibility
- Various issues with heights of fixtures and settings at concession building/restrooms

Recommendations – Plaza grades and miniature golf changes are impractical with existing site limitations. Instruct staff to make accommodations as practical. Schedule improvements as budget allows.

Clydesdale Park

Recommendation – No action required prior to development

Community Center

- Emergency exits need to be unobstructed and have level landings
- Various adjustments/modifications need to be made to hardware and plumbing
- Several fixtures and counters are too high
- Various movable items are stored in locations that hinder access
- Stairs in Zone prohibit access
- Sauna thresholds prevent access
- Dance floor is inaccessible

Recommendation – Instruct staff about areas to remain clear. Consider permanent markings. Address registration counter issues with redesign. Assign maintenance staff to budget for repairs and correct in order of priority.

Community Center Recreation Department

- Accessible parking space and entrance needed
- Door hardware needs to be changed

- Fixtures mounted too high
- Restroom is too small to be accessible
- Picnic table on back porch is not accessible

Recommendation – Building is not open to the general public. Accommodations should be made to utilize the Community Center if necessary.

Community Center Rice Pool

- Paths and ramps are too steep or have sudden grade changes
- Accessible routes are needed to several areas or blocked by movable objects
- Fixtures, counters, and signs are at incorrect heights or have inadequate clearances
- Door hardware and plumbing need to be changed and/or adjusted
- Signs are not accessible
- Benches have no armrests and are inaccessible
- No picnic tables are an accessible design
- Accessible amenities should be on display for public
- Two means of access are required for the pool
- Sloped entry is needed for baby pool
- Playground has been renovated following review

Recommendation – Reassess playground. Budget and address issues according to priority.

Community Park

- Sections of path are too steep or have sudden grade changes
- Several amenities do not have accessible routes
- Benches and picnic tables are inaccessible
- Playground components do not meet required percentage accessible

Recommendation – Review deficiencies with Community Park Commission. Address path and playground issues during scheduled replacements. Correct other issues as budget allows according to priority.

Cosley Zoo

- One additional accessible parking space is needed and all need to be striped appropriately
- Several ramps throughout the facility exceed 5%/8.33% running slope and 2% cross slope
- Door hardware and plumbing need to be changed and/or adjusted
- Transition plates needed in a couple of areas to eliminate abrupt changes in grade
- Caboose needs accessible route or alternative presentation of interpretive information

- Gift shop needs minimum 36" aisle width
- Counter is too high in gift shop
- Informational kiosks and signs are inaccessible with font too small
- Many fixtures are mounted above 48" accessible height
- Picnic area is not on accessible route and 9 tables need to be replaced with accessible design
- Benches throughout facility have no armrests, back support, accessible routes and clear spaces
- Several exhibits do not have accessible viewing spaces
- Pipe insulation is needed on hot water pipes below sinks

Recommendation – Address design issues as exhibits are reconstructed. Assign Cosley maintenance staff to correct minor issues. Develop work orders for remaining, larger issues as budget and schedule allow in order of priority.

Coventry Park

Recommendation – No action required prior to development

Dorset Park

Recommendation – No action required prior to development

Firefighter's Park

Recommendation – No action required prior to development

Graf Park

- Evaluation was completed prior to new playground being installed
- Accessible routes to baseball and football fields and bleachers needed
- Concession window is too high
- Door hardware and plumbing need to be changed and/or adjusted
- Additional accessible benches are needed

Recommendation – Reassess new playground for accessibility. Incorporate access to fields in future paving projects. Address remaining issues as budget and schedule allow.

Hawthorne Junction

- EWF needs to be maintained at appropriate level to prevent slope of PIP from being too steep
- Additional picnic table and bench needed outside of walled area

Recommendation – Instruct staff to maintain level of woodchips and budget for additional table and bench

Hillside Tot Lot

- Path exceeds accessible slope and needs level landings every 30'

- Surfacing level causes some playground elements and benches to be too high
- Drinking fountain is not accessible

Recommendation – Instruct staff to maintain appropriate level of wood chips. Create appropriate design for path and implement and budget for appropriate drinking fountain.

