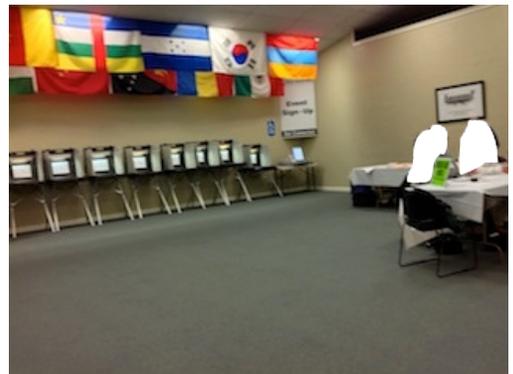


# City of Worcester, Massachusetts

## Evaluation and Transition Plan (ADA) of Polling Places

Prepared by  
The Institute for Human Centered Design  
March 15, 2015

**DRAFT**



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# City of Worcester, Massachusetts

Evaluation and Transition Plan  
(ADA) of Polling Places

Part I: Executive Summary  
and Overview

Part II: Facilities Report

Part III: Facility Catalogs



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### Part I: Executive Summary & Overview

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## Executive Summary

The Institute for Human Centered Design (IHCD) has prepared this report on behalf of the City of Worcester as part of the City's on-going effort to assess the current level of accessibility in Worcester's programs, services, and activities.

The City of Worcester operates 50 precincts, currently housed within 42 locations. This Election Day Snapshot Report includes the survey and evaluation of polling places, recommendations for maintaining those features and equipment that are required to make polling places accessible to and usable by people with disabilities, and recommendations for choosing or relocating future polling place locations.

IHCD looks forward to sharing the findings and recommendations within this draft report with the City's ADA Coordinator and Disability Commission on March 17 at a regularly scheduled Commission meeting.

This report is organized into two parts: Evaluation of Non-discriminatory Policies and Practices in Programs, Services, and Activities and Evaluation of Facilities. A list of facilities surveyed is included in Appendix A.

### Legal Overview

The City of Worcester is obligated by both federal and state laws to provide an accessible voting program. At the end of this report, Appendix B provides a comprehensive list of relevant laws and executive orders.

#### **Federal Laws Protecting the Right to Vote**

(from the U.S. Department of Justice publication *The Americans with Disabilities Act and Other Federal Laws Protecting the Rights of Voters with Disabilities*  
[http://www.ada.gov/ada\\_voting/ada\\_voting\\_ta.htm](http://www.ada.gov/ada_voting/ada_voting_ta.htm))

The **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)** is a federal civil rights law that provides protections to people with disabilities that are similar to protections provided to individuals on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, age, and religion. Title II of the ADA requires state and local governments ("public entities") to ensure that people with disabilities have a full and equal opportunity to vote. The ADA's provisions apply to all aspects of voting, including voter registration, site selection, and the casting of ballots, whether on Election Day or during an early voting process.

The **Voting Rights Act of 1965 (VRA)** also contains provisions relevant to the voting rights of people with disabilities. The VRA requires election officials to allow a voter who is blind or has another disability to receive assistance from a person of the voter's choice (other than the voter's employer or its agent or an officer or agent of the voter's union). The VRA also prohibits conditioning the right to

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vote on a citizen being able to read or write, attaining a particular level of education, or passing an interpretation “test.”

The **Voting Accessibility for the Elderly and Handicapped Act of 1984 (VAEHA)** requires accessible polling places in federal elections for elderly individuals and people with disabilities. Where no accessible location is available to serve as a polling place, voters must be provided an alternate means of voting on Election Day.

The **National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (NVRA)** aims, among other things, to increase the historically low registration rates of persons with disabilities. The NVRA requires all offices that provide public assistance or state-funded programs that primarily serve persons with disabilities to also provide the opportunity to register to vote in federal elections.

The **Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA)** requires jurisdictions responsible for conducting federal elections to provide at least one accessible voting system for persons with disabilities at each polling place in federal elections. The accessible voting system must provide the same opportunity for access and participation, including privacy and independence that other voters receive.

The Department of Justice created a technical assistance publication called *The Americans with Disabilities Act and Other Federal Laws Protecting the Rights of Voters with Disabilities*. This publication presents information on federal laws that protect the rights of voters with disabilities, links to a checklist for evaluating polling places for accessibility, and links to a publication about common accessibility problems found at polling places. Under the ADA, jurisdictions must select polling sites that are or can be made accessible, so that voters with disabilities can participate in elections on the same terms and with the same level of privacy as other voters. When relocating or choosing new polling locations, the City can use this information to determine if these locations are accessible and can be used. It is strongly recommended that such decisions also be made in consultation with the disability and older adult community.

### **Massachusetts State Obligations Protecting the Right to Vote**

The Massachusetts Secretary of State's Office, Elections Division, provides the following summary regarding accessible voting programs:

*All polling locations in Massachusetts are required to be accessible. All polling places must provide access on a permanent or temporary basis on Election Day. Voting assistance and absentee voting offer options that persons with disabilities may use to vote, but are not considered substitutes for actual accessibility to the voting location. Accessible voting provides the same opportunity for access and participation to persons with disabilities as for other voters.<sup>1</sup>*

The City of Worcester has ongoing State obligations concerning accessible voting programs including, but not limited to, the following:

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/eleaccessible/accessibleidx.htm>

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## **Massachusetts Constitution Article 114**

The Massachusetts Constitution states:

*"No otherwise qualified handicapped individual shall, solely by reason of his handicap, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any program or activity within the Commonwealth."*

Article 114 is written broadly. It prohibits discrimination based on disability on any level within the state, not just for recipients of state or federal funds. For example, town meetings must be held in an accessible place with sign language interpreters provided if needed, a small grocery store or a privately owned dinner theater cannot refuse to do business with an individual based on the person's disability, and no polling location can refuse to allow a voter with their service animal to enter and vote.

## **Polling Place Accessibility for Elderly and Handicapped Voters (950 CMR 51.00)**

950 CMR 51.00 implements the federal Voting Accessibility for the Elderly and Handicapped Act (VAEHA)<sup>2</sup> and Amended Article 114 of the Massachusetts Constitution and applies to all Massachusetts elections.

This regulation states minimum accessibility requirements for polling places, including site access, parking, entrance, ramps, building interior, and voting equipment. The regulation purpose is "to promote the fundamental right to vote by improving access for handicapped and elderly individuals to polling places and the voting process." (950 CMR 51.01)

<http://www.mass.gov/auditor/docs/dlm-mandate/2010/clerks.pdf>

## **Voting and Counting Procedures for Electronic Voting Systems - 950 CMR 54**

950 CMR 54 implements the federal Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA) regarding the accessible electronic voting machines. In Massachusetts, the AutoMARK machines are the designated electronic voting systems used by all cities and towns. 950 CMR 54 provides minimal requirements for a number of voting program operations, including the inspection of electronic machines, the location of the ballot box<sup>3</sup>, and certain procedures that occur when the voter uses the accessible voting machines.<sup>4</sup>

With regards to voter assistance, the regulations refer to people with certain types of disabilities plus non-English readers:

*"Assistance to Voter. If a voter asks for assistance in casting his ballot due to blindness, physical disability or inability to read or to read English, he may be assisted by a person of his own choice or if he desires instead by two election officers of different parties." 54.04 (9)(c); and*

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<sup>2</sup> 42 USC §§ 1973ee through 1973ee-6

<sup>3</sup> "The ballot box shall be placed away from the door, inside the rail, next to the check-out table so it is available to the voters as they leave the polling place." 54.03(10)

<sup>4</sup> "Election officers at the demonstration unit shall ask the voter if he wishes to have instruction or a review of how to use the equipment." 54.04(2) "Where optical scanner ballots are used, the election officer shall also hand the voter a ballot secrecy sleeve." 54.04(8)

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*"One Person Per Voting Booth. Only one person shall be allowed in a voting booth except in cases of assistance provided to a physically disabled or blind person or a person who cannot read or who cannot read English." 54.04(19)*

### **Massachusetts Architectural Access Board**

The Architectural Access Board (AAB) is a regulatory agency whose mandate is to develop and enforce the regulation 521 CMR "to provide persons with disabilities full, free and safe use of all buildings and facilities so that all such persons may have the educational, living and recreational opportunities necessary to be as self-sufficient as possible and to assume full responsibilities as citizens. (521 CMR 2.2)

In addition to writing regulations, the Board decides on variance requests, provides training on its regulations, issues advisory opinions and makes decisions on complaints. Local building inspectors are responsible for enforcing the regulations, which are a specialized section of the Massachusetts Building Code. 521 C.M.R.

The construction, reconstruction, remodeling, alteration, or change of use of a building or facility that is open to the public triggers the authority of the AAB. New construction must fully comply.

Cities and towns may apply to the MAAB for a variance on the State's polling location accessibility regulations; however, it is stipulated that no such variance shall be allowed which substantially impairs the accessibility of a polling place to handicapped and elderly voters.<sup>5</sup>

### **Introduction – Evaluation of Policies and Procedures**

In an effort to provide and maintain compliance with the ADA, the City of Worcester contracted with the Institute for Human Centered Design (IHCD) to undertake an assessment of its polling location accessibility during an Election Day event in the fall of 2014.

Title II of the ADA requires state and local governments ("public entities") to ensure that people with disabilities have a full and equal opportunity to vote. The ADA's provisions apply to all aspects of voting, including voter registration, site selection, and the casting of ballots, whether on Election Day or during an early voting process.

On the basis of Worcester's responsibility to ADA Title II program access, in cases of inaccessible polling places, the City must provide an alternate means of casting a ballot on the day of the election. These laws also require states to make available registration and voting aids for disabled and elderly voters, including information by alternative accessible means. See Appendix C of this report for the language of the U.S. Department of Justice settlement agreements with municipalities and counties as part of its Project Civic Access work.<sup>6</sup> See all of the DoJ Project Civic Access Settlement Agreements: <http://www.ada.gov/civiac.htm>

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<sup>5</sup> as described at 950 CMR §51.02(7)

<sup>6</sup> [http://www.ada.gov/flint\\_mi\\_sa.htm](http://www.ada.gov/flint_mi_sa.htm) - 2012 Polling Place Accessibility Settlement, Flint, MI

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The following observations and recommendations are provided to support the City's ongoing efforts to ensure a more usable, inclusive, and welcoming environment for voters in the Worcester community.

### **Voter Registration**

The City Clerk's office, located within City Hall, has some inaccessible features, such as a service counter that is too high. The City must modify the counter at each office with public interface so that they are accessible. Short-term solutions might be to provide an auxiliary counter 36" high maximum above the finish floor in close proximity to the main counter; or provide a folding shelf with an independently accessible pull-down control and a lower edge of no more than 27" above finish floor attached to the main counter.

The City has an accessible voter registration alternative to visiting the City Clerk's office in person. Voters can register to vote online. The mail-in registration form provided by the state is provided on the city website and is an accessible fillable form.

(<http://www.worcesterma.gov/uploads/a8/06/a806f08abfcdf89cb7b0977916fe6713/voter-registration.pdf> )

### **Auxiliary Aids and Services**

Title II entities are required to provide appropriate auxiliary aids and services to ensure effective communication with people with disabilities. This obligation applies to members of the public engaging in the voting process.

*A public entity shall take appropriate steps to ensure that communications with applicants, participants, members of the public, and companions with disabilities are as effective as communications with others. (28 CFR Part 35.160 (a)).*

Auxiliary aids and services are devices or services that enable effective communication for people with disabilities. The type of auxiliary aid or service necessary to ensure effective communication will vary in accordance with the length and complexity of the communication involved (e.g., a person who is deaf who asks which voting booth he can use likely will be effectively served with pointing to the booth or using a pencil and paper to explain; whereas a person who is deaf who needs instruction on how to use a new and complicated electronic voting machine may need a sign language interpreter). The obligation to communicate effectively with people who have disabilities applies to the presentation and exchange of information in all forms including sound, print, graphics and voice.

### Findings:

- From the information gathered from the City's website, there are no specific policies or procedures for the provision of auxiliary aids and services. (This is a question of notice, not guesswork.)
- On the Election Commission website, there is a paragraph summarizing the Help America Vote Act and including a link to what appears to be a video designed to explain the AutoMARK

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device and its many features. IHCD was unable to open the link to determine if the video was accessible

- Within most polling locations, information was not displayed in large print and was not mounted on the walls no higher than 48 inches above the floor.<sup>7</sup>
- There were no polling locations that had the AutoMARK accessories for hands-off independent voting (e.g., foot-rocking pedals, sip-and-puff, and stylus accessories) readily available. Poll workers were unaware that such assistive technology could be included with the electronic voting machine.
- Although most surveyors did not ask to see the ballots provided to voters using the AutoMARK machine, there was at least one team that requested information regarding whether secrecy sleeves were provided. For each of those queries, the secrecy sleeve was not provided with the ballot.

#### Recommendations:

The City must develop and publicize clear processes for members of the public to request auxiliary aids and services:

- The effective communication notice should be published in all materials about the City's voting programs, services, or activities Programs include voter registration services, a list of polling locations, and notification of changes in polling locations.
- Elections Division Staff should receive training so that they understand their responsibility to provide auxiliary aids and services and the process for requesting them when needed.
- Information on the Election Commission's website regarding accessible voting features and other portions of the voting program should be checked for accessibility and fixed if they are not accessible to people using screen readers and other assistive technology.
- Poll set-up workers and poll workers should have a checklist for set-up on polling days to ensure that all available auxiliary aids are set up and are readily available for independent use by voters.

#### **Maintenance of Accessible Features** (28 CFR Part 35.133(a))

ADA Title II requires accessible facilities and equipment to be maintained such that they are readily accessible to and usable by persons with disabilities. Examples include accessible parking, sidewalks (including snow removal and temporary routes during construction), Accessible Pedestrian Signals (APS), curb ramps, ramps, elevators, lifts, power door openers, locks, dispensers, drinking fountains, assistive listening systems, and TTYs.

