

# Appendix B

## Public Involvement Documentation

## Americans with Disabilities Act Transition Plan for the Public Right of Way

### Public Involvement Summary

The Public Works Department conducted public outreach on the completed elements of the self-evaluation, and development of the Transition Plan, in partnership with the Valley Association for Independent Living. On February 2, 2024, a focus group of people with lived experience was held, and on March 14, 2024, a public open house was hosted, both at City Hall. A public survey was also made available at the open house, and online for a 2-week public comment period following the open house. The focus group consisted of eight people with either lived experience or have a child with lived experience. Eleven people attended the public open house, and nine people completed the survey.

#### Themes

- Transit:
  - Transit frequency, timeliness, and bus stop accessibility (sidewalk access) are problems
  - Transit stops need benches
  - Transit to service the County
  - Need transit service to not be interrupted when JMU goes on break
- Dissatisfaction with the long timeframe to make all facilities accessible by implementing the plan
- More sidewalks needed
- Sidewalk deficiencies – too narrow, obstructions including trashcans, scooters, vehicles, vegetation
- Fix curb ramps
- Drivers don't respect pedestrians; vehicles speeding
- Accessible on-street parking
- Help with snow removal from sidewalks/more timely snow removal, particularly from curb ramps

The items in blue below came from the focus group. The items in black came from the public meeting/public survey.

#### Specific Locations

- Bruce and Main. Street - steep grade across from Jack Browns at Court Square.
- Main Street – sidewalk in front of court house - bump
- 229 N. Main Street – bump near southern end of building
- Reservoir Street – the area around the cemetery - fire hydrant, sidewalk has utility poles in the middle of the sidewalk
- Old Wells Fargo near mixed use path - uneven transitions everywhere
- Downtown Harrisonburg
- N. Mason/Rock Street intersection feels dangerous

- Sidewalks needed on Old Furnace Road; N. Dogwood; Parkview neighborhood

## General

- Accessible pedestrian signal programming – sound is supposed to differentiate direction of moving traffic. In Harrisonburg, they don't. See if something is wrong here.
- Special event accessibility
- Cannot use powerchair downtown b/c of the many impediments (particularly the vertical ones)
- Need a system for reporting accessibility barriers and challenges
- Poles in the middle of sidewalks is a problem
- More raised crosswalks to slow car traffic and reduce curb cuts
- Fix the potholes
- Too many curb cuts (entrances) and vehicles speeding in and out of them
- Sidewalks too close to fast-moving traffic
- Lack of dedicated bicycle infrastructure and lack of driver knowledge on how to interact with bicycles on the road
- Transit:
  - The stops with pull-offs feel much safer
  - Need shelters at bus stops
- Permanent full-time ADA Coordinator city staff position
- Utilize the PassioGo app by adding a feature to allow riders to photograph stops and send real-time feedback
- Listen to people that are advocating
- Communication methods shared by all respondents to the questionnaire: In-person, email

ADA Transition Plan Focus Group Meeting RSVPs

Name	Organization	Phone	Email
<b>Guests</b>			
✓ Scott Pruett			
✓ Gayl Brunk	Valley Associates for Independent Living, Inc	540-433-6513	<a href="mailto:gayl@govail.org">gayl@govail.org</a>
✓ Tessa Atkins	Valley Associates for Independent Living, Inc	540-585-1714	<a href="mailto:tessa@govail.org">tessa@govail.org</a>
✓ Kathleen Gibson			<a href="mailto:gibsonkx@gmail.com">gibsonkx@gmail.com</a>
✓ Tripp Gibson			
✓ Luther Vucic	Prospect Development, JMU	540-568-1763 or 716-381-7114	<a href="mailto:vucicld@jmu.edu">vucicld@jmu.edu</a>
✓ Richard Magruder	Valley Associates for Independent Living, Inc		<a href="mailto:mat@govail.org">mat@govail.org</a>
✓ J. Beth Sellers, MAED			<a href="mailto:bsellers31@gmail.com">bsellers31@gmail.com</a>
✓ Dave Johnson	HDPT, Dispatch Supervisor	540-217-4783	<a href="mailto:eistemper@gmail.com">eistemper@gmail.com</a>
✓ Emily Stemper-Layton			<a href="mailto:mel@shopgreatfull.com">mel@shopgreatfull.com</a>
✓ Melissa Nguyen	ASL Interpreter	540-820-9478	

**Focus Group Event Staff**

- ✓ Erin Yancey
- ✓ Jakob zum Felde
- ~~Erin Mason~~
- ~~Keith Thomas~~
- ✓ Brittany Clem-Hott

**IT Setup/Breakdown**

- ✓ Armando Hernandez-Morales

**Food Pickup/Setup**

- ✓ Lauren Yutzy

**Room Setup/Breakdown**

- ✓ Glenn Baldwin
- ✓ Monica Myers

