



Beyond the Minimums Accessibility Series Part 1: Breaking Ground: Best Practices for Creating Accessible Routes and Surfacing in Park and Recreation Facilities

Presented by:



The session is scheduled to begin at 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time. Audio and visuals are provided through the online webinar system. This webinar includes real-time captioning.



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Presenter

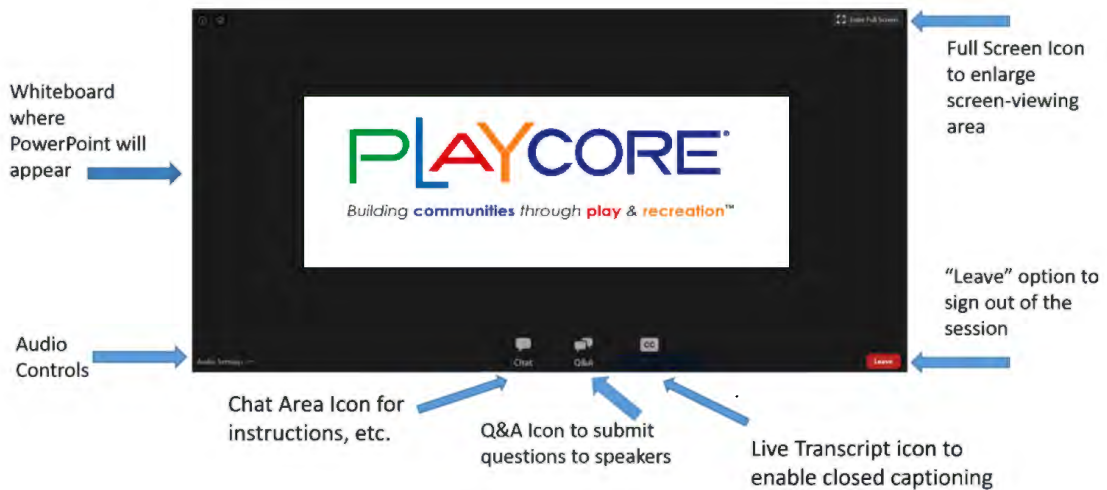


Jennie Sumrell
Community Outreach Director
PlayCore/CORE
Moderator



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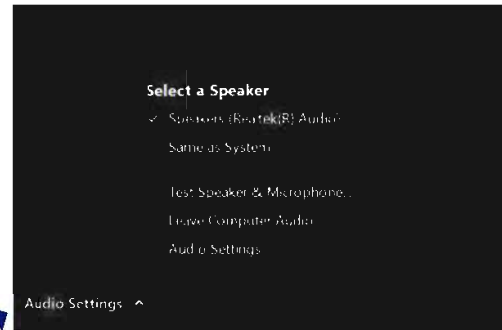
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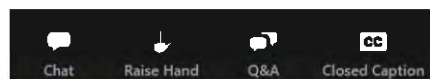
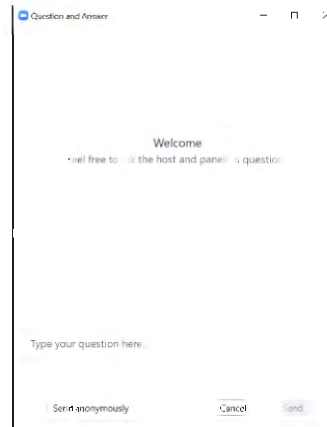
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LEADERSHIP	We believe in profitably growing the company through innovation and by taking informed, entrepreneurial risks that advance play, recreation, and physical activity.
TEAMWORK	We believe our employees are our most valuable assets. We strive to instill a sense of teamwork and pride by providing a safe and productive work environment in which employees are treated with fairness and respect.
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COMMUNITY	We believe in enhancing the quality of life in the communities where we live, work, and play.

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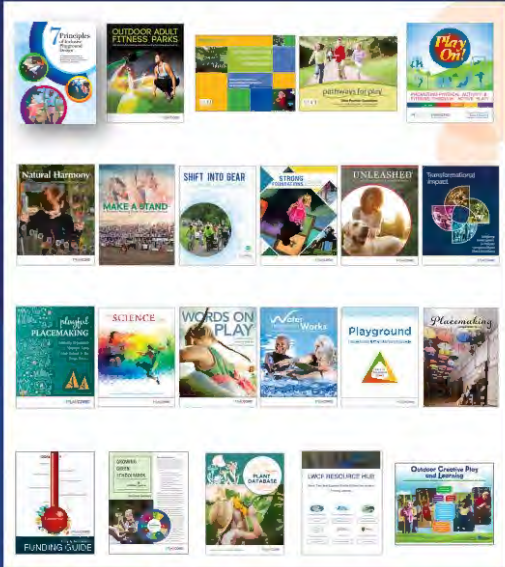
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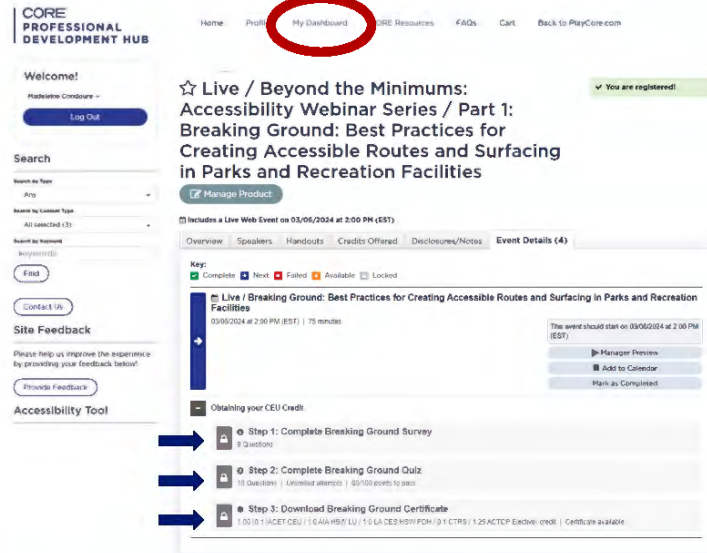
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Telling Your Impact Story: Community Vitality