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<sup>7</sup> per Massachusetts regulations at 950 CMR §51.02(6)(c)

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Finding:

- In at least 3 places, the AutoMARK machines were out of order at the time of survey. When poll workers were able to discuss the issue, IHCD learned that certain machines had been out of order for at least several hours prior to the survey.

Recommendations:

Accessible voting equipment must be maintained in working order throughout the voting period. If a machine breaks down, poll workers must notify the person in charge immediately. Effort should be made to either repair or replace the machine immediately. If that is impossible, poll workers must be prepared to alert voters with disabilities of the problem as they arrive and assist them in alternative voting procedures. Inspections of accessible electronic voting machines before Election Day is essential to ensure provision of direct-recording electronic accessible voting machine on Election Day.

**Assisting Voters with Disabilities**

Section 208 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 provides for voters who need assistance to vote by reason of blindness, disability, or inability to read or write. And, while Help America Vote Act of 2002 requires voting systems to allow independence and privacy, it does not preclude a disabled voter from requesting and obtaining the assistance of another person as provided in Section 208 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. The Massachusetts regulation implementing HAVA incorporates this language as well.<sup>8</sup>

Per Federal and State laws, if a voter requires assistance marking their ballot on Election Day, they may take any person of their choosing, except their employer or a representative of their labor union, with them into the voting booth. Individuals who are chosen to assist do not need to be qualified electors, and may include children who are minors or otherwise ineligible electors. Massachusetts law provides for two election officers of different parties to assist a person who requests such. Providing guidance about how to properly mark a ballot is not considered assistance; however, the actual marking of the ballot by the chosen assistant is considered assistance.

Voters can also request assistance with the accessible voting equipment. In order to ensure privacy, any person providing assistance with a direct-recording electronic accessible voting machine (AutoMARK) should position himself or herself so that he or she cannot view the voter's ballot choices. Election officials are allowed to explain how the equipment works, but cannot assist voters with making ballot choices. Such rules are also in place for supervised election procedures at long-term care facilities.

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<sup>8</sup> *Assistance to Voter. If a voter asks for assistance in casting his ballot due to blindness s, physical disability or inability to read or to read English, he may be assisted by a person of his own choice or if he desires instead by two election officers of different parties."* 54.04 (9)(c); and *"One Person Per Voting Booth. Only one person shall be allowed in a voting booth except in cases of assistance provided to a physically disabled or blind person or a person who cannot read or who cannot read English."* 54.04(19)

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This snapshot Election Day report does not include an analysis of the City of Worcester methods of facilitating voting for long-term care facility residents; and, one voting facility is located at a long-term care facility. Polling staff at two other locations mentioned challenges in providing voting assistance when groups of residents with cognitive impairments are brought to the facility to vote. One staff suggested that it might be best to deploy election teams to facilities rather than bringing groups to current polling locations. The City may wish to evaluate the city's adherence to requirements and guidance for voter registration and voter identification procedures at long-term facilities.

Voters can also have an assistant when completing a voter registration application or absentee application. Explaining how to complete the form is not considered assistance; however, when a voter requests assistance from a municipal election officer at the City Clerk's office or through other municipal procedures, the actual filling out of the form by the city staff person would be considered a reasonable modification of policies, practices, and procedures. The staff person would then sign the form and write the reason why they have filled the form out instead of the individual whose name appears as the signee.

### Findings

Although data was not collected regarding poll worker training or how voters with disabilities were being assisted, it was notable that the majority of polling locations were set up in a manner that does not facilitate private and independent voting. Examples are:

- AutoMARK machines were set up on tables located outside the general public's voting area;
- Headphones were not readily available or plugged in;
- Chairs were not provided at the AutoMARK table;
- AutoMARK machines were located "out of the way";
- AutoMARK machine tables were adjusted too low for knee clearance;
- An lower table intended to offer accessibility was adjusted too low for knee clearance
- Signs designating accessible features were posted in a manner that obstructs use of the tables;
- Specimen ballots and other information signage was posted higher than 48 inches above the floor (950 CMR 51.02(6)(a)) and in some cases posted too high in proportion to the possible viewing distance to be legible (ADA 2010 Standards 703.5.5).
- Poll workers were unsure if the machines were working.

These types of problems are barriers to casting an independent and secret ballot in a dignified manner; and they oblige voters with disabilities to ask for assistance, regardless of whether such assistance is desired.

### Recommendations

- In order to facilitate accessible voting at all polling locations, the City should update its poll worker and other election staff training materials to incorporate accessibility-related information. Training is a scope element of IHCD's contract and will be scheduled in coordination with the City.

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## Resource List

- Americans with Disabilities Act Title II Regulations:  
[http://www.ada.gov/regs2010/titleII\\_2010/titleII\\_2010\\_regulations.htm](http://www.ada.gov/regs2010/titleII_2010/titleII_2010_regulations.htm)
- "Poll Worker Common Sense and Common Courtesy"  
[http://gab.wi.gov/sites/default/files/page/poll\\_worker\\_common\\_sense\\_and\\_common\\_courtesy\\_pdf\\_87854.pdf](http://gab.wi.gov/sites/default/files/page/poll_worker_common_sense_and_common_courtesy_pdf_87854.pdf)

## Evaluation of Polling Locations

### Introduction

During the federal Election Day events of November 4, 2014, IHCD teams surveyed the City's portfolio of polling locations as listed in Appendix A. IHCD's scope of work includes the physical accessibility of 42 polling locations serving the City's 50 polling precincts.

Worcester has the second largest voting population in the state of Massachusetts. Overall, the City of Worcester faces a citywide challenge in ensuring access to its voting programs and polling locations. While there are a number of polling locations that provide minimally accessible conditions for voting, there are also a number of locations that do not provide any accessible parking where parking is provided; an accessible path of travel to an accessible entrance; or, directional signage from the inaccessible primary entrance to a secondary entrance that may provide some level of access into the voting area. These problems represent a barrier that, in and of itself, would be likely to prevent a voter with a mobility disability from entering a polling place and casting a ballot privately and independently. Further issues were found within the voting area, such as tripping hazards, segregated accessible features, and electronic machines placed "out of the way." These conditions are likely to add extra burdens to voting that are not faced by voters without disabilities.

At a minimum, polling facilities must provide:

- An accessible exterior route from site arrival points (such as parking where provided during the event, bus stops located on-site, and pedestrian crosswalks, curb ramps, and nearby sidewalks providing a path of travel to the facility's accessible entrance);
- Accessible interior circulation from an accessible entrance to the voting area door; and
- Accessible voting area, including an unobstructed route between the voting area entrance, registration table, accessible voting systems, ballot box, and exit.

Massachusetts regulations also stipulate that the route from parking to the accessible entrance be reasonably lit; that if the main entrance is not accessible then the path of travel to the secondary accessible entrance be the same or of substantially similar distance as that to the main entrance; and, that the specimen ballots be mounted at a height no higher than 48 inches above the floor.

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Where amenities such as toilet rooms and drinking fountains are provided to the general public during the Election Day events, accessible toilet rooms and drinking fountains must also be provided.

Although state law mandates that all voting places be accessible, there is no mandate that the polling locations found to be inaccessible be made accessible as locations. However, they may no longer be used as polling places. The City must ensure that each and every polling place location is permanently or temporarily accessible on Election Day, and where there are inaccessible locations, these shall be relocated to alternative accessible locations pursuant to the process established by state and applicable federal laws and regulations.

### **Accessibility Survey Methodology**

The analysis of existing conditions that comprises the body of this report is based on observations and documentation completed by IHCD during an Election Day site visit in the fall of 2014. This accessibility survey included the following facilities:<sup>9</sup>

#### Ward 1:

- Unitarian Universalist Church, Hall, 90 Holden St.
- The Willows, 101 Barry Rd.
- Assumption College, La Maison Francais, 500 Salisbury St.
- Congregation Beth Israel, Social Hall, 15 Jamesbury Dr.
- Price Chopper Supermarket, 72 Pullman St.

#### Ward 2:

- 2-1 Salem Covenant Church, Hall, 215 Mountain St. East
- 2-2 & 2-3 Zion Lutheran Hall, 41 Whitmarsh Ave.
- 2-4 Lincoln Village (Pool Center), 134 Country Club Blvd.
- 2-5 Great Brook Valley Multi-Purpose Center, 180 Constitution Ave.\*

#### Ward 3:

- 3-1 Dodge Park Rest Home, 101 Randolph Rd., Rear
- 3-2 Worcester Art Museum, Salisbury Lobby, 55 Salisbury St.\*
- 3-3 Worcester Center for Crafts, 25 Sagamore Rd.
- 3-4 Worcester Technical High School, Lobby, 1 Skyline Dr.\*
- 3-5 First Assembly of God, Hall, 30 Tyler Prentice Rd.

#### Ward 4:

- 4-1 and 4-2 Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Recreation Center, 10 Mulberry St.
- 4-3 Belmont Tower Apartments, Community Room, 40 Belmont St., Rear \*
- 4-4 Friendly House

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<sup>9</sup> The City of Worcester has provided IHCD with the list of Polling Locations. IHCD is not aware nor was contractually responsible for any additional facilities that are not included in this list

- 4-5 Lincoln Park Tower, Community Room, 11 Lake Ave.\*

Ward 5:

- 5-1 Addison Apartments, Community Room, 6 Addison St.\*
- 5-2 Ecotarium, 222 Harrington Way
- 5-3 Lake Park Community House, 264 Lake Ave.
- 5-4 Super Stop and Shop, Board Room (2nd Floor), 949 Grafton St.
- 5-5 Massachusetts Audubon Society, 414 Massasoit Rd.

Ward 6:

- 6-1 and 6-2 and 6-3 Worcester Senior Center, 128 Providence St.\*
- 6-4 Quinsigamond Village Neighborhood Center, 16 Greenwood St.
- 6-5 Greenwood Gardens, Community Room, 337 Greenwood St.\*

Ward 7:

- 7-1 Beaver Brook Park Community House, 9 Mann St.\*
- 7-2 and 7-4 Shaw's Supermarket, 68 Stafford St.
- 7-3 Coe's Pond Village, 39 First St.
- 7-5 Hadwen Park Congregational Church, 6 Clover St.

Ward 8:

- 8-1 Code Enforcement Department, 25 Meade St.\*
- 8-2 Main South CDC, 875 Main St.
- 8-3 Saint Peter's Church, Hall, 929 Main St.
- 8-4 Webster Square Towers, Community Room, 1050 Main St.\*
- 8-5 S Worcester Neighborhood Ctr., Harry Sherry FH, 55 Camp St.

Ward 9:

- 9-1, 9-2 and 9-3, Temple Emanuel, Hall
- 9-4 Worcester Seventh-Day Adventist Church, 2 Airport Dr.
- 9-5 First Congregational Church in Worcester, 1070 Pleasant St.

Ward 10:

- 10-1 Elm Park Tower, Community Room, 425 Pleasant St.\*
- 10-2 Order of Ahepa Lodge, 68 Cedar St.
- 10-4 Mayside Apartments, Community Room, 28 Mayside Ln.\*
- 10-3 and 10-5 Murray Avenue Apts., Community Room, 50 Murray Ave.\*

\*Municipal Facilities, Worcester Housing Authority locations, and other locations receiving federal funding.

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IHCD's review of the City-owned facilities that serve as polling locations was based on compliance with the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design and the Massachusetts regulation implementing VAEHA, which is at 950 CMR 51.00.

### **Program Accessibility**

The City of Worcester, like many cities and towns in Massachusetts, faces a number of challenges in fulfilling the federal and state mandates to ensure that all polling locations are at least minimally accessible. Two-thirds of the polling locations are at public accommodations (ADA Title III entities), where the majority of the facilities do not have accessible exterior conditions or amenities, such as toilets and drinking fountains. At a minimum, the City is obligated to ensure that these polling locations are equipped to allow voters with disabilities to park where parking is provided, travel an accessible route to an accessible building entrance; travel an unobstructed route from the entrance to the voting area; enter and circulate within the voting area at the registration table, accessible voting table(s), the AutoMARK machine table, and the ballot box, where appropriate; and exit the building safely. Where the public is provided amenities such as toilets and drinking fountains, these amenities should be accessible to all voters without distinction.

Massachusetts law mandates that all selected polling sites be accessible during polling day events and that any exemptions to this rule be applied for at least 180 days prior to next Election Day. Certain voters, including voters with disabilities, may also vote by absentee ballot, which can be considered an alternative method of providing program accessibility during polling events. However, the City cannot substitute polling place accessibility with a program that steers voters with disabilities to use the absentee ballots alternative in lieu of physically voting at their precinct polling location. In addition, it is important to note that current state law prevents assigning such voters to another polling place, as well as "curbside voting" outside the polling place on election day. (950 CMR 51.03(5))

Where the City finds polling locations do not meet the minimum accessibility requirements, IHCD recommends the following order of selecting methods to meet both program accessibility and polling location accessibility obligations during Election Day events:

- 1) Renovations to ensure access to programs, services, and activities**
- 2) Relocating inaccessible precinct sites to accessible polling sites**
- 3) Applying to the State for an Exemption and advertising alternate ways to vote if one is assigned to the inaccessible location**

### Temporary Measures

For certain inaccessible conditions, temporary measures may be taken to ensure that minimal accessibility and usability of the polling location is provided. The U.S. Department of Justice technical assistance publication, *Solutions for Five Common ADA Access Problems at Polling Places* ([http://www.ada.gov/ada\\_voting/voting\\_solutions\\_ta/polling\\_place\\_solutions.htm](http://www.ada.gov/ada_voting/voting_solutions_ta/polling_place_solutions.htm)) provides excellent information on temporary measures.