Hoffman Park

- Paths and play area entrances have slopes that are too steep
- Accessible routes to ball fields and amenities are lacking or inadequate
- Benches are inaccessible and do not have armrests
- Drinking fountain is not accessible

Recommendation – Correct path elevations and routes to fields/amenities during next resurfacing. Budget for and install appropriate benches and drinking fountain.

Hull Park

- Level landing is needed every 30'
- Entrance to playground is too steep
- Accessible routes to ball fields and amenities are not present
- No accessible route to sand play area in playground
- Benches are inaccessible and do not have armrests
- Inadequate picnic area and benches

Recommendation – Correct path elevations and routes to fields/amenities during next resurfacing. Correct playground deficiencies during next replacement. Budget for and install appropriate picnic tables and benches.

Hurley Gardens

- Evaluation was completed prior to renovation of gardens
- Tennis court is not connected via accessible path
- Fireplace room is only accessible via steps

Recommendation – Reassess gardens based on new design. Budget for and construct path to connect tennis court. Fireplace room is not open to the public so no action is needed.

Kelly Park

- Sections of path are too steep or have sudden grade changes
- Accessible routes to ball fields and amenities are lacking or inadequate
- Benches are inaccessible and do not have armrests
- Inadequate picnic area and benches
- Drinking fountain is not accessible

Recommendation – Identify and budget to correct inadequate paths, benches, picnic tables, and drinking fountain.

Lincoln Marsh

- No accessible parking
- Sections of path are too steep or have sudden grade changes
- Interpretive signs and kiosks are not accessible
- Inadequate picnic areas and benches

Recommendation – Identify and correct sections of path and routes to signs and kiosks. Designate an accessible parking space. Budget for and order appropriate benches and picnic tables.

Lincoln Marsh Office

- Concrete ramp is too steep and does not have adequate handrails or edge protection.
- Door hardware needs to be changed
- Picnic table is not an accessible design or connected to accessible route

Recommendation – Office is primarily for staff use. Reconstruct ramp and change door hardware when necessary.

Lincoln Park

Recommendation – No action required prior to development

Madison Park

Recommendation – No action required prior to development

Manchester Park Service Center

- Fixtures, counters, and signs are at incorrect heights or have inadequate clearances
- Emergency exit needs to have accessible path away from building
- Door hardware and plumbing need to be changed and/or adjusted
- Accessible lockers and benches needed

Recommendation – Budget for replacement and assign work orders for issues.

Memorial Park

- Paths have slopes that are too steep or have sudden grade changes
- Accessible routes to amenities and wheel chair parking areas are lacking or inadequate
- Fixtures and counters are at incorrect heights or have inadequate clearances
- Door hardware and plumbing needs to be changed and/or adjusted
- No picnic tables are an accessible design

- Benches need accessible surfacing and clear space at one end

Recommendation – Address building issues during planned remodeling. Develop plan for paving issues and correct during planned entrance reconfiguration.

Northside Park

- Paths have slopes that are too steep or have sudden grade changes
- Accessible routes to amenities and wheel chair parking areas are lacking or inadequate
- Accessible parking spaces are incorrectly striped or blocked
- Fixtures, counters, and signs are at incorrect heights or have inadequate clearances
- Door hardware and plumbing need to be changed and/or adjusted
- No picnic tables are an accessible design
- Benches are inaccessible and do not have armrests
- Fire rings are too low and need accessible clear space surrounding them
- Drinking fountains are not accessible design

Recommendation – Address issues as practical within renovation of park.

Budget for and correct remaining issues in areas not affected by the renovation according to priority.

Northside Family Aquatic Center

- Door and gate hardware needs to be adjusted
- Accessibility of routes is reduced by storage of items
- Paths have slopes that are too steep or have sudden grade changes
- Fixtures, signs and counters are at incorrect heights or have inadequate clearances
- Door hardware and plumbing needs to be changed and/or adjusted
- Accessible routes to amenities and wheel chair parking areas are lacking or inadequate
- Two means of access are required for the pool
- Accessible amenities are needed in sand play area
- No picnic tables are an accessible design

Recommendation – Budget for and address issues according to priority.

Consider renovation of major issues in a renovation of the facility depending on the prioritization in the master plan. Instruct staff to leave clearance areas open.

Northside Park Playground

- Paths have slopes that are too steep or have sudden grade changes
- Accessible route is not continuous and blocked in some areas
- Sand surfacing area is inaccessible

- Inappropriate number of various play events
- Benches are inaccessible and do not have armrests
- No picnic tables are an accessible design
- Drinking fountains is not adjusted properly and does not have knee clearance

Recommendation – Address all issues during scheduled playground replacement in 2009.

Orchard Park

- Path has slopes that are too steep
- Benches have no armrests or accessible clear space

Recommendation – Correct path slopes and access to bench during scheduled asphalt replacement. Order and install armrest.

Prairie Path Park

- Accessible parking space needed
- Path has slopes that are too steep
- Benches have no armrests or accessible clear space and are at incorrect heights
- Drinking fountain water flow needs to be adjusted

Recommendation – Stripe and sign parking with accessible space. Correct path slopes and access to bench during scheduled asphalt replacement. Order and install armrest. Assign work order to adjust fountain.

President's Park

- Paths have slopes that are too steep or have sudden grade changes
- Accessible routes to fields and playground are required
- Benches have no armrests or accessible clear space and are at incorrect heights
- Swing heights are too high (potentially due to elevation of EWF surfacing)
- No picnic tables are an accessible design

Recommendation - Correct path slopes and access to bench during scheduled asphalt replacement. Order and install armrest and picnic tables as budget allows.

Rathje Park

- Building is substantially out of compliance and impractical to correct
- Paths have slopes that are too steep or have sudden grade changes
- Accessible routes to fields and playground are required
- Portable toilet ramp is too steep and has a gap
- Swing heights are too high (potentially due to elevation of EWF surfacing)
- Benches have no armrests and are inaccessible

- Drinking fountain water flow needs to be adjusted
- Additional accessible design picnic tables are necessary

Recommendation – Develop relocation plan for programs if necessary. Address playground related issues with upcoming scheduled replacement. Budget for and correct remaining issues in order of priority.

Ridge Park

Recommendation – No action required prior to development

Scottdale Park

- Paths are too steep or have sudden grade changes
- Sand play transfer is too small and support blocks access
- Access to baseball field is too narrow and blocked by wood timber
- Swing heights are too high (potentially due to elevation of EWF surfacing)
- Benches have no armrests and are inaccessible
- No picnic tables are an accessible design

Recommendation - Correct path slopes and access to bench during scheduled asphalt replacement. Budget and address remaining issues according to priority.

Scotts Cove Park

Recommendation – No action required prior to development

Seven Gables Park

- Paths have slopes that are too steep or have sudden grade changes
- Accessible routes to amenities and wheel chair parking areas are lacking or inadequate
- Fixtures, counters, and signs are at incorrect heights or have inadequate clearances
- Door hardware and plumbing need to be changed and/or adjusted
- Inadequate number of picnic tables are an accessible design
- Benches are inaccessible and do not have armrests

Recommendation – Two major sections of path are scheduled to be replaced this summer. Develop plan for remaining accessible routes and budget for construction. Identify and schedule for relocation of appropriate items. Budget and address remaining issues according to priority.

Seven Gables Playground

- Playground replaced in 2008

Recommendation – Reassess compliance of new playground

Sunnyside Park

- Park is scheduled for replacement this year

Recommendation – Ensure that replacement is compliant with standards.

Toohey Park

- Paths have slopes that are too steep or have sudden grade changes
- Accessible routes to amenities are lacking or inadequate
- Fixtures, counters, and signs are at incorrect heights or have inadequate clearances
- Benches are inaccessible and do not have armrests
- Door hardware and plumbing need to be changed and/or adjusted
- Inadequate number of picnic tables are an accessible design

Recommendation - Develop plan for remaining accessible routes and budget for construction. Identify and schedule for relocation of appropriate items. Budget and address remaining issues according to priority.

Triangle Park

- Basketball court does not have an accessible route
- Playground is scheduled for replacement this year

Recommendation – Design and budget for path to basketball court. Ensure that replacement of playground is compliant with standards.

W.W. Stevens Park

- Playground replaced in 2006

Recommendation – Reassess compliance of new playground

Westhaven Park

Recommendation – No action required prior to development

Wexford Park

Recommendation – No action required prior to development