What are your community's priorities?

<p>Diversity, Equity & Inclusion</p> <hr/> <p>Population Demographics Disparities Accessibility of Community Resources</p>  <p>CORE DATA SERVICE LAB</p>	<p>Public Services</p> <hr/> <p>Healthcare Public Transportation Economic Development Public Spaces Perceptions of Public Services/Agencies</p>  <p>CORE DATA SERVICE LAB</p>	<p>Environment</p> <hr/> <p>Safety Pollution Natural Environment Built Environment Sustainability</p>  <p>CORE DATA SERVICE LAB</p>
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Learning Objectives



1. Describe the difference between accessible routes, sidewalks, pedestrian trails, circulation paths, and shared-use paths.



2. Explain at least two scoping and technical requirements for routes to and within recreation facilities including play areas, sports fields, outdoor recreation areas, trails, and beaches.



3. List three design considerations for accessible routes and surfaces that go beyond the minimum requirements of ADA to meet the needs of visitors of varying abilities.



4. Name tools and resources to support the planning process and help professionals advocate for inclusive design solutions specific to routes and surfacing.



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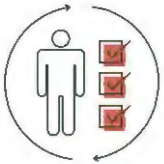
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Facility Types

- Accessible Routes
 - Recreation facilities including playgrounds
- Pedestrian Access Route (Sidewalk)
- Pedestrian Trails
- Shared Use Paths



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Minimum Requirements

- 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design
- Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Standards (ABAAS)
- ADA and ABA Accessibility Guidelines for the Public Right-of-Way
- International Building Code (IBC)
- State and local model codes (specific edition based on state/municipality)



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Americans with Disabilities Act

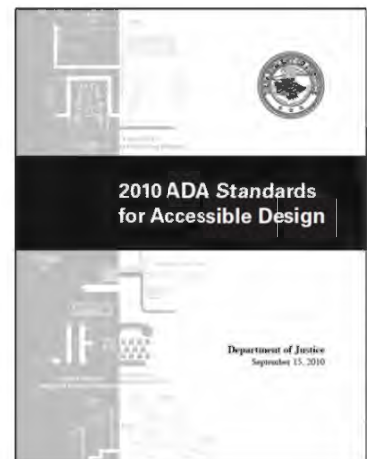
Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design

- Enforcing agency – Department of Justice
- Covers state and local government facilities and private facilities.
- Referenced Standards - Play areas - ASTM F1487, F1292, F1951

Accessible routes – walking surfaces, ramps, curb ramps, doors and gates, platform lifts, elevators

Recreation facilities – play areas, fitness equipment, boating, fishing, fishing, golf, shooting, bowling, areas of sport activity, swimming pools and spas, miniature golf, amusement rides

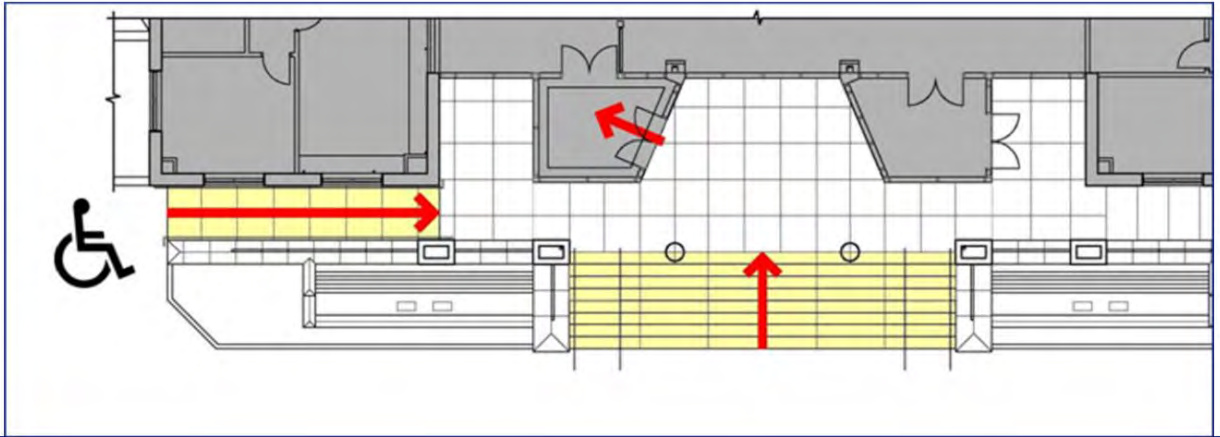


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Accessible route must coincide or be located in the same areas as general circulation paths