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### Possible Remedies to Improve Accessibility

Most polling locations must improve the accessibility of their exterior pedestrian paths of travel from accessible parking and nearby sidewalks to the accessible entrance. Possible remedies include:

- Re-grade, resurface, and re-stripe accessible parking spaces.
- Provide at least one van-accessible space.
- Repair the exterior route between sidewalk, public transit stop, parking, and building entrance.
- Repair or replace exterior ramps and handrails.
- Repair or replace curb ramps.
- Consider automatic door openers as an option in lieu of re-grading or doing structural work at entrances.
- Provide signage at inaccessible entrances that direct pedestrians to accessible entrances and identify each accessible entrance with International Symbol of Accessibility.

In order to assist the City in facilitating privacy and independence in accordance with the ADA civil rights principles and those outlined by HAVA and the EAC (which grants the Attorney General enforcement authority for compliance with HAVA), IHCD recommends to the City of Worcester the following policies and practices.

- AutoMARK table and accessible booth must be connected to an accessible route. Accessible routes shall coincide with, or be located in the same area as general circulation paths. (ADA Standards Section 206.3)<sup>10</sup>;
- AutoMARK table and accessible booth must be adjusted to allow for knee and toe clearance (at least 27 inches below bottom of table surface);
- AutoMARK table and accessible booth seating area must include at a minimum, a 30 inches width and a 48-inch length clear floor space centered on the machine or polling booth. These dimensions should not overlap with the circulation paths through the voting area to the maximum extent possible.
- Informational signage, including ballot specimens be located where there is an unobstructed floor space to view materials;
- Provide a chair at or nearby the accessible features for voters who wish to sit while using the accessible voting booth and the AutoMARK machine. Although not a requirement, consider ensuring that this chair is stable and not lightweight, so that it will not move or slip when gripped.
- Ballot secrecy sleeve should be provided along with ballots to voters using the AutoMARK machine. Ballot secrecy sleeves enable voters to insert and retrieve their ballots from the AutoMARK terminal in complete privacy. Braille instructions in English and Spanish are included.
- AutoMARK privacy door or privacy hoods should be attached at polling locations that include attached privacy hoods at other voting booths.
- Consider providing (or procuring and providing) the AutoMARK assistive technology accessories that ensure that voters with limited motor control, and voters who require hands-off

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<sup>10</sup> Also see the ADA Integration Mandate, 28 C.F.R. § 35.130(d)

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technology, have access to equal privacy and independence. These accessories are: the foot-rocking pedals, the stylus, and the sip and puff accessories.

A few polling locations have easily-remedied accessibility issues involving exterior and interior doors. There may be inaccessible door hardware or maintenance and repair issues, or tripping hazards that are easy to solve. Some spot-remedies that may result in more accessible facilities include:

- Secure loose weather mats or carpets.
- Replace doorknobs with lever-type hardware.
- Create a comprehensive maintenance program and schedule to check and adjust the opening force of all interior doors. Where not possible, either keep doors open during regular hours or add power-operated door openers.

### Long-Term Planning

*Long term planning* is required to mitigate the inaccessibility of the pedestrian environment at many polling locations. As the City of Worcester continues to update its ADA Transition Plan and upgrade the existing conditions at municipal programs, services, and activities, IHCD recommends that architectural barriers found within outdoor areas be linked to the municipal pedestrian access plan.

In particular, there are ten polling locations that are either municipal facilities or housing sites within the Worcester Housing Authority portfolio. IHCD strongly recommends that exterior architectural barriers found within the surrounding pedestrian environment at these locations be woven into the ongoing efforts of the Mayor, ADA Coordinator, Disability Commission, Program Directors, and other staff to update the living document known as the ADA Transition Plan.

### Facilitating Privacy and Independence at the Polls

In addition to the physical and architectural barriers that can be relatively easily solved with either temporary or permanent solutions, IHCD strongly suggests that the City engage in reviewing and updating the voting accessibility materials and resources within the Elections Division and City Clerk's office; and, that the City develop a poll-worker training program to address the following issues:

- identify accessible voting features;
- set up an accessible polling place to facilitate privacy and independence during the voting process;
- identify effective communications requirements and resources for responding to effective communications requests; and
- assist voters with disabilities who request assistance during election day events.

### Help American Vote Act (HAVA)

The Help America Vote Act (HAVA) contains certain provisions to help increase voting accessibility for voters with disabilities. In particular, section 301(a) sets forth the standards that voting systems must meet after January 1, 2006. Those requirements include functions and features that, among other things:

- allow the voter to review his or her selections privately and independently prior to casting a ballot;
- allow the voter to change his or her selections privately and independently prior to casting a ballot;
- notify the voter when he or she has made more selections in a single race than are permitted (overvote);
- provide for the production of a permanent paper record suitable to be used in a manual recount;
- provide voters with disabilities, including visual disabilities, the same opportunity for access and participation (including privacy and independence) as for other voters;
- provide accessibility in minority languages for voters with limited English proficiency as required by the Voting Rights Act of 1965; and
- provide for an error rate in operating the voting system that is no greater than the error rate set forth in Section 2.3.1 of the 2002 Voting System Standards adopted by the Federal Election Commission (FEC).

With regards to provision of privacy and independence, the United States Election Commission (EAC) states:

*Compliance with Section 301(a)(3) requires that the voting system is accessible to persons with disabilities as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act, including physical, visual, and cognitive disabilities, such that the disabled individual can privately and independently receive instruction, make selections, and cast a ballot. However, accessibility involves more than the technical features of the voting system. The accessible voting system also must be used in a manner that is consistent with providing access for disabled voters (e.g., the accessible voting system must be set up for use in a space that is accessible to a disabled voter who uses a wheelchair).<sup>11</sup>*

The EAC further acknowledges that conformance with this section of HAVA is a complex matter, involving variables such as the disability of the voter, the advancement of technology and its availability, and the efforts of the elections officials to make the voting process accessible to disabled voters in a private and independent manner. The EAC sets forth some factors "that must be considered in determining accessibility in conformance with Section 301(a)(3) of HAVA" including:

*Accessibility of the voting system to the voter includes accessibility to all equipment needed to cast and count ballots. Many jurisdictions use a paper ballot voting system that requires the voter to submit his or her own ballot after casting for purposes of ballot counting. Where such voting systems are in use, such jurisdictions must to the extent reasonably and technologically possible afford a disabled voter the same ability to submit his or her own ballot, in a private and independent manner, as is afforded a non-disabled voter. In this example, visually disabled voters must be allowed to submit the ballot independently, as the disability is one that is capable of being accommodated, and technology and practice provide a means that can be used to allow*

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<sup>11</sup> July 20, 2005: EAC Advisory 2005-004: How to determine if a voting system is compliant with Section 301(a) – a gap analysis between 2002 Voting System Standards and the requirements of Section 301(a)

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*the visually disabled voter to submit a ballot with the same degree of privacy and independence afforded to a sighted voter (e.g., a privacy sleeve).<sup>12</sup>*

These recommendations are based on the ADA Standards in addition to publications provided by the EAC.

### **Relocating Inaccessible Precinct Sites to Accessible Polling Sites**

If the City of Worcester finds that for some sites there are no temporary or permanent remedies to correct noncompliant polling locations, the City can consider relocating the polling location to an accessible location.

The following facilities have physical and architectural barriers that require long-term solutions that cannot be implemented by the next Election Day:

- 2-4 Lincoln Village (Pool Center)  
This polling facility has excessively steep walkways leading to the building entrance. At the building entrance, the door provides only 29 inches clear passage width when the door is open to 90 degrees when the minimum necessary clearance required is 32 inches. Although facility owners have provided a ramp to the entrance that is basically usable, the above conditions will require major renovations in order to bring the site into compliance as an accessible polling location.
- 4-1 and 4-2 Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Recreation Center  
This polling location has excessively steep and deteriorated walkways between the accessible parking space (s?) and adjacent sidewalks to the accessible entrance. Although facility owners have provided a ramp to the entrance that is basically usable, the above conditions may require full sidewalk reconstruction and major renovations to curb ramps between parking and the accessible entrance. In addition, the parking area should be regraded and restriped to provide compliant parking facilities, since the accessible entrance is not configured for passenger drop-off at the door.
- 6-4 Quinsigamond Village Neighborhood Center  
This polling location does not have an accessible entrance and will require major renovations to come into compliance as an accessible polling location.
- 8-5 S Worcester Neighborhood Ctr., Harry Sherry FH  
This polling location does not have an accessible entrance and will require major renovations to come into compliance as an accessible polling location.

The ADA requires that public entities must make their programs, services, and activities accessible to qualified people with disabilities in the most integrated way appropriate to their needs. When choosing

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<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

alternate polling locations, the Department of Justice recommends that Title II entities utilize a checklist to ensure a systematic review of the minimal accessibility requirements that must be met. The Department generally suggests using the 2004 ADA Checklist for Polling Places.<sup>13</sup> Since 2009, GAO has recommended that the Department of Justice update the checklist to provide a systematic way to assess the physical accessibility of the voting area within polling locations, and the level of privacy and independence provided to voters with disabilities.

For the above reasons, IHCD is providing the City of Worcester with a draft checklist that may cover the necessary architectural and communications features necessary at polling locations, in addition to assisting the City in determining whether a polling location has the capacity to provide an accessible voting area that will fulfill the HAVA mandate to provide voters with disabilities, including visual disabilities, the same opportunity for access and participation (including privacy and independence) as for other voters. Please see Appendix B for the draft **Checklist for Evaluating Polling Place Accessibility**.

### **Applying to the State for an Exemption**

Under VAEHA, Worcester, as a state political subdivision responsible for conducting elections, must assure that polling places used in federal elections are accessible, as determined by the state.<sup>14</sup> Massachusetts regulations also mandate polling place accessibility. The website of the Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts states: All polling locations in Massachusetts are required to be accessible. All polling places must provide access on a permanent or temporary basis on Election Day. Voting assistance and absentee voting offer options that persons with disabilities may use to vote, but are not considered substitutes actual accessibility to the voting location. Accessible voting provides the same opportunity for access and participation to persons with disabilities as for other voters.

(<http://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/eleaccessible/accessibleidx.htm>)

However, exemptions are allowed if the state Director of Elections determines that all potential polling places have been surveyed and no accessible place is available, and the political subdivision cannot make one temporarily accessible.<sup>15</sup> In these cases, voters with disabilities who are assigned to inaccessible polling places must be, upon advance request, either reassigned to an accessible polling place or provided another means for voting on Election Day.<sup>16</sup> (950 CMR 51.03)

The Director of Elections shall consider the following factors in determining that all potential places have been surveyed and that no accessible place is available and the city or town is unable to make one temporarily accessible in the area involved:

- Whether each location has been studied by a trained person to determine whether or not it is accessible.

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<sup>13</sup> the 2004 ADA Checklist for Polling Places can be downloaded for free from <http://www.ada.gov/votingscrn.pdf>

<sup>14</sup> Voting Accessibility for the Elderly and Handicapped Act, 42 U.S.C. section 1973ee *et seq.*

<sup>15</sup> Exceptions are also allowed in the case of an emergency, as determined by the chief election officer of the state. See 42 U.S.C. section 1973ee-1(b)(1).

<sup>16</sup> 42 U.S.C. section 1973ee-1(b)(2)(B), 950 CMR §51

- Polling places should not be presumed to be accessible simply because there are no obvious barriers, but 950 CMR 51.02 must be applied.
- A trained person is one with knowledge of what constitutes architectural accessibility barriers according to the ADA Standards and the State architectural access code.
- Individuals with disabilities should be consulted.
- If a location is inaccessible, then the city or town should either seek an alternative accessible location or seek to have the barriers removed.
- Whether the owners or proprietors of the building have been consulted regarding the modifications. If the owners or proprietors are unwilling to make the modifications, then an alternative location should be sought. Possible locations include those which are currently accessible and those where the owners or proprietors are willing to make necessary modifications.
- Whether an estimate of the cost to make the modifications has been obtained from a qualified person (construction contractor, carpenter), and whether different options for removing the barriers have been explored (e.g., temporary ramps).
- With respect to polling places in inaccessible government buildings, whether the city or town has urged government officials to make the modifications necessary for the buildings to be accessible.
- The record of the city or town's percentage of polling places in compliance in the past.
- The city or town's expressed plans for providing an accessible polling place in the future. (950 CMR 51.03(3))

### **Future Alternate Methods for Meeting Program Accessibility Obligations in Voting Programs**

In 2014, additional alternative methods for certain aspects of the Voting program were passed into State law, and will become effective in 2015 and 2016. These include:

- Effective 2015: Online portal for Voter registration. [St.2014, c.111](#) Election Laws.
- Effective 2016: Early Voting will be allowed. [St.2014, c.111](#) Election Laws.

## **Appendix A**

### **Reference List of Relevant Laws and Executive Orders**

Federal Laws:

1. The American with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990\*
2. The Voting Rights Act of 1965
3. The Voting Accessibility for the Elderly and Handicapped Act of 1984
4. The National Voter Registration Act of 1993
5. The Help America Vote Act of 2002

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Laws and Executive Orders:

1. Massachusetts Constitutional Amendment - Article 114
2. Massachusetts Equal Rights Law - G.L. c. 93 § 103

3. Massachusetts Executive Order 526 - EO 526
4. Massachusetts Architectural Access Board - G.L. c. 22, § 13A
5. Massachusetts Secretary of State, Election Division Regulations - 950 C.M.R. §51
6. Massachusetts Zoning Law, Access Ramps - G.L. c. 40A § 3 ¶8
7. Massachusetts Zoning Law, General and Community Residences - G.L. c. 40A § 3 ¶4
8. Massachusetts Disability Commissions - G.L. c. 40, § 8J
9. Handicapped Parking Laws - Parking Lots: G.L. c. 40 § 21, ¶ 23; Parking Meter Fees G.L. c. 40 § 22A; Over Time Parking Limits G.L. c. 40 §22; Reserved Spaces and Towing G.L. c. 40 §22D:
10. Administration of Handicapped Parking Program - G.L. c. 40, § 22G

## Appendix B

### Checklist for Evaluating Polling Place Accessibility

This checklist should be completed by persons trained to survey and evaluate existing architectural and communications accessibility conditions according to the standards set forth by the current ADA and relevant state and local building and architectural accessibility codes, ordinances, and regulations.

#### Parking

If parking is provided during polling events, it must meet the following requirements:

- The number of accessible parking spaces must be provided in proportion to the total number of parking spaces in the lot - see ADA Standards, Table 208.2, Parking Spaces
- At least one accessible parking space must be designated van-accessible
- Accessible parking spaces must be located on the shortest accessible route to the accessible entrance of the polling location being served. If, for reasons of user convenience (such as, protection from the weather, security, lighting, and comparative maintenance of the alternate parking site), then accessible parking spaces may be located in a different parking facility as long as substantially equivalent or greater accessibility is provided.
- Car parking spaces shall be 8 feet wide, minimum, with an access aisle at least 5 feet wide. Van parking spaces shall be 11 feet wide, minimum, with an access aisle at least 5 feet wide. Alternatively, van parking spaces can be 8 feet wide with an access aisle also 8 feet wide. Two accessible spaces may share an access aisle.
- Accessible parking spaces shall be marked to define the width, and access aisles shall be marked to discourage parking in them.
- Access aisles shall not overlap the vehicular way.
- Access aisles shall be at the same level as the parking spaces they serve. Changes in level are not permitted.
- Cross slopes in all directions shall not exceed 1:48 (2.08%)
- Accessible parking area must be smooth, level and slip-resistant.
- Identification of accessible parking spaces shall be by a sign at a space or pair of spaces. The signs shall be between 5 feet at bottom to 8 feet at top. The sign shall also contain the

International Symbol of Accessibility and may include wording identifying its use. Van accessible spaces shall include the words "Van Accessible." (950 CMR §51.02(2)©(3))

- If no parking lot is provided at the site, at least one on-street parking place in front of the polling location must be at least temporarily designated as a handicapped parking space. Identification of the handicapped space shall be by the sign provided in 950 CMR 51.02(2)(c)3.

If the above conditions cannot be met, the City should examine whether there are remedies for removing such barriers either permanently or temporarily.

### Sidewalk and Walkways

- Where parking is provided, there must be an accessible route from parking to the accessible entrance.
- An accessible route must be available from public sidewalks and public transportation stops on the polling site (if provided) to the accessible entrance of the building.
- Accessible route must be at least 36 inches wide. (Accessible route may narrow to 32 inches wide for up to 2 feet in length). Where the accessible route makes a 180 degree turn around an element which is less than 48 inches wide, clear width shall be 42 inches minimum approaching the turn, 48 inches minimum at the turn and 42 inches minimum leaving the turn. Passing spaces of 60 inches must be available every 200 feet.
- Accessible route must be free of steps and abrupt level changes over ½ inch.
- Where an accessible route crosses a curb, a curb ramp must be provided.
- Curb ramp surface must be at least 36 inches wide, excluding flared sides.
- Run slope of curb ramp must not exceed 8.3%.
- Slope of walkways to accessible entrance must not be greater than 5%. If they are, then a ramp must be provided.

If the above conditions cannot be met, the City should examine whether there are remedies for removing such barriers either permanently or temporarily.

### Building Entrance

- There should be at least one accessible exterior entrance.
- If there is more than one entrance, and any of the entrances are inaccessible, then the inaccessible entrances shall have directional signage that includes the International Symbol of Accessibility informing users where the nearest accessible entrance is located; and, the accessible entrances shall have designation signage that includes the International Symbol of Accessibility. This is only for tactile signs. Signs shall be mounted between 48 - 60 inches above the ground on the latch side of the door. Signs should also be located to prevent backtracking to the maximum extend possible.
- On the pull side of the door, there should be at least 18 inches clearance provided on the latch side, if the door is not automatic or power-operated. But clearance depends on approach and swing of door.
- Door hardware must be usable with one hand without tight grasping, pinching, or twisting of the wrist.

- At least one door (or one side of a double leaf door) at the accessible entrance should provide at least 32 inches clear passage width when the door is open 90 degrees.
  - If this is not available, there should be another accessible entrance; or, both doors should be propped open during voting.
- Where there is an existing raised threshold, it can be no higher than  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch at the door, and beveled on both sides.
- If an entry has a vestibule, there should be a 30-inch by 48-inch clear floor space inside the vestibule where a wheelchair or scooter user can be outside the swing of a hinged door.

If the above conditions cannot be met, the City should examine whether there are remedies for removing such barriers either permanently or temporarily.

### Hallways and Corridors

- There must be a continuous accessible route at least 36 inches wide. (Accessible route may narrow to 32 inches wide for up to 2 feet in length). Where the accessible route makes a 180 degree turn around an element which is less than 48 inches wide, clear width shall be 42 inches minimum approaching the turn, 48 inches minimum at the turn and 42 inches minimum leaving the turn. Passing spaces of 60 inches must be available every 200 feet.
- Accessible route must be free of steps and abrupt level changes over  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch.
- If the accessible route from the accessible entrance to the voting area changes levels, there must be an accessible ramp, elevator or lift provided.
- Where the accessible route passes through a door or doors, at least one door must comply with the following:
  - Clear width for door opening is at least 32 inches measured when the door is open 90 degrees.
  - Door hardware must be usable with one hand without tight grasping, pinching, or twisting of the wrist.
  - On the pull side of the door, there should be at least 18 inches clearance provided on the latch side, if the door is not automatic or power-operated. But clearance depends on approach and swing of door.
  - Door should require no more than 5 pounds of force to push or pull open.

### Possible Remedy:

- Prop the door(s) open to provide an accessible route on Election Day. If the above conditions cannot be met, the City should examine whether there are other remedies for removing such barriers either permanently or temporarily.

### Ramps

If a ramp is provided, it must meet the following minimum requirements:

- Ramp slope must be no greater than 8.3% (For existing ramps, the slope may be no greater than 10% over a 6-inch rise, and, in special circumstances, no greater than 12.5% over a 3-inch rise.<sup>17</sup>)

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<sup>17</sup> This exception is allowed in *existing* buildings or facilities where space limitations prohibit the use of a 1:12 slope or less. From Sec. 35.104: *Existing facility* means a facility in existence on any given date,

- Ramp width, when measured between handrails, must be at least 36 inches.
- Ramp should have a level landing at the top and bottom of each ramp section that is at least 60 inches long.
- If a ramp is more than 30 feet long, there must be a level landing at least 60 inches long provided every 30 feet of horizontal length. (When the running slope is less than 6.25% and more than 5%, each ramp segment may be up to 40 feet long followed by a level landing)
- A level landing at least 60 inches by 60 inches must be provided where the ramp changes direction.
- If the ramp is more than 6 feet long; or, has a rise of more than 6 inches, there must be handrails on both sides of the ramp, mounted at between 34 and 38 inches above the ramp surface.
- Handrails must extend 12 inches beyond the top and bottom of the ramp surface, parallel to the ground or floor surface.
- Clearance between handrail gripping surface and adjacent surfaces must be 1.5 inches, minimum.
- Handrail gripping surfaces must be continuous along their length and should not be obstructed along their tops or sides. The bottoms of handrail gripping surfaces must not be obstructed for more than 20% of their length. (Exception: Where handrails are provided along walking surfaces with slopes no steeper than 5%, the bottoms of handrail gripping surfaces are permitted to be obstructed along their entire length where they are integral to crash rails or bumper guards.)
- If the ramp or landing has a vertical drop-off on either side of the ramp, edge protection must be provided.

If the above conditions cannot be met, the City should examine whether there are other remedies for removing such barriers either permanently or temporarily.

### Elevator

If an elevator is provided, it must meet the following minimum requirements:

- Elevator call buttons must be mounted in an accessible location with the centerlines at 42 inches above the floor.
- Floor area of elevator must provide space for wheelchair users to enter, reach the controls, and exit the car.
- The highest floor control buttons in the elevator cab must be mounted no higher than 48 inches above the floor if facility constructed after March 15, 2012; or, no higher than 54 inches above the floor for a parallel approach and no higher than 48 inches above the floor for a forward approach if facility constructed prior to March 15, 2012.

If the above conditions cannot be met, the City should examine whether there are other remedies for removing such barriers either permanently or temporarily.

### Lift

If a wheelchair lift is provided, it must meet the following minimum requirements:

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without regard to whether the facility may also be considered newly constructed or altered under this part.

- Lift must be operational.
- Any changes in level between the floor to the lift surface must be ramped or beveled.
- There must be at least a 30-inch by 48-inch clear floor space on the wheelchair lift.
- Lift must allow a wheelchair user to enter, operate and exit the lift unassisted.
- Controls and operating mechanisms should be mounted no higher than 48 inches above the floor if facility constructed after March 15, 2012; or, no higher than 54 inches above the floor for a parallel approach and no higher than 48 inches above the floor for a forward approach if facility constructed prior to March 15, 2012.
- Controls and operating mechanisms should be usable with one hand without tight grasping, pinching, or twisting.

If the above conditions cannot be met, the City should examine whether there are other remedies for removing such barriers either permanently or temporarily.

### Voting Area

The conditions listed within the text box below should be considered best practice considerations that potential polling facilities will have the capacity to implement should the City include them within standard procedures for election day events.

- There must be an accessible entrance to the voting area.
- Within the voting area, there must be adequate space available on the accessible level for check-in tables, a voting demonstration area (if provided), and at least one voting station accessible to persons using wheelchairs.
- AutoMARK table and accessible booth must be along an accessible route. Accessible routes shall coincide with, or be located in the same area as general circulation paths. (ADA Standards Sec. 206.3)<sup>18</sup>;
- AutoMARK table and accessible booth must be adjusted to allow for knee and toe clearance (at least 27 inches below bottom of table surface);
- AutoMARK table and accessible booth seating area must include at a minimum, a 30 inches width and a 48-inch length clear floor space centered on the machine or polling booth. These dimensions should not overlap with the circulation paths through the voting area to the maximum extent possible.
- Informational signage, including ballot specimens, should be located where there is an unobstructed floor space to view materials.
- AutoMARK privacy shield or privacy hoods should be attached at polling locations that include attached privacy hoods at other voting booths.
- Ballot secrecy sleeve should be provided along with ballots to voters using the AutoMARK machine. Ballot secrecy sleeves enable voters to insert and retrieve their ballots from the AutoMARK terminal in complete privacy. Braille instructions in English and Spanish are included.

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<sup>18</sup> Also see the ADA Integration Mandate, 28 C.F.R. § 35.130(d)

- Consider providing (or procuring and providing) the AutoMARK assistive technology accessories that ensure that voters with limited motor control, and voters who require hands-off technology, have access to equal privacy and independence. These accessories are: the foot-rocking pedals or rocker paddle, the stylus, the head pointer, and the sip and puff tube.
- Consider providing Large Print AutoMARK Voting instructions at every AutoMARK table to increase voter autonomy.
- A chair should be provided at the AutoMARK table or adjacent to the table out of the circulation route.
- When providing a chair at AutoMARK table and accessible voting booth, consider ensuring that chair is stable and not lightweight, so that it will not move or slip when gripped.

Additional items to consider:

- Polling area should have floor sockets, sufficient heat and light to ensure that voting machines can be plugged in close proximity to the general voting booth area and that voters.
- Where there may be more than one potential location, select polling locations with accessible amenities, if such are provided to the general public.

## Appendix C

### Resources

#### Voting for Residents of Long-term care Facilities

- [Elderly Voters: Information on Promising Practices that that Could Strengthen the Integrity of the Voting Process in Long Term Care Facilities](http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d106.pdf) - a 2009 report from the Government Accountability Office <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d106.pdf>
- [Quick Start Management Guide: Serving Voters in Long-Term Care Facilities](http://www.eac.gov/assets/1/AssetManager/Quick%20Start-Serving%20Voters%20in%20Long-Term%20Care%20Facilities.pdf), a 2008 resource for election administrators <http://www.eac.gov/assets/1/AssetManager/Quick%20Start-Serving%20Voters%20in%20Long-Term%20Care%20Facilities.pdf>
- [Making Voting More Accessible for Veterans with Disabilities](http://www.itif.org/publications/making-voting-more-accessible-veterans-disabilities), a 2012 report from Operation BRAVO Foundation <http://www.itif.org/publications/making-voting-more-accessible-veterans-disabilities>
- [Voting by Senior Citizens in Long Term Care Facilities](http://online.liebertpub.com/doi/abs/10.1089/elj.2012.0187?journalCode=elj). Richard J. Bonnie, Paul Freedman, and Thomas M. Guterbock. Election Law Journal: Rules, Politics, and Policy. September 2013, 12(3): 293-304. doi:10.1089/elj.2012.0187. <http://online.liebertpub.com/doi/abs/10.1089/elj.2012.0187?journalCode=elj>
- [Voting for Long-Term Care Residents](http://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/2013-december-canvass.aspx), NCSL's elections newsletter, The Canvass <http://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/2013-december-canvass.aspx>

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# City of Worcester, Massachusetts

## Evaluation and Transition Plan (ADA) of Polling Places

### Part II: Facility Review **DRAFT**

Prepared by  
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March 15, 2015



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## 1-1 Unitarian Universalist Church, Hall



Photo 1



Photo 2

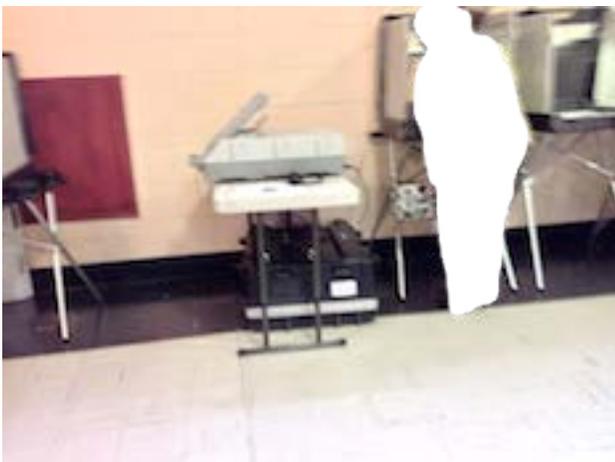


Photo 3

## Issues

**Parking Spaces** The slope and surface of the access aisle of the accessible parking spaces do not meet requirements. (Photo 1)

**Walkways** There is no accessible path of travel from parking spaces that are designated as accessible to the accessible entrance. (Photo 1)

**Building Entrance** A ramp is provided but it is not accessible due to the excessive slope. The bottom landing is also not level or smooth. (Photo 2)

**Voting Area** The AutoMARK voting machine set-up is not accessible and impedes privacy and independence (Photo 3):

- There is not at a minimum, a 30-inch width and a 48-inch length clear floor space centered on the machine.
- AutoMARK table overlaps with general circulation path could compromise access to the AutoMARK machine.
- AutoMARK table was not adjusted to allow minimal knee and toe clearance height.
- A suitcase stored under the AutoMARK table is an obstacle to voters who use wheelchairs.
- No chair for people who do not use wheelchairs was provided or at least not visible.
- The AutoMARK privacy hood was not attached.

## Recommendations

**Parking** Regrade, repair or relocate accessible parking spaces to a more level and smooth portion of parking area and install an accessible path of travel between parking spaces and entrance. At accessible parking spaces, ensure that cross slopes are no more than 2.08% in all directions.

**Walkways** The path of travel to the entrance must have a continuous stable, firm, and slip-resistant surface that is at least 36 inches wide, with required passing and turning spaces, if applicable.

**Building Entrance** Renovate the transition at the bottom landing of the ramp to provide a smooth, level and flush transition between asphalt and concrete ground surfaces.

Work with the building owner to reconstruct the ramp to the entrance so that it meets all ADA requirements.

**Voting Area** A checklist for accessibility should be used by poll workers prior to opening on Election Day to ensure that, at a minimum:

- The voting equipment is set up correctly, powered on, and working properly;
- Accessible features are located within the general voting area adjoining a circulation route of at least 36 inches width with passing spaces and turning area, if needed;
- Headphones are available to ensure access to the audio ballot functions;
- Accessible machines and accessible tables are set up to accommodate voters who use wheelchairs with required clear space centered in front of the table and required knee and toe clearances;

- A standard chair is available for use by voters with disabilities who do not use wheelchairs; and
- Accessible voting equipment is set up in a way that ensures voter privacy, including installation of privacy hood.

Although not a requirement, consider ensuring that chair at AutoMARK and accessible low voting booth table is stable and not lightweight, so that it will not move or slip when gripped.

## 1-2 The Willows



Photo 1



Photo 2

## Issues

**Voting Area** AutoMARK machine set-up is not sufficient for use and impedes privacy and independence:

- AutoMARK machine not located along an accessible route. I don't understand this. It's right alongside another machine.
- There is not at a minimum, a 30-inch width and a 48-inch length clear floor space centered on the machine. Is the table the problem? There looks like there's enough space.
- Suitcase stored under AutoMARK table is an obstacle to seated voters.
- The AutoMARK privacy hood was not attached.

## Recommendations

**Walkway** Widen the walkways to meet minimum width requirements.

**Voting Area** A checklist for accessibility should be used by poll workers prior to opening on Election Day to ensure that, at a minimum:

- The voting equipment is set up correctly, powered on, and working properly;
- Accessible equipment is located within the general voting area adjoining a circulation route of at least 36 inches width with passing spaces and turning area, if needed;
- Headphones are available to ensure access to the audio ballot functions;
- Accessible machines and accessible tables are set up to accommodate voters who use wheelchairs with required clear space centered in front of the table and required knee and toe clearances; Accessible voting equipment is set up in a way that ensures voter privacy, including installation of privacy hood.

Although not a requirement, it is also recommended that the chairs provided at accessible features be stable and not lightweight, so that visually impaired voters can feel and use chair without slipping.

## 1-3 Assumption College



Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3

## Issues

**Parking** Parking is provided for voters but there is no accessible parking space with an access aisle closest to the polling location entrance.

**Walkways** Walkway to the accessible entrance is not free of abrupt level changes over 1/2 inch. (Photo 1)

### Building Entrance

- The primary entrance is not accessible and there is no directional signage to the nearest accessible entrance. (Photo 2)
- Voting signs were only located at the inaccessible entrance. (Photo 2)

**Voting Area** AutoMARK machine set-up does not enable voters to vote independently and cast a private ballot (Photo 3):

- AutoMARK machine not located along an accessible route. At beginning of survey it was pushed against the stage.
- There is not at a minimum, a 30 inches width and a 48-inch length clear floor space centered on the machine.
- Headphones were not attached.
- AutoMARK privacy hood was not attached.
- A chair was not provided to sit at the AutoMARK machine.

## Recommendations

**Parking** Regrade the accessible parking area closest to accessible entrance so that slopes do not exceed 1:48 (2.08%) in any direction.

- Restripe parking area closest to accessible entrance to provide a van-accessible parking space with markings for an 8-foot space plus an 8-foot access aisle, minimum. Alternatively, the van accessible space can

be 11 feet wide with an access aisle of 5 feet wide, minimum.

- Mount van-accessible designation signage so the bottom of sign is no lower than 5 feet above ground and the top of the sign is no higher than 8 feet above the ground (as measured from the parking lot ground surface).

**Walkways** Repair and caulk gaps between the sidewalk and path of travel to the accessible entrance so that the path of travel is free of abrupt level changes over 1/2 inch.

### **Building Entrance**

- Provide ADA-compliant directional signage at the primary entrance informing voters where the nearest accessible entrance is located.
- As standard procedure on election days, provide bright voter signage at both the inaccessible entrance and also at the beginning of the path towards the side accessible entrance.

**Voting Area** A checklist for accessibility should be used by poll workers prior to opening on Election Day to ensure that, at a minimum:

- The voting equipment is set up correctly, powered on, and working properly;
- Accessible equipment is located within the general voting area adjoining a circulation route of at least 36 inches width with passing spaces and turning area, if needed;
- Headphones are available to ensure access to the audio ballot functions;
- Accessible machines and accessible tables are set up to accommodate voters who use wheelchairs with required clear space centered in front of the table and required knee and toe clearances; accessible voting equipment is set up in a way that ensures voter privacy, including installation of privacy hood.

Although not a requirement, it is also recommended that the chairs provided at accessible features be stable and not lightweight, so that visually impaired voters can feel and use chair without slipping.

## 1-4 Congregation Beth Israel, Social Hall



Photo 1



Photo 2

## Issues

**Walkways** Although an accessible parallel parking space is provided very close to entrance, the walkway to entry slab has abrupt level changes over ½ inch. (Photo 1)

### **Voting Area**

**AutoMARK machine was not in working order at time of survey. Poll workers reported problems switching from Spanish to English and paper jams.**

AutoMARK table was set up to enable voters to vote independently and cast a private ballot: because it was within general public circulation area, along an accessible route, and included Large Print instructions on the table, However, there were some issues:

- A chair was not provided.
- The privacy hood was not attached.

## Recommendations

**Approach & Entrance** Regrade route to entrance, ensuring that path of travel is flush with concrete entry slab.

**Voting Area** A checklist for accessibility should be used by poll workers prior to opening on Election Day to ensure that, at a minimum:

- The voting equipment is set up correctly, powered on, and working properly;
- Accessible equipment is located within the general voting area adjoining a circulation route of at least 36 inches width with passing spaces and turning area, if needed;
- Headphones are available to ensure access to the audio ballot functions;
- Accessible machines and accessible tables are set up to accommodate voters who use wheelchairs with required clear space

centered in front of the table and required knee and toe clearances; accessible voting equipment is set up in a way that ensures voter privacy, including installation of privacy hood.

Although not a requirement, it is also recommended that the chairs provided at accessible features be stable and not lightweight, so that visually impaired voters can feel and use chair without slipping.

## 1-5 Price Chopper Supermarket



Photo 1



Photo 2

## Issues

**Due to lack of sidewalks, this is a vehicle-only location.**

**Hallways and Corridors** While not an accessibility requirement, there was no signage to assist first-time voters to find the voting area inside this supermarket. When this was noted to the police officer on duty, she immediately rectified the situation by providing clear directional folding signage that prevented backtracking.

**Voting Area** The AutoMARK machine was set up within the general public voting area and along an accessible route. A chair was provided. However, the AutoMARK machine was not set up sufficient for use because:

- Knee and toe clearance was not provided due to the suitcase being stored under the AutoMARK table.
- AutoMARK privacy hood was not attached.

## Recommendations

**Voting Area** When setting up accessible features prior to opening on Election Day, ensure that:

- Required knee and toe clearance is provided under the table.
- Install privacy hood on AutoMARK machine.
- Attach headphones to the correct port on AutoMARK machine.

Although not a requirement, consider ensuring that chair at AutoMARK and accessible low voting booth table is stable and not lightweight, so that it will not move or slip when gripped.

## 2-1 Salem Covenant Church, Hall



Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3

## Issues

**Walkways** There is not an accessible route from the sidewalks to the accessible entrance because a curb ramp is not provided on either end of the pedestrian crosswalk, and the accessible pedestrian signal (APS) is not located along an accessible route.

**Parking** Accessible parking spaces are provided close to the voting area entrance. However:

- At least one accessible parking space is not designated as van-accessible
- Marked widths for parking spaces are not adequate.
- Accessible parking area surface is not smooth, level, and slip-resistant.
- Bottom of accessible parking signs are lower than 5 feet.
- There is no accessible route between the parking spaces and the accessible entrance.

**Building Entrance** There is not at least one accessible exterior entrance because the entrance slab is not free of abrupt changes in level, and there is a gap over 1/2 inch at the transition between the entrance slab and the walkway.

**Voting Area** The AutoMARK machine was not set up to enable voters to vote independently and cast a private ballot because:

- AutoMARK table is not along an accessible route within the general circulation area;
- AutoMARK privacy hood was not attached.
- A chair was not provided to sit at the AutoMARK machine.

## Recommendations

**Walkways** Provide an ADA-compliant curb ramp on both ends of the pedestrian crosswalk, and provide the required clear ground space with required surface adjacent to the APS controls and adjoining the accessible route.

### **Parking**

- Repair or regrade the accessible parking area to provide at least one ADA-compliant van-accessible parking space closest to entrance.

### **Building Entrance**

- Install an accessible walkway between the accessible parking area and the entrance that is continuously level, smooth, slip-resistant and 36 inches wide, minimum with passing and turning spaces, if appropriate.
- Ensure that this route provides a flush connection to the entrance slab and the entrance door threshold.

**Voting Area** A checklist for accessibility should be used by poll workers prior to opening on Election Day to ensure that, at a minimum:

- The voting equipment is set up correctly, powered on, and working properly;
- Accessible equipment is located within the general voting area adjoining a circulation route of at least 36 inches width with passing spaces and turning area, if needed;
- Headphones are available to ensure access to the audio ballot functions;
- Accessible machines and accessible tables are set up to accommodate voters who use wheelchairs with required clear space centered in front of the table and required knee and toe clearances; accessible voting equipment is set up in a way that ensures voter privacy, including installation of privacy hood.

Although not a requirement, it is also recommended that the chairs provided at accessible features be stable and not lightweight, so that visually impaired voters can feel and use chair without slipping.

## 2-2 and 2-3 Zion Lutheran Hall



Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3

## Issues

**Parking** Although 3 spaces are designated as accessible within the parking lot, they are not accessible because the access aisles at all three are obstructed by a folding sign, a large trash or storage unit, and they have excessive cross slopes. In addition: during polling event, one space was also being used by a group of sign holders. (Photo 1)

**Walkways and Sidewalks** Although new curb ramps are provided at the intersection corners of Whitmarsh and Leeds Street, these curb ramps are not accessible:

- Curb ramps have excessive cross slopes
- Some curb ramps lack level bottom and top landings
- Sidewalk panels adjacent to the curb ramps have excessive cross slopes
- The southwest curb ramp (closest to parking lot) has 14.5% run slope;
- Slope of the curb ramp at the walkway to accessible entrance is excessive and lacks a smooth and level bottom transition to street
- Sidewalk to the walkway at accessible entrance has excessive slopes. (Photos 2 and 3)

### **Building Entrances**

- Two inaccessible building entrances on Whitmarsh and one polling entrance on Leeds Street lack directional signage to the nearest accessible entrance. (Photo 4)
- Handrail provided on only one side of a ramp to accessible entrance is over 38 inches above the walking surface.



Photo 4



Photo 5

**Voting Area** AutoMARK machine set-up was problematic and impeded privacy and independent use. (Photo 5)

- There is no knee and toe clearance at the table due to the suitcase stored underneath.
- AutoMARK privacy hood was not attached.

## Recommendations

**Parking** Make the following modifications to the parking spaces designated as accessible:

- Re-mount all signs identifying the accessible parking spaces so that their bottom edge is at least five feet above the ground;
- Relocate parking spaces designated as accessible to level surfaces of the parking lot so that slopes do not exceed 2% in any direction;
- Restripe one row of spaces to convert one parking space into a van-designated space. Install a sign that contains the designation "van accessible" at the head of the parking space.
- Remove any obstacles within access aisles.

**Walkways and Sidewalks** Although new curb ramps are provided at the intersection corners of Whitmarsh and Leeds Street, these curb ramps are not accessible:

- Reconstruct the southwest curb ramp at the intersection of Whitmarsh St. and Leeds St. so that the running slope is no greater than 8.3% and the cross slope no greater than 2.08%.
- Install level top and bottom landings at curb ramps and consider whether sidewalk reconstruction to provide accessible routes along Whitmarsh and Leeds Streets can be implemented prior to next federal election.
- Due to the slope of the walkway leading to accessible entrance, the ADA Standards classify it as a ramp. Provide ADA-

compliant handrails on both sides of the ramp. Pave the transition area between sidewalk and walkway so that ground surface is smooth, level and slip-resistant.

### ***Building Entrances***

- Install ADA-compliant directional signage at all inaccessible building entrances to inform visitors where the nearest accessible entrance is located.
- At next polling event, install clear directional signage at inaccessible polling entrances to clarify that voters in Ward 2, Precincts 2 and 3, can use the accessible entrance located along Leeds Street. At the accessible entrance install an ADA-compliant designation sign with the International Symbol of Accessibility.

***Voting Area*** A checklist for accessibility should be used by poll workers prior to opening on Election Day to ensure that, at a minimum:

- The voting equipment is set up correctly, powered on, and working properly;
- Accessible equipment is located within the general voting area adjoining a circulation route of at least 36 inches width with passing spaces and turning area, if needed;
- Earphones are available to ensure access to the audio ballot functions;
- Accessible machines and accessible tables are set up to accommodate voters who use wheelchairs with required clear space centered in front of the table and required knee and toe clearances; accessible voting equipment is set up in a way that ensures voter privacy, including installation of privacy hood.

Although not a requirement, it is also recommended that the chairs provided at accessible features be stable and not lightweight, so that visually impaired voters can feel and use chair with confidence.

## 2-4 Lincoln Village (Pool Center)



Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3

## Issues

**Parking** On-street parking is available; however, no accessible parking spaces are provided.

### **Sidewalks and Walkways**

A bus stop is located adjacent to facility walkways. However, there is no accessible route available from public sidewalks and public transportation stops on the polling site to the accessible entrance of the building because:

- Slopes of walkways to the accessible entrance are greater than 5% and as much as 15.9%.
- Walkways to the entrance are not free of abrupt level changes over ½ inch.

**Building Entrance** The door provides only 29 inches clear passage width when the door is open to 90 degrees.

**Ramp** The ramp slope is greater than the maximum allowed; the ramp surface has areas that are not level, smooth, and slip-resistant. The inside faces of handrails mounted on the building are less than 1 1/2 inches from the wall surface.

**Voting Area** AutoMARK machine is not set up to enable voters to vote independently and cast a private ballot:

- Knee clearance is not provided because the bottom of table surface is 26.5 inches above floor.



Photo 4

- There is not sufficient back-up maneuvering clearance at AutoMARK table and the route overlaps with the route to vending machines.
- AutoMARK privacy hood was not attached.

## Recommendations

This facility will require major renovations to be a minimally accessible polling location. If the following possible remedies are not feasible in the short term, then this polling location should be changed to an accessible location.

### ***Parking Short term:***

- Provide an accessible passenger drop-off/pickup location during the next Election Day event. Make the drop-off as close as possible to the accessible entrance and along a sidewalk that is level, smooth, and slip-resistant, with cross slopes not exceeding 2.08% in all directions along the length of the passenger drop-off location.
- In Voter Information, provide accurate information regarding whether accessible parking is provided at this location; and an update on the accessibility of the nearby sidewalks approaching the facility accessible entrance.
- Consider approaching the owners of the nearby parking lot to request access to accessible parking on election days.

### ***Sidewalks and Walkways***

- Consider working with the building owner to install at least one compliant accessible route that connects with nearby sidewalks from the bus stop across the street to the entrance.



Photo 5

**Building Entrance** Work with the building owner to enlarge the doorway at the ramped entrance.

**Ramp** Ramp accessibility can be maximized by installing ADA-compliant handrails on both sides of the ramp. Work with the building owner to modify the existing entrance ramp to the door.

**Voting Area** A checklist for accessibility should be used by poll workers prior to opening on Election Day to ensure that, at a minimum:

- The voting equipment is set up correctly, powered on, and working properly;
- Accessible equipment is located within the general voting area adjoining a circulation route of at least 36 inches width with passing spaces and turning area, if needed;
- Earphones are available to ensure access to the audio ballot functions;
- Accessible machines and accessible tables are set up to accommodate voters who use wheelchairs with required clear space centered in front of the table and required knee and toe clearances; accessible voting equipment is set up in a way that ensures voter privacy, including installation of privacy hood.

Although not a requirement, it is also recommended that the chairs provided at accessible features be stable and not lightweight, so that visually impaired voters can feel and use chair without slipping.

## 2-5 Great Brook Valley Multi-Purpose Center



Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3

## Issues

**Parking** Accessible parking is provided but no van-accessible space is designated or marked. What is marked differs from requirements in that the access aisle should be connected to the parking space. (Photo 1)

**Walkways** An accessible route is not available from accessible parking to entrance because the slopes are greater than 5% and range up to above 15%. (Photo 2)

**Voting Area** The accessible features are provided in a manner that enables voters to vote independently and cast a private ballot, however:

- The AutoMARK privacy hood is not attached. (Photo 3)

## Recommendations

This is a Worcester Housing Authority family housing development. As such, the following recommendations should be considered in tandem with the housing development’s ADA Transition Plan actions.

**Parking** Provide a van-accessible parking space with markings for an 8-foot space plus an 8-foot access aisle, minimum. Alternatively, the van accessible space can be 11 feet wide with an access aisle of 5 feet wide, minimum.

**Walkways** Regrade walkway between accessible parking and accessible entrance so that the running slopes are no more than 5% and the cross slopes no more than 2.08%.

**Voting Area** As part of the set-up on the morning of election days, ensure that the AutoMARK privacy hood is attached, if privacy shields or hoods are provided at other voting booths.

### 3-1 Dodge Park Rest Home



Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3

### Issues

**Parking** An accessible parking space is provided closest to the entrance; however, it is not marked to define the width; and no access aisle is marked. Sign may be over 8 feet above ground.

**Sidewalks and Walkways** There is no accessible route from sidewalks because curb ramps are not installed where the route crosses the curb; and, the sidewalks are not smooth, level, and with a continuous width of at least 36 inches.

**Voting Area** Due to the small area of the room provided for the election day event, there are no continuous accessible routes with at least 36 inches, minimum, to travel through the room. However, it is clear that an effort was made to provide a clear route between registration table and most voting booths.

The AutoMARK machine is not set up to enable voters to vote independently and cast a private ballot because:

- The AutoMARK table is not located along an accessible route
- Knee and toe clearance is not provided due to the suitcase stored under the table
- Headphones are not attached
- AutoMARK privacy hood is not attached
- A chair is not provided

### Recommendations

**Parking Install** at least one van-accessible space that is marked with the proper widths for space and access aisle. Include markings to discourage parking in the access aisle. Ensure that signage is not higher than 8 feet above ground and not lower than 5 feet above ground.

**Voting Area** A checklist for accessibility should be used by poll workers prior to opening on Election Day to ensure that, at a minimum:

- The voting equipment is set up correctly, powered on, and in working order;
- Accessible features are located within the general voting area adjoining a circulation route at least 36 inches wide
- Headphones are available to ensure access to the audio ballot functions;
- Accessible machines and accessible tables are set up to accommodate voters who use wheelchairs with a clear space of at least 30 inches width by 48 inches length centered in front of the table; and
- Accessible voting equipment is set up in a way that ensures voter privacy, including installation of privacy hood.

Although not a requirement, it is also recommended that chairs provided at accessible features be stable and not lightweight, so that it will not move or slip when gripped.

## 3-2 Worcester Art Museum



Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3

## Issues

**Parking** A parking lot is located at the side entry to the courtyard which is the accessible entrance.

- There is not at least one designated van-accessible parking space.
- There appears to be an access aisle but the parking space is not marked correctly. (Photo 1)

### **Sidewalks and Walkways**

- Where parking is provided there is not an accessible route from parking to the accessible entrance because the curb ramp to the walkway has excessive slopes and the bottom landing is not level, smooth and slip-resistant. (Photo 1)
- At the front entrance it was not clear how to get to the accessible entrance.
- Curb ramps in sidewalks circling the facility have deteriorated and have abrupt level changes over 1/2 inch. (Photo 2)
- Sidewalks adjacent to the parking area at the accessible entrance are greatly deteriorated with level changes, excessive slopes, and no curb ramp where the route crosses a driveway; in addition, the sidewalk has a returned curb, which presents another level change in the walkway
- Sidewalk panels have excessive width gaps at expansion joints. (Photo 3)

### **Building Entrance**

- At the inaccessible primary entrance there is no designation signage informing users where the nearest accessible entrance is located. (Photo 4)



Photo 4

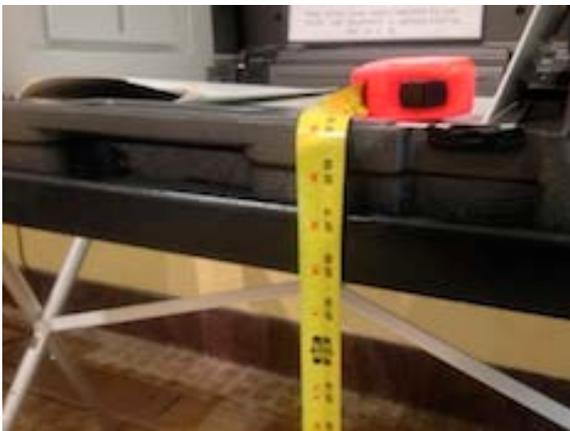


Photo 5



Photo 6

### ***Voting Area***

**AutoMARK machine was not in working order at the time of survey.**

Voting area is not set-up to enable voters to vote independently and cast a private ballot:

- Accessible voting booth was adjusted too low and so did not provide required knee and toe clearance underneath.
- AutoMARK table was adjusted too low and so did not provide required knee and toe clearance.
- The AutoMARK privacy hood was not attached.
- Poll workers did not seem to know how to work the machine.

## **Recommendations**

### ***Parking***

- Regrade accessible parking area so that slopes do not exceed 1:48 (2.08%) in any direction.
- Restripe accessible parking area in lot to provide a van-accessible parking space with markings for an 8-foot space plus an 8-foot access aisle, minimum. Alternatively, the van accessible space can be 11 feet wide with an access aisle of 5 feet wide, minimum.
- Mount van-accessible designation signage so the bottom of sign is no lower than 5 feet above ground and the top of the sign is no higher than 8 feet above the ground (as measured from the parking lot ground surface).

### ***Sidewalks and Walkways***

- Regrade walkway between accessible parking and accessible entrance so that the run slopes are no more than 5% and the cross slopes no more than 2.08%; ensure

that the surface is smooth and slip-resistant. (Photo 1)

- Reconstruct or repair sidewalks on both sides of the accessible entrance walkway to provide an accessible path of travel from the nearest intersection, the nearest accessible parking area, and a passenger drop off location to the accessible entrance.
- Long-term: Link crosswalk, curb ramp, sidewalk issues with municipal pedestrian access plan.

### ***Building Entrance***

- Make the accessible entrance the primary entrance for Election Day activities.
- Install ADA-compliant directional signage at the primary entrance to inform voters where the nearest accessible entrance is located.
- Provide clear directional information at the primary entrance at the foot of the stairs in order to assist voters with disabilities from having to backtrack when looking for the accessible entrance.

***Voting Area Voting Area*** A checklist for accessibility should be used by poll workers prior to opening on Election Day to ensure that, at a minimum:

- The voting equipment is set up correctly, powered on, and working properly;
- Accessible equipment is located within the general voting area adjoining a circulation route of at least 36 inches width with passing spaces and turning area, if needed;
- Earphones are available to ensure access to the audio ballot functions;
- Accessible machines and accessible tables are set up to accommodate voters who use wheelchairs with required clear space centered in front of the table and required knee and toe clearances; accessible voting equipment is set up in a way that ensures

voter privacy, including installation of privacy hood.

Although not a requirement, it is also recommended that the chairs provided at accessible features be stable and not lightweight, so that visually impaired voters can feel and use chair without slipping.

### 3-3 Worcester Center for Crafts

### Issues



Photo 1

**Parking** There is a large parking lot with no marked accessible parking spaces; and, one marked accessible car parking space adjacent to facility walkway. This space is not accessible:

- There is no accessible route between parking and entrance because there are level changes over 1/2 inch between the access aisle and the walkway.
- There is no designated van-accessible space



Photo 2

**Sidewalks and Walkways** Bus route 8 stops within 50 feet of facility. There are three marked crosswalks at the intersection of Park Ave and Sagamore Road.

- There is no accessible route available from public sidewalks to the accessible entrance of the building.
- Where the sidewalk crosses a curb, accessible curb ramps are not provided.
- At entry walkway to the accessible entrance, there are abrupt level changes over 1/2 inch.

#### **Building Entrance**

- Entrance door requires over 15 pounds of force to open in violation of State regulations 521 CMR

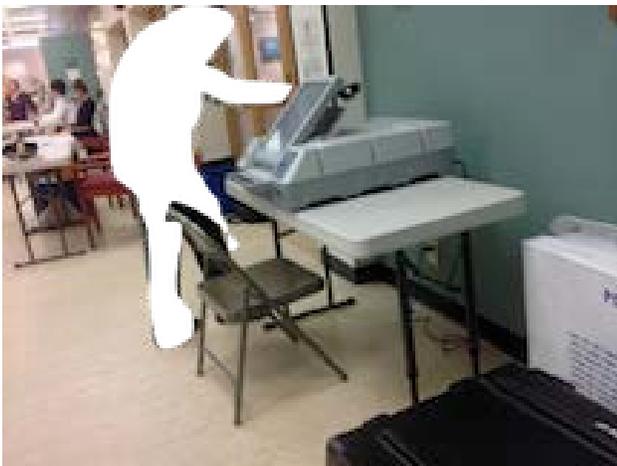


Photo 3

**Voting Area** At the AutoMARK table:

- Knee clearance is not provided because the table is adjusted to 26 inches below table surface
- Headphones are not attached
- Privacy hood is not attached.

## Recommendations

### **Parking**

- Regrade accessible parking area so that slopes do not exceed 1:48 (2.08%) in any direction.
- Restripe parking lot to provide a van-accessible parking space with markings for an 8-foot space plus an 8-foot access aisle, minimum. Alternatively, the van accessible space can be 11 feet wide with an access aisle of 5 feet wide, minimum.
- Mount van-accessible designation signage so the bottom of sign is no lower than 5 feet above ground and the top of the sign is no higher than 8 feet above the ground (as measured from the parking lot ground surface).
- Install an accessible path of travel between the accessible parking spaces and the accessible entrance.
- Ensure that any curb ramps within the accessible route have ADA-compliant top and bottom landings, and the walkway is a continuous 36-inch wide, minimum, level, smooth and slip-resistant path with no abrupt changes in level.

### **Sidewalks and Walkways**

- *Short-term:* Provide an accessible path of travel between accessible parking area and accessible entrance (see above, Parking).
- *Long-Term:* Consider linking crosswalk, curb ramp and sidewalk issues between nearby bus stop and accessible entrance as a part of the municipal pedestrian access plan.

### **Building Entrance**

- Adjust door pressure so that it is at least minimally compliant with State code requirements to not be greater than 15 pounds of force to open. OR

- Install an automatic door opener. OR
- During Election Day events, keep the entrance door propped open.

**Voting Area** A checklist for accessibility should be used by poll workers prior to opening on Election Day to ensure that, at a minimum:

- The voting equipment is set up and powered on;
- Accessible features are located within the general voting area adjoining a circulation route at least 36 inches width;
- Headphones are available to ensure access to the audio ballot functions;
- Accessible machines and accessible tables are set up to accommodate voters who use wheelchairs with a clear space of at least 30 inches width by 48 inches length centered in front of the table and at least 27 inches from floor to bottom of table surface to allow for knee clearance; and
- Accessible voting equipment is set up in a way that ensures voter privacy, including installation of privacy hood.

Although not a requirement, consider ensuring that chair at AutoMARK and accessible low voting booth table is stable and not lightweight, so that it will not move or slip when gripped.

## 3-4 Worcester Technical High School Lobby



Photo 1

## Issues

### *Voting Area*

**AutoMARK machine was not in working order at time of survey.**

Voting area was not set-up to enable voters to vote independently and cast a private ballot:

- At the accessible table, a large and unnecessary sign hangs over the table front rim, obstructing knee and toe clearance. (Photo 1)
- There is no chair nearby to sit while using the lower table.
- AutoMARK machine was in process of repair at time of survey.
- A privacy hood for AutoMARK machine was not evident.

## Recommendations

***Voting Area*** A checklist for accessibility should be used by poll workers prior to opening on Election Day to ensure that, at a minimum:

- The voting equipment is set up correctly, powered on, and working properly;
- Accessible equipment is located within the general voting area adjoining a circulation route of at least 36 inches width with passing spaces and turning area, if needed;
- Earphones are available to ensure access to the audio ballot functions;
- Accessible machines and accessible tables are set up to accommodate voters who use wheelchairs with required clear space centered in front of the table and required knee and toe clearances; accessible voting equipment is set up in a way that ensures voter privacy, including installation of privacy hood.

Although not a requirement, it is also recommended that the chairs provided at accessible features be stable and not lightweight, so that visually impaired voters can feel and use chair without slipping.

### 3-5 First Assembly of God Hall



Photo 1



Photo 2

### Issues

**Building Entrance** A portable ramp is placed at the building entrance to overcome the high threshold at entrance door. This ramp is flush with the doorway and the portable ramp is an excellent adjustment; however, the ramp presents a beveled level change over 3/4 inches at the walkway.

**Voting Area** Voting area is set-up to enable voters to vote independently and cast a private ballot. Specimen ballots and informational signage along the corridors to the voting area were mounted no higher than between 48 - 60 inches. The accessible table and AutoMARK machines were along an accessible route located within the general circulation area. However, there were some issues:

- A chair is not provided at or near the AutoMARK table and the low accessible table.
- The AutoMARK privacy hood is not attached.

### Recommendations

**Building Entrance** Securely attach portable ramp to the ground surface and provide a Go Slow or Caution sign at entrance with image or information regarding the portable ramp to assist older and disabled voters to use caution when travelling over the portable ramp. Consider a permanent accessible solution to the entrance.

**Voting Area** Prior to opening on Election Day:

- Place a sturdy chair at both accessible features;
- Attach AutoMARK privacy hood if other voting booths have privacy shields or hoods.

## 4-1 and 4-2 Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Recreation Center



Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3

## Issues

**Parking** Accessible parking is designated but is not accessible:

- Van parking spaces is not at least 8 feet wide and the access aisle is also not at least 8 feet wide.
- Cross slopes in all directions exceed 1:48.
- Run slope of curb ramp between parking and facility walkway exceeds 8.3%.

**Sidewalks and Walkways** There is not an accessible route from the parking and from sidewalks and walkways

- Sidewalks are poorly maintained.
- Sidewalks and walkways have severe level changes.
- Sidewalks and walkways have excessive cross slopes and run slopes.
- Sidewalks do not provide a continuous accessible route that is at least 36 inches wide, and is level, smooth, and slip-resistant. (Photos 2 and 3)

**Ramp** The ramp to the accessible entrance has excessive cross slopes at the bottom of the incline. (Photo 4)

**Building Entrance** There is more than one entrance.

- At the inaccessible entrance, directional signage is not posted to inform voters where the nearest accessible entrance is located. (Photo 4)

**Voting Area** One AutoMARK machine is shared between the two precincts. Privacy hood is not attached.



Photo 4

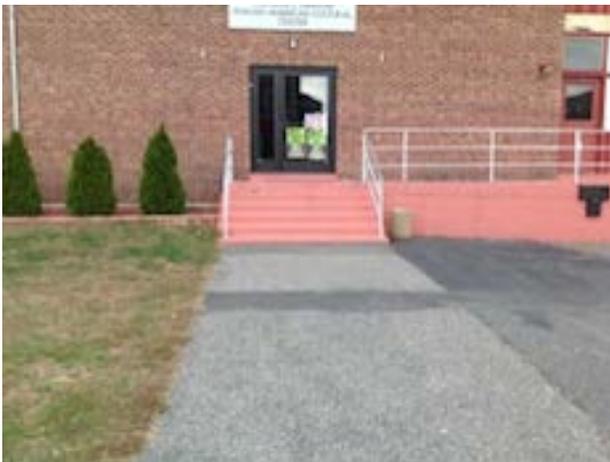


Photo 5



Photo 5

### **Hallways**

- Along circulation routes, hallways include chairs and other moveable items that can cause navigational hazards.
- Unsecured mats pose tripping hazards. (Photo 5)

## **Recommendations**

### **Parking**

- Regrade parking area to be smooth, level and slip-resistant.
- Install accessible curb ramp(s) between accessible parking space(s) and accessible entrance.
- Restripe parking area to provide at least one designated van-accessible space that is marked at least 8 feet wide with an access aisle that is at least 8 feet wide and is marked to discourage parking there. Alternatively, the space can be 11 feet wide with an access aisle at least 5 feet wide.
- Ensure that the accessible parking spaces are located on the shortest route to the accessible entrance.

### **Sidewalks and Walkways**

- Plan and implement a facility-wide exterior accessible route program to provide walkways that do not exceed 5% slope with cross slopes that do not exceed 2.08%.
- Ground surfaces must be smooth, level, slip-resistant and at least 36 inches width, continuous.

**Ramp** Rebuild ramp to have compliant cross slopes along bottom third.

**Building Entrance** Install accessible directional signage at inaccessible entrance(s).

### **Hallways**

- Secure all weather mats with industrial-strength double-stick tape. Alternatively, replace them with recessed walk-off mats or grates at all entrances.
- Remove unnecessary chairs and other moveable items from the general circulation routes.

**Voting Area** On Election Day and prior to when the polls open, install privacy hood on AutoMARK machine as part of the set-up standard procedure.

## 4-3 Belmont Tower Apartments, Community Room



Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3

## Issues

**Parking** Four Accessible parking spaces are provided but they are not accessible:

- Van parking spaces are not at least 8 feet wide with an access aisle also at least 8 feet wide.
- Cross slopes in all directions are excessive.

### **Sidewalks and Walkways**

- Curb ramp at the facility perimeter walkway has running slope exceeding 8.3%.
- Sidewalks from the bus stop to the accessible entrance are poorly maintained with excessive width gaps at expansion joints and are not continuously level, smooth and slip-resistant.

### **Ramp**

- The ramp from the sidewalk to the walkway leading to the accessible entrance at the side of the building has a running slope greater than 8.3%.

### **Building Entrance**

- The ramp to the entrance is poorly constructed with an excessive level change at bottom and a running slope that exceeds 8.3%

### **Hallways and Corridors**

- Weather mats and rugs over floors are not secured and can cause tripping hazards.

**Voting Area** Voting area is not set-up to enable voters to vote independently and cast a private ballot:

- Informational signage is not compliant.
- At both accessible voting tables, there is insufficient height from floor to the underside of the table surface to provide required knee and toe clearance.
- Headphones are not attached at AutoMARK machine.
- Privacy hood is not attached at AutoMARK machine.



Photo 4



Photo 5

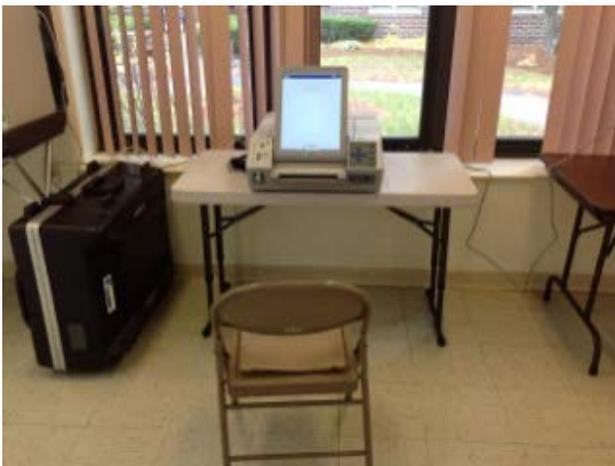


Photo 6

## Recommendations

This is a Worcester Housing Authority Elderly/Disabled housing complex. As such, the following recommendations may be considered in tandem with the facility's ADA Transition Plan actions.

**Parking** Link parking facility corrective actions with municipal pedestrian access plan.

**Sidewalks and Walkways** Link crosswalk, curb ramp, and sidewalk issues with municipal pedestrian access plan.

**Ramp** Link the ramp in the walkway issues with municipal pedestrian access plan.

**Building Entrance** Repair or reconstruct the ramp to the building entrance so that the running slope does not exceed 8.3% and the bottom transition is smooth and flush with driveway ground surfaces.

### Hallways and Corridors

- Secure all weather mats with industrial-strength double-stick tape. Alternatively, replace them with recessed walk-off mats or grates at all entrances.
- Remove unnecessary chairs and other moveable items from the general circulation routes.

**Voting Area** When setting up accessible equipment prior to opening on Election Day, do the following:

- Provide knee clearance under tables of at least 27 inches minimum above floor.
- Install privacy hood on the AutoMARK machine.
- Attach headphones to the correct port on AutoMARK machine.

Although not a requirement, ensure that chair at AutoMARK and accessible low voting booth table is stable and not lightweight, so that it will not move or slip when gripped.

## 4-4 Friendly House



Photo 1



Photo 2

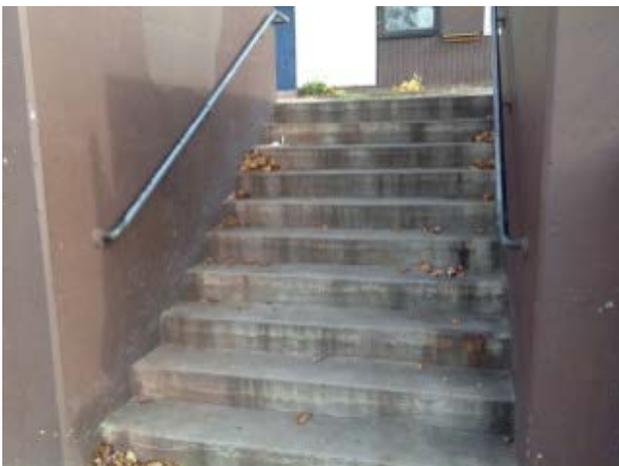


Photo 3

## Issues

**Parking** Although there is a nearby parking being used by voters, there are no signs indicating that this is the parking area for Election Day. Is this officially parking for Election Day or just conveniently located? If it's not provided for Election Day, there is no requirement to provide accessible parking. If this is the official parking for Election day activities, the following issues require attention:

- There is not at least one on-street parking place in front of the polling location that is temporarily designated as an accessible parking space.
- Parking area has no markings or signs indicating accessible parking availability.

### **Sidewalks and Walkways**

- An accessible route is not available between sidewalks and the accessible entrance.
- Sidewalks are not level, smooth, slip-resistant and continuously at least 36 inches wide.
- Walkway to polling locations has excessive cross slopes.

### **Stairway in Walkway**

- Handrails must extend 12 inches beyond the top and the bottom of the stairs, parallel to the ground or floor surface. This stairway has required handrails at the top, but not the bottom.

**Building Entrance** There is more than one building entrance and all entrances are not accessible.

- Directional signage is not provided at inaccessible entrances informing voters where the nearest accessible entrance is located.



Photo 4



Photo 5

### **Hallways and Corridors**

- Weather mats and rugs over floors are not secured and can cause tripping hazards.
- There are non-fixed chairs along the side of the interior circulation route. Ensure that they are located to be cane-detectable.

**Voting Area** Voting area is not set-up to enable voters to vote independently and cast a private ballot:

- AutoMARK table is not located along an accessible route and the location does not coincide with general circulation paths.
- AutoMARK machine is not oriented to allow for a seated voter to have knee clearance because it is centered on the short side of the table.
- A clear floor space of at least 30 inches by 48 inches is not centered on the machine.
- Table width does not provide at least a 30-inch wide table surface.
- AutoMark privacy hood is not attached.
- Headphones are not attached.

## **Recommendations**

**Parking** If parking is offered, even just for election day, then accessible parking must be offered.

- Provide at least one accessible on-street parking place in front of the polling location and include signage that is mounted so the sign's lower edge is no lower than five feet and the upper edge is no higher than eight feet above the ground to temporarily designate this as an accessible parking spot during election day events. Required?
- If parking is offered to the public on election day: Provide a van-accessible parking space with markings for an 8-foot space plus an 8-foot access aisle, minimum.

Alternatively, the van accessible space can be 11 feet wide with an access aisle of 5 feet wide, minimum.

### ***Sidewalks and Walkways***

- Repair and maintain sidewalks and walkways so that an ADA-compliant accessible route is provided from the sidewalks to the accessible entrance.

### ***Stairway in Walkway***

- Replace handrails with handrails on both sides that extend at least 12 inches both at top and bottom parallel to the walking surface. Since handrails extending the required 12" at the bottom will be hazards to those walking on the route below, extend them to the edge of the wall and return around to the front.

### ***Building Entrance***

- Install ADA-compliant directional signage at all inaccessible entrances informing voters where the nearest accessible entrance is located.

***Voting Area*** A checklist for accessibility should be used by poll workers prior to opening on Election Day to ensure that, at a minimum:

- The voting equipment is set up correctly, powered on, and working properly;
- Accessible equipment is located within the general voting area adjoining a circulation route of at least 36 inches width with passing spaces and turning area, if needed;
- Headphones are available to ensure access to the audio ballot functions;
- Accessible machines and accessible tables are set up to accommodate voters who use wheelchairs with required clear space centered in front of the table and required knee and toe clearances; accessible voting equipment is set up in a way that ensures

voter privacy, including installation of privacy hood.

Although not a requirement, it is also recommended that the chairs provided at accessible features be stable and not lightweight, so that visually impaired voters can feel and use chair without slipping.

## 4-5 Lincoln Park Tower, Community Room



Photo 1



Photo 2

## Issues

**Voting Area** Voting area is not set-up to enable voters to vote independently and cast a private ballot:

- Accessible booth is not located along an accessible route located in the same area as general circulation paths.
- AutoMARK machine does not have privacy hood installed and is not set up in a way that ensures voter privacy.

## Recommendations

**Voting Area** A checklist for accessibility should be used by poll workers prior to opening on Election Day to ensure that, at a minimum:

- The voting equipment is set up correctly, powered on, and working properly;
- Accessible equipment is located within the general voting area adjoining a circulation route of at least 36 inches width with passing spaces and turning area, if needed;
- Headphones are available to ensure access to the audio ballot functions;
- Accessible machines and accessible tables are set up to accommodate voters who use wheelchairs with required clear space centered in front of the table and required knee and toe clearances; accessible voting equipment is set up in a way that ensures voter privacy, including installation of privacy hood.

Although not a requirement, it is also recommended that the chairs provided at accessible features be stable and not lightweight, so that visually impaired voters can feel and use chair without slipping.

## **5-1 Addison Apartments, Community Room**

This polling precinct was not surveyed during the November 2014 Election Day snapshot survey.

## 5-2 Ecotarium



Photo 1



Photo 2

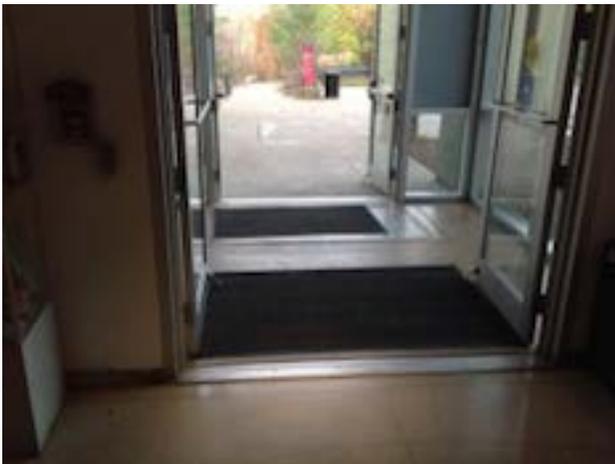


Photo 3

## Issues

### **Sidewalks and Walkways**

- There is no accessible route from sidewalks and facility walkways to accessible entrance.
- Sidewalk is poorly maintained and unusable. (Photo 1, Photo 2)

### **Hallways and Corridors**

- Weather mats are not secured which can cause tripping hazards. (Photo 3)

**Voting Area** Voting area is not set-up to enable voters to vote independently and cast a private ballot:

- AutoMARK table is not located along an accessible route located in the same area as general circulation paths.
- AutoMARK machine does not have privacy hood installed and is not set up in a way that ensures voter privacy.

## Recommendations

### **Sidewalks and Walkways**

*Short term:*

- Provide an accessible passenger drop-off/pick-up location during next Election Day event that is as close as possible to the accessible entrance and along a sidewalk that is level, smooth and slip-resistant, with cross slopes not exceeding 2.08% in all directions along the length of the passenger drop-off location.
- In Voter Information, provide accurate information regarding whether accessible parking is provided at this location and an update on the accessibility of the nearby sidewalks approaching the facility's accessible entrance.



Photo 4

*Long-term:*

- Work with owners to develop a plan to install at least one accessible route into and through facility so that on Election Day there is at least one accessible route to the accessible entrance.
- Consider linking the pedestrian access needs around this facility with the municipal pedestrian access plan.

**Voting Area** A checklist for accessibility should be used by poll workers prior to opening on Election Day to ensure that, at a minimum:

- The voting equipment is set up correctly, powered on, and working properly;
- Accessible equipment is located within the general voting area adjoining a circulation route of at least 36 inches width with passing spaces and turning area, if needed;
- Earphones are available to ensure access to the audio ballot functions;
- Accessible machines and accessible tables are set up to accommodate voters who use wheelchairs with required clear space centered in front of the table and required knee and toe clearances; accessible voting equipment is set up in a way that ensures voter privacy, including installation of privacy hood.

Although not a requirement, it is also recommended that the chairs provided at accessible features be stable and not lightweight, so that visually impaired voters can feel and use chair without slipping.

### **5-3 Lake Park Community House**

This polling precinct was not surveyed during the November 2014 Election Day snapshot survey.

## 5-4 Super Stop and Shop, Board Room (2nd Floor)



Photo 1

## Issues

**Voting Area** Voting area is not set-up to enable voters to vote independently and cast a private ballot:

- AutoMARK table is not located along an accessible route or located in the same area as the rest of the voting booths.
- AutoMARK machine does not have privacy hood installed and is not set up in a way that ensures voter privacy.
- A chair is not provided at AutoMARK machine.
- Headphones are not available or attached.

## Recommendations

**Voting Area** A checklist for accessibility should be used by poll workers prior to opening on Election Day to ensure that, at a minimum:

- The voting equipment is set up correctly, powered on, and working properly;
- Accessible equipment is located within the general voting area adjoining a circulation route of at least 36 inches width with passing spaces and turning area, if needed;
- Earphones are available to ensure access to the audio ballot functions;
- Accessible machines and accessible tables are set up to accommodate voters who use wheelchairs with required clear space centered in front of the table and required knee and toe clearances; accessible voting equipment is set up in a way that ensures voter privacy, including installation of privacy hood.

Although not a requirement, it is also recommended that the chairs provided at accessible features be stable and not lightweight, so that visually impaired voters can feel and use chair without slipping.

## 5-5 Massachusetts Audubon Society

This polling precinct was not surveyed during the November 2014 Election Day snapshot survey.

## 6-1 and 6-2 and 6-3 Worcester Senior Center



Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3

## Issues

**Parking** Accessible parking is provided, with 7 accessible spaces; however,

- the parking striping is faded and hard to see; and
- the spaces have excessive cross slopes. (Photo 1)

**Sidewalks and Walkways** There is no accessible route provided from the sidewalks to the entrance because curb ramps and sidewalks are poorly maintained. (Photo 2)

### **Hallways and Corridors**

- Designation signage not provided at permanent rooms and spaces. (Photo 3)
- Unsecured mat and AutoMARK suitcase are both tripping hazards at Spurr St. exit door. (Photo 4)

**Voting Area** Precincts 1 & 2 - Voting area is not set-up to enable voters to vote independently and cast a private ballot:

- AutoMARK table is not located along an accessible route or located in the same area as the rest of the voting booths.
- AutoMARK machine does not have privacy hood installed and is not set up in a way that ensures voter privacy.
- Chair not provided at AutoMARK table.

Precinct 3 - Voting area is not set-up to enable voters to vote independently and cast a private ballot:

- AutoMARK table is not located along an accessible route or located in the same area as the rest of the voting booths.
- AutoMARK machine does not have privacy hood installed and is not set up in a way that ensures voter privacy.
- A chair not provided at AutoMARK table.

## Recommendations

This is a municipal facility. As such, the following recommendations should be addressed in tandem with the ADA Transition Plan actions.

**Parking** Link parking facility corrective actions with the municipal pedestrian access plan.

**Sidewalks and Walkways** Link the crosswalk, curb ramp, and sidewalk issues with the municipal pedestrian access plan.

### **Hallways and Corridors**

- Provide accessible designation signage for permanent rooms and spaces.
- Secure all weather mats with industrial-strength double-stick tape. Alternatively, replace them with recessed walk-off mats or grates at all entrances.
- Ensure that all circulation paths are clear of moveable floor items and that all entrances and exits are clear.

**Voting Area** A checklist for accessibility should be used by poll workers prior to opening on Election Day to ensure that, at a minimum:

- The voting equipment is set up correctly, powered on, and working properly;
- Accessible equipment is located within the general voting area adjoining a circulation route of at least 36 inches width with passing spaces and turning area, if needed;
- Earphones are available to ensure access to the audio ballot functions;
- Accessible machines and accessible tables are set up to accommodate voters who use wheelchairs with required clear space centered in front of the table and required knee and toe clearances; accessible voting equipment is set up in a way that ensures

voter privacy, including installation of privacy hood.

Although not a requirement, it is also recommended that the chairs provided at accessible features be stable and not lightweight, so that visually impaired voters can feel and use chair without slipping.

## 6-4 Quinsigamond Village Neighborhood Center



Photo 1



Photo 2

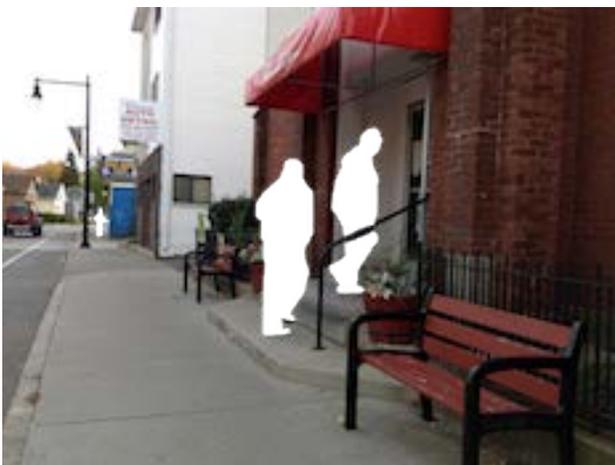


Photo 3

## Issues

### **Parking**

- Parking markings are not highly visible and do not denote accessible widths for access aisle (36" instead of at least 96" for van-accessible space).
- Slopes are excessive in all directions.
- No van-accessible space is provided in this lot with 10+ spaces. (Photo 1)

**Sidewalks and Walkways** Although sidewalks are well maintained at front entrance to the facility, the walkway leading to the designated accessible entrance is not smooth, level, and slip-resistant. (Photo 1)

### **Building Entrance**

No compliant accessible entrance is provided.

- Service entrance is designated as accessible entrance. (Photo 2)
- Service entrance door hardware is not usable with one hand without tight grasping, pinching, or twisting of the wrist.
- Service door hardware has sharp edges.
- Service door requires over 15 pounds of force to open.
- Front inaccessible entrance lacks directional signage to designated accessible entrance. (Photo 3)
- Service door does not provide at least 32 inches clear passage width when the door is open 90 degrees.

**Ramp** An *ad hoc* ramp is created at the interior of the designated accessible entrance, which consists of a rug over a step. (Photo 4)

- Ramp /rug is not secured
- Ramp / rug is not flush with the door threshold
- Ramp /rug does not have a level bottom landing connecting to an accessible route that is slip-resistant.



Photo 4



Photo 5



Photo 6

- Ramp / rug width is not at least 32 inches
- Ramp / rug does not have a level top landing and is not flush with the door threshold.

### **Hallways and Corridors**

- Numerous unsecured mats and rugs form the basis of the route between designated entrance and voting area. These mats are tripping hazards.
- Multiple objects clutter and limit clear width of the route between the entrance door and voting area.
- Although not a compliance issue, this excessively dirty secondary entrance and route to voting area is an additional barrier for voters with disabilities. (Photos 4 and 5) This is a compliance issue as this is a Title II entity and Title II entities may not “[p]rovide a qualified individual with a disability with an aid, benefit, or service that is not as effective in affording equal opportunity to obtain the same result, to gain the same benefit, or to reach the same level of achievement as that provided to others.”

**Voting Area** Voting area is not set-up to enable voters to vote independently and cast a private ballot

- AutoