WHAT IS AN ADA SELF-EVALUATION & TRANSITION PLAN?

An ADA Self-Evaluation assesses how well the city’s transportation system—such as sidewalks, multi-use paths, curb ramps, pedestrian signals and crossings, and transit stops—complies with the ADA. The self-evaluation will look at existing policies, engage with the public and inventory our transportation infrastructure to identify barriers and opportunities for improvement.

The ADA Transition Plan will prioritize, plan and draft a schedule to make the improvements identified in the Self-Evaluation, in collaboration with partner agencies.

WHAT IS THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT?

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), enacted on July 26, 1990, is a federal civil rights law prohibiting discrimination against individuals on the basis of disability. It requires Boulder (and other municipalities) to determine where its streets and sidewalks don’t comply with the law and make a plan to bring them into compliance.

The ADA defines a person with a disability as “a person who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities. Examples of major life activities include caring for one’s self, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, learning, and working.”

THE NEED THROUGH RESIDENTS’ EYES

Before I got hit, I used to walk 40 minutes a day, either around the apartment building or around the park or somewhere else. Now, I’m cooped up in my apartment a lot.”
—Nicole, Boulder resident

It’s easy to make excuses and not do things because you might get stuck in a situation that’s hard to navigate with a wheelchair.”
—Craig, Boulder resident

In Boulder, we believe that mobility for people of all abilities is a fundamental right. We strive to provide a transportation system with a variety of safe, accessible and sustainable travel options that connect people with each other and with the places they want to go. This builds a stronger community in which everyone feels a sense of belonging.

bouldercolorado.gov/transportation/ada
20th St
23rd St
26th St
Walnut St
Pine St

6.8% of City of Boulder residents have a disability, and 62.7% of those residents are age 65 and older, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.¹

The Colorado State Demography Office predicts that by 2040, Boulder County residents age 60 and older will account for 28 percent of the county’s population.⁴

22% of the City of Boulder’s older residents (age 60 and older) live with a disability.²

These may include temporary disabilities or limitations not defined by the ADA as a disability.

“The standard-width sidewalks are difficult to navigate with a guide dog, especially when there are bicyclists and other pedestrians around.” —Paulette, Boulder resident

Nationally, over one-fifth of non-workers and 12 percent of workers age 18 to 64 with disabilities live in zero-vehicle households.⁸

10.6% of Colorado residents have a disability.⁷

WHO EXPERIENCES LIVING WITH A DISABILITY?

NATIONALLY

MAJOR TYPES OF DISABILITIES IN COLORADO INCLUDE:

- Mobility: Serious difficulty walking or climbing stairs
  - 8.2%

- Cognition: Serious difficulty concentrating, remembering or making decisions
  - 7.9%

- Independent Living: Difficulty doing errands alone, such as visiting a doctor’s office or shopping
  - 4.9%

- Hearing: Deaf or serious difficulty hearing
  - 4.3%

- Vision: Blind or serious difficulty seeing, even when wearing glasses
  - 2.8%

- Self-Care: Difficulty dressing or bathing
  - 2.4%

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28% of the City of Boulder’s older residents (age 60 and older) live with a disability.²

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