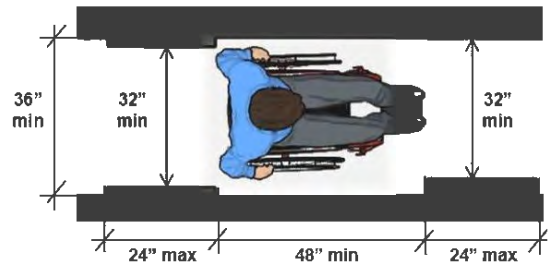


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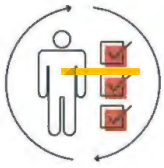


Technical Requirements

- Walking surface running slope < 5%
- Ramp = running slope greater than 5%, maximum slope 8.33%
 - Handrails and edge protection required > 6" vertical rise
- Cross slope < 1:48
- Clear width = 36" EX. for 32" for 24" max



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Accessible Routes

Firm, stable, slip-resistant surface on accessible routes (concrete, asphalt, or boardwalk preferred).

- Carpet
- Changes in level
- Openings
- Protruding objects - entire circulation path

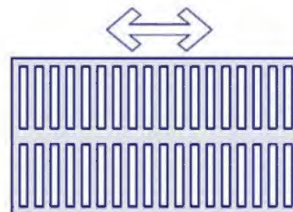
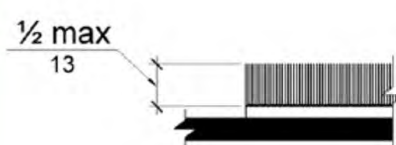


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Ground & Floor Surfaces

- Slip-resistance: specific value(coefficient of friction) not specified
- Carpet = 1/2" pile
- Openings (prevent passage of 1/2 diameter sphere; elongated = perpendicular to dominant travel direction)

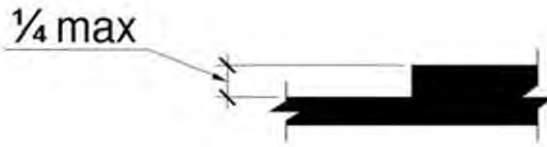


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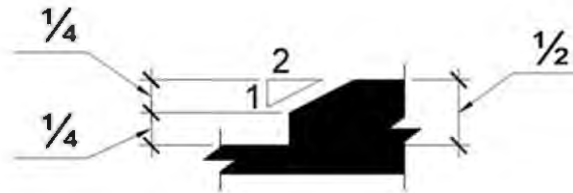


Walking Surfaces

changes in level: 1/4" max (vertical)



1/2" max (beveled)



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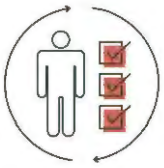
Ground & Floor Surfaces (cont.)

Rough surfaces (e.g. cobblestone) make mobility device travel difficult and uncomfortable



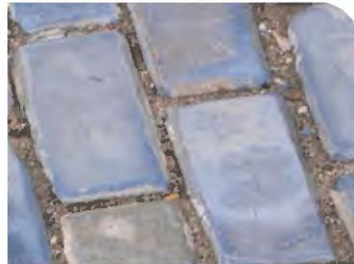
TIP:
Avoid materials or construction methods that create bumpy and uneven surfaces

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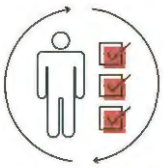


Surface Characteristics Matter

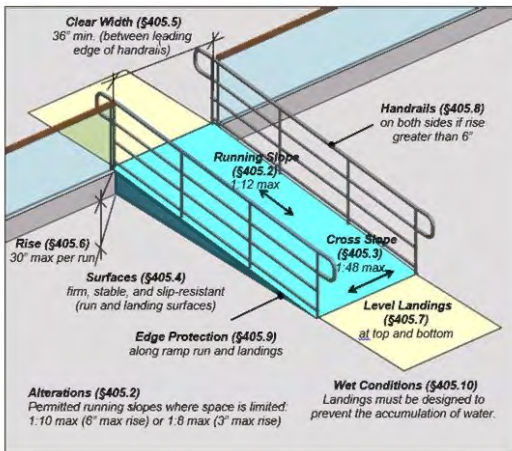
- Beveled edged pavers are an issue for roll ability
- Use smooth surface for min. route width
- Length of travel
- Direction of travel



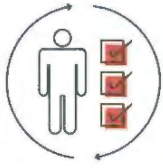
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Ramps

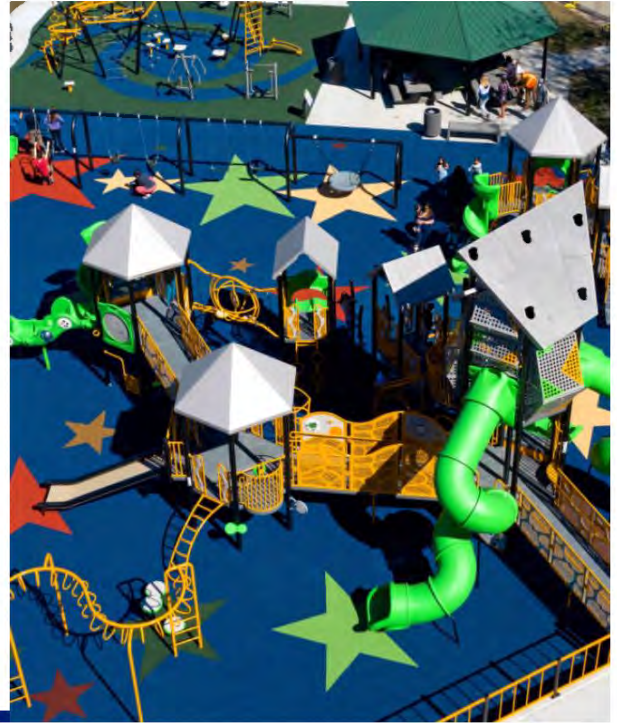


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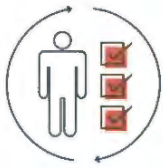


Playground Surfacing

- Surface choice
- Loose Fill Surfacing – Engineered Wood Fiber, Loose Fill Rubber, Sand and Pea Gravel
- Unitary Surfacing – Pour-in-Place Rubber, Tiles, Bonded Rubber, Synthetic Grass
- Maintenance



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Evaluation and Maintenance



Advisory 1008.2.6 Ground Surfaces. Ground surfaces must be inspected and maintained regularly to ensure continued compliance with the ASTM F 1951 standard. The type of surface material selected and play area use levels will determine the frequency of inspection and maintenance activities.

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Unitary Options



Tiles



Bonded Rubber

Poured Rubber/
Poured-in-Place



Synthetic Grass

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Surfacing

- Unitary, fall-attenuating safety surfacing, such as poured-in-place rubber or turf provides the most consistent surface for accessibility in play and recreation environments
- Various surface materials, textures, or colors to provide cues to help visually organize the environment so that it is easier to navigate and understand



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Surfacing Referenced Standards

- **ASTM F 1487-01**

Standard Consumer Safety Performance Specification for Playground Equipment for Public Use

- **ASTM F 1292- 99 or 04**

Standard Specification for Impact Attenuation of Surfacing Materials Within the Use Zone of Playground Equipment

- **ASTM F 1951-99**

Standard Specification for Determination of Accessibility of Surface Systems Under and Around Playground Equipment

- Use of “Equivalent facilitation” for more recently published versions of these standards



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Playgrounds Ground-Level Accessible Routes

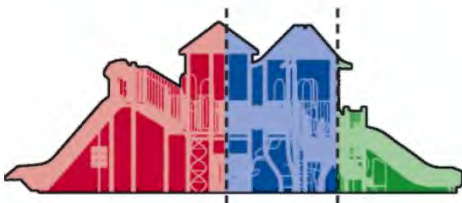
- At least one of each type of ground-level play component.
- Running slope = 1:16, Cross slope < 1:48
- 60" minimum width
- Firm, stable, and slip resistant
- Openings < 1/2"
- Changes in level < 1/2"
- Vertical clearance = 80"



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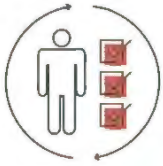
20 or More Elevated Play Components



- Connect to at least 50% of elevated play components
- 25% of the elevated components must be accessible by ramp
- The remaining 25% (or more), may be accessed by either transfer system or ramp



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Elevated Accessible Routes Technical

- Ramp access
 - Minimum width
 - Clear spaces
 - Maximum slope/rise
 - Landings
 - Handrails
 - Edge protection
 - Grates or openings
- Transfer access
 - Transfer platforms
 - Transfer steps
 - Transfer supports



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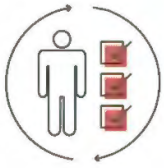


Fitness Equipment

- Accessible route to and a clear floor space at one of each type of equipment minimum
- Universally designed fitness equipment that provides individuals using mobility devices the opportunity to engage in aerobic and muscle strengthening activities alongside others



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Area of Sport Activity

- Each boundary of an area of sport activity connected with at least one accessible route
- No surface requirements in area of sport activity but unitary surfacing provides greater access
- Accessible route into team player seating areas with a wheelchair space adjacent to team benches
- Accessible route to wheelchair spaces in spectator seating areas
- Press Box access



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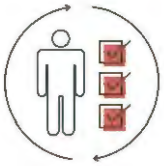


Golf Courses

- Golf car passage – “Continuous passage on which a motorized golf car can operate”
- In lieu of a compliant accessible route
- 48-inch minimum width
- 60 inches min. width if handrails are provided
- Fairway openings 60" wide min. provided at intervals not to exceed 75 yards



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Miniature Golf

- 50% of holes required to be accessible and consecutive. EX. permits one break, provided the last hole is included
- Accessible route cannot travel back through completed holes if only 50% of holes are accessible and consecutive
- Exception for carpet requirements
- 1" change in level permitted

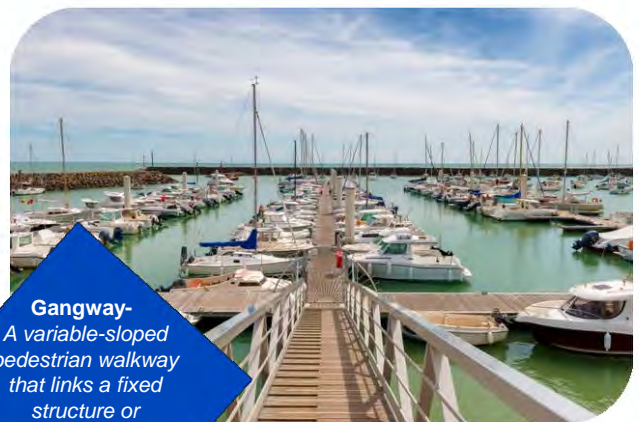


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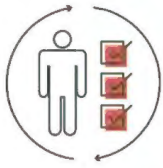
Recreational Boating Facilities

- Design for 1:12 max. slope OR provide at least an 80-foot gangway or series of gangways
- Less than 25 boat slips, the slope of the gangway may exceed 1:12, if the gangway is at least 30 feet long



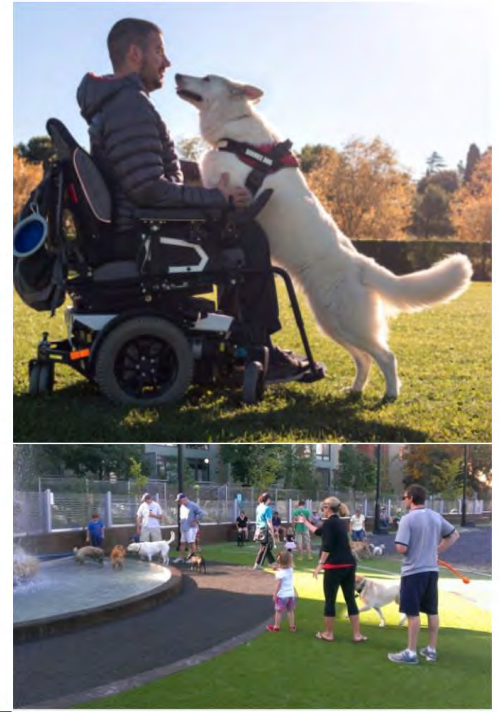
Gangway-
A variable-sloped pedestrian walkway that links a fixed structure or land with a floating structure

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Dog Parks & Service Animal Relief Areas

- Accessible route from site arrival points to entrance gate
- Gate requirements
- One of each type of pet waste stations, water stations, benches, other site amenities connected by an accessible route
- Design option – accessible route turf area



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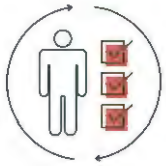


Aquatic Play Environments

- Aquatic access wheelchairs of varied sizes for adult and child visitors are available
- Access to one of each type of ground level component
- Where the surface of the accessible route, clear floor, ground spaces, or turning spaces serving water play components is submerged, compliance with carpet, openings, running and cross slope, and play area referenced standards are not required
- Ramps and transfer permitted to elevated play components



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Architectural Barriers Act (ABA)

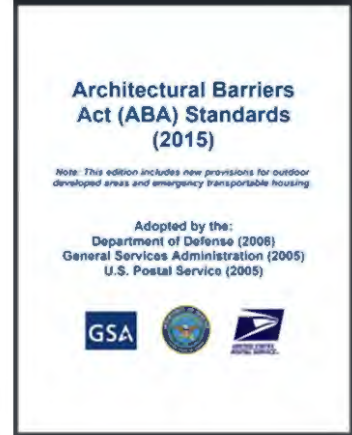
Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Standards (ABAAS)

- Enforcing agency – U.S. Access Board
- Covers federal facilities and lands, federal funding
- Referenced Standards - Play areas - ASTM F1487, F1292, F1951

Accessible routes – walking surfaces, ramps, curb ramps, doors and gates, platform lifts, elevators

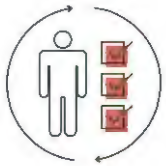
Recreation facilities – play areas, fitness equipment, boating, fishing, shooting, bowling, areas of sport activity

Outdoor Developed Areas – pedestrian trails, picnic and camping facilities, viewing areas, beach access routes, outdoor recreation access routes



access-board.gov/aba

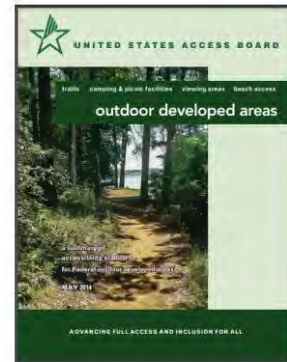
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Pedestrian Trails

- A pedestrian route developed primarily for outdoor recreational purposes
- A pedestrian route developed primarily to connect elements, spaces, or facilities within a site is not a trail

Running Slope of Trail Segment		Maximum Length of Segment
Steeper than	But not Steeper than	
1:20	1:12	200 feet (61 m)
1:12	1:10	30 feet (9 m)
1:10	1:8	10 feet (3050 mm)



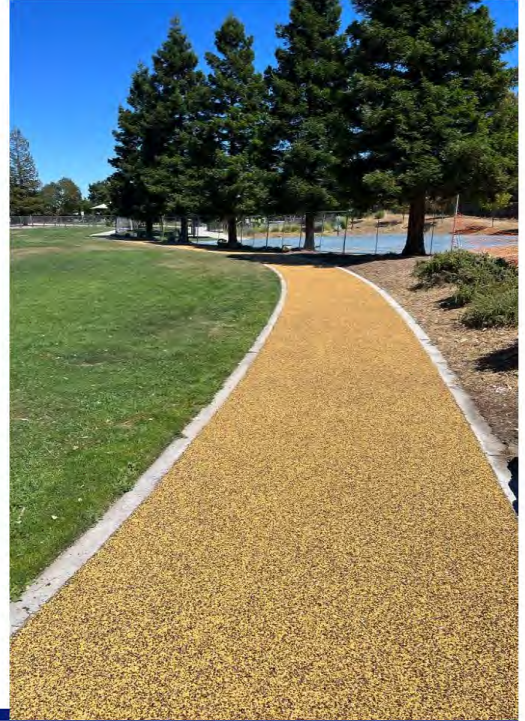
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Pedestrian Trails (cont.)

- Surface, passing spaces, and resting intervals – firm/stable
- 36 inches minimum width
- Passing spaces – every 1,000 feet where less than 60 inches in width
- Tread obstacles – **2 inches** maximum, **except concrete, asphalt, or board** = ½ inch
- Openings – ½ inch maximum

Advisory 1017.2 Surface. A firm trail surface resists deformation by indentations. A stable trail surface is not permanently affected by expected weather conditions and can sustain normal wear and tear from the expected uses between planned maintenance.



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Beach Access Routes

- Permanent or Temporary
- At least one each 1/2 mile
- High tide level at tidal beaches, mean high water level at river beaches; or normal recreation water level at lake, pond, and reservoir beaches
- 60-inch min. width/firm and stable



Beach Access Route-
A continuous, unobstructed path that crosses the surface of the beach to allow pedestrians to play, swim, or participate in other beach, shoreline, or water-related activities

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Beach Access Route Running Slope

Running Slope of Beach Access Route Segment		Maximum Length of Segment
Steeper than	But not Steeper than	
1:20 (5%)	1:12 (8.33%)	50 feet (15 m)
1:12 (8.33%)	1:10 (10%)	30 feet (9 m)

Where the slope of a beach access route at a dune crossing is steeper than 1:20 (5%), handrails and curbs or barriers must be provided.



ADA and ABA Accessibility Guidelines for the Public Right-of-Way

Addresses access to:

- Sidewalks and streets
- Crosswalks
- Curb ramps
- pedestrian signals
- On-street parking
- Other components of public right-of-way
- Shared use paths, which are designed primarily for use by bicyclists and pedestrians for transportation and recreation purposes



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Pedestrian Access Route (Sidewalk)

- Located in a public right-of-way and typically is parallel to a roadway. Running slopes must not exceed the slope of the roadway
- Sidewalks are designed for pedestrian transportation and are not designed for bicycles or other recreational purposes
- 4-foot minimum width

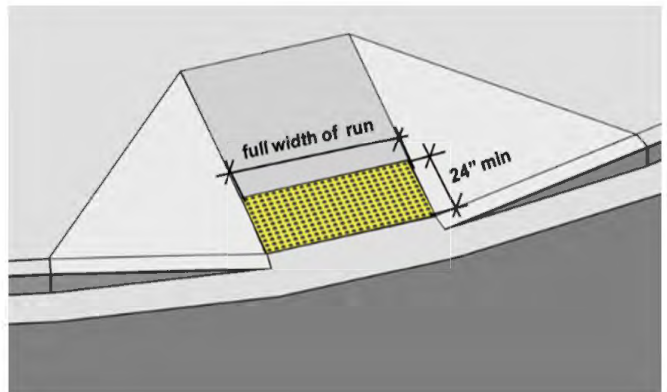


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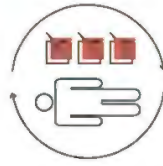


Detectable Warnings

- Curb ramps located at crosswalks
- Blended transitions
- Pedestrian refuge islands
- Pedestrian at-grade rail crossings
- Shared use paths (full width)



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Shared Use Paths

- NO minimum clear width requirement
- Full width must be accessible
- Width based on context, volume, mix of users - Not Accessibility
- Obstructions, such as bollards, cannot reduce the clear width to less than 48"
- Running slopes must not exceed the slope of the roadway, or 5% running slope max. When not adjacent to a roadway
- Firm and stable



Multise Path-
Designed primarily for use by bicyclists, pedestrians, and other authorized motorized and non-motorized users, for transportation purposes and that may also be used for recreation.

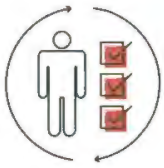
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Key Elements of Design Intent

	KEY ELEMENTS of DESIGN INTENT
PEDESTRIAN ROUTE	
Accessible Route	Connects accessible elements and spaces of a building or facility on a site
Pedestrian Access Route (Sidewalk)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designed for pedestrians (not bicycles) • An accessible, continuous, and unobstructed path of travel for use by pedestrians with disabilities within a pedestrian circulation path. • Pedestrian circulation paths include sidewalks, curb ramps, crosswalks, pedestrian under/overpasses
Pedestrian Trail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designed for the "recreation experience" • Does not connect elements, spaces, or facilities • Generally, includes a "trailhead" • Has limited transportation function
Shared Use Path	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designed primarily for use by bicyclists, pedestrians, and other authorized motorized and non-motorized users • For transportation purposes and that may also be used for recreation

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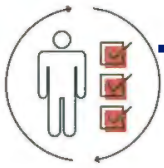


Wayfinding

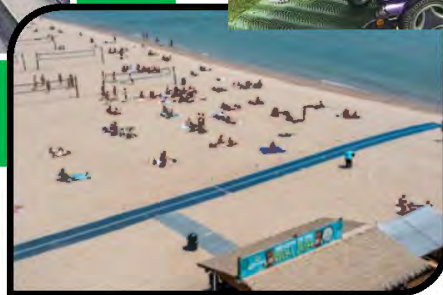
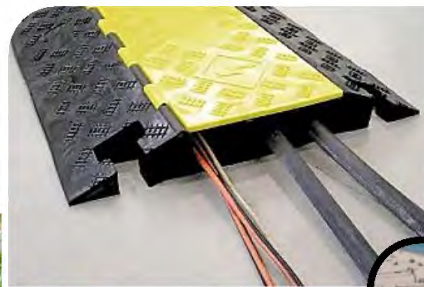
- Accessible visual signage that identifies accessible routes and facilities within the site
- Picture symbols to identify equipment with raised images and words
- Bilingual options on signage, QR codes with videos, or options to download in different languages
- Section 508 compliant detailed website information about the accessible routes, park and inclusive features
- Tactile 3D site models where possible
- Various surface material textures or colors to provide behavioral cues and help visually organize the environment so that it is easier to navigate and understand



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Temporary Facilities



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Useful Resources



U.S. Department of Justice

Implementing regulation and additional requirements

Requirements for existing facilities – Title II & III

(800) 514-0301 (voice)

(800) 514-0383 (TTY)

www.ada.gov



U.S. Access Board

2010 Accessibility Standards for new construction and alterations

(202) 272-0080 (voice/TTY)

(202) 272-0081 (FAX)

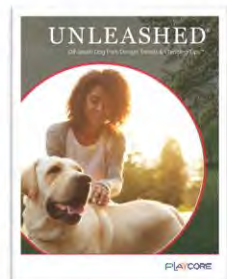
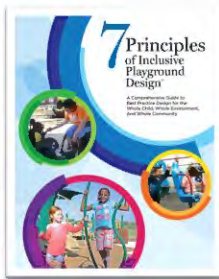
ta@access-board.gov

www.access-board.gov



Useful Resources

(Available in PlayCore's learning system under handouts tab)



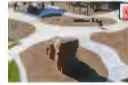
Inclusive Features to Positively Enhance Park Experiences for All Visitors

In order to create inclusive community park experiences, considerations must include the needs of the whole environment and the whole community. Use this comprehensive park checklist to thoughtfully create a welcoming atmosphere and outdoor play and recreation destinations that are more usable, by more people, to the greatest extent possible.



1. Parking

- More than the minimum required accessible parking spaces that include van spaces with wider access aisles and appropriate signage.
- Parking areas conveniently located to create an accessible route to the park entrances.



2. Pathways

- Firm and stable surface materials along accessible connecting routes (concrete, asphalt, or boardwalk preferred).
- Railings and edge protection on routes with running slopes greater than 5% or where there is a drop off.



3. Surfacing

- Unitary, fall attenuating safety surfacing, such as poured-in-place rubber provides the most consistent surface for accessibility in play and recreation environments.
- Various surface materials, textures, or colors to provide cues to help visually organize the environment so that it is easier to navigate and understand.



4. Playgrounds

- Robust assortment of activities that thoughtfully meet the physical, social, emotional, communication, sensory, and cognitive needs of all people, including those with disabilities.
- Go beyond the minimum ADA Standards for Accessible Play Areas to meet the 7 Principles of Inclusive Playground Design™, the only evidence-based design best practices for inclusive play environments. Visit playcan.com/inclusion to request the design guidebook.
- Selection of playground equipment that has intentionally been designed to provide additional gross motor and fine motor supports for more active, independent play.
- Accessible routes to, around, and on the play equipment, using unitary safety surfacing and accessible ramps.



5. Wayfinding

- Accessible visual signage that identifies accessible routes and facilities within the site.
- Picture symbols to identify equipment with raised images, words, Braille, etc.
- Bilingual options on signage, QR codes with videos, or options to download in different languages.
- Detailed website information about the park and inclusive features.
- Tactile 3D site models where possible.
- Various surface material textures or colors to provide behavioral cues and help visually organize the environment so that it is easier to navigate and understand.

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6. Site Amenities

a. Accessible Toilet and Bathing Facilities:

- Accessible sink(s) with touchless operation.
- Paper towel/hand drying features within accessible reach ranges.
- Family/Unisex restroom with at least one adult size changing table.
- Signage with Braille characters and raised pictorial symbols at toilet room doors.

b. Picnic Tables:

- Tables positioned on an accessible route and protected from weather by using shade or shelters where possible.
- Wheelchair spaces integrated into picnic tables which allow space for multiple individuals that use mobility devices to comfortably gather at the same table and offer choices of where to sit.

c. Benches/Sitting Areas:

- Adjacent accessible wheelchair spaces/areas near benches with a firm and stable surface.
- Shade trees or shade structures surrounding seating areas to increase comfort.
- Back and armrests on benches when possible.
- Benches with charging ports for personal electronic devices and mobility devices.

d. Shade and Shelters:

- A combination of integrated shade (manufactured) and natural shade (tree canopy) offers relief from elements and increased comfort.
- Shade shelters and pavilions on an accessible route and provide a firm and stable surface throughout.

e. Drinking Fountains and Water Bottle Filling Stations:

- A wheelchair accessible and a standing height drinking fountain provided at each location.
- Stations to include accessible features such as switch/bar or automatic touchless sensors.

f. Universal Fields:

- Each area of sport activity is connected with at least one accessible route.
- Unitary surfacing on fields that permit wheelchair access and play.
- Wheelchair accessible dugouts with a wheelchair space adjacent to team benches.

g. Customer Service Areas:

- Wheelchair accessible sales and service counters no higher than 36 inches.
- Accessible point of sale systems.
- Concession stations within accessible reach ranges.
- Menus with large print, pictures, and Braille.

h. Bleachers/Spectator Seating:

- Wheelchair spaces integrated within each spectator seating area.
- Circulation paths are behind the designated wheelchair spaces to avoid obstructing the view.

i. Aquatic Play Environments:

- Aquatic accessible wheelchairs of varied sizes for adult and child visitors are available to use.
- Changing/bathing facilities include an accessible changing bench.
- Showers provide a handheld shower device and a shower bench for transfer in each accessible shower.

j. Dog Parks & Pet Amenities:

- Pet waste, water stations, and gate latches are positioned at an accessible approach, reach heights, and operation for individuals using mobility devices.
- Accessible route and surface to and throughout the environment.

k. Adult Outdoor Fitness Parks:

- Universally designed equipment that provides individuals using mobility devices the opportunity to engage in aerobic and muscle strengthening activities alongside others.
- Accessible routes of travel to and around the equipment and include safety surfacing when appropriate.
- Signage with simple graphics and verbiage for instruction or QR codes to provide video instruction.

l. Musical Instruments:

- Musical elements installed on an accessible route with a hard surface, and at an appropriate height so that individuals of various sizes and individuals using wheelchairs can comfortably approach and reach the activity.
- Adapted mallets to promote independence and usability for individuals that need additional fine motor support.

m. Communication:

- Opportunities for visitors to communicate through pictures and/or symbols that are easy to recognize, paired with the written word, and are organized using color-coding to represent different parts of speech.
- Communication boards installed on an accessible route with a hard surface, at an appropriate height so that individuals of various sizes and individuals using wheelchairs can comfortably approach and point to or gaze at picture symbols.
- Printed communication boards for download or available to check out for visitors and/or their caregivers to use in preparation for and during their visit.

Special Events & Programming:

- Activities located on accessible routes and with accessible surfacing.
- Accessible portable toilet facilities and parking at temporary events.
- Sign language or bilingual interpretation at special events.
- Special events designed and marketed to ensure people of all abilities can play and interact meaningfully.
- Adaptive equipment such as all-terrain wheelchairs, adaptive swing harnesses, adaptive switches for play panels that offer switch capability, and adaptive sports equipment available for visitors to check out or to use during programs/events.
- Sensory Kits that include noise cancelling headphones, fidget toys, communication boards or picture symbols, or other adaptive tools available for visitors to reserve/check out.

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CORE

Q & A

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Steps to Receive Continuing Education Credit

CORE

1. education.playcore.com
 2. Go to My Dashboard
 3. Complete Survey
Complete Quiz
 4. Obtain CEU Certificate
- Open Until March 17*

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2024 BEYOND THE MINIMUMS

Accessibility Series

Presented by:



Bill Botten
Accessibility Specialist
PlayCore
bill.botten@playcore.com

LIVE WEBINAR
ACCESSIBILITY SERIES (PART 2) CORE

**Splish Splash!
Dive into Creating Accessible Aquatic Facilities**

May 8, 2024
2:00 - 3:15 p.m. EST

Register:
education.playcore.com

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ACCESSIBILITY SERIES (PART 3) CORE

Disability Park Awareness Panel

August 7, 2024
2:00 - 3:15 p.m. EST

Register:
education.playcore.com

LIVE WEBINAR
ACCESSIBILITY SERIES (PART 4) CORE

The Critical Role Accessible Site Amenities Play in Creating Outdoor Environments Where EveryBODY Feels Welcome

November 6, 2024
2:00 - 3:15 p.m. EST

Register:
education.playcore.com



Resources

- Questions? core@playcore.com
- Education education.playcore.com
- Resources playcore.com/resources
- Newsletter playcore.com/newsletter
- Funding Tool playcore.com/funding



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Thank You!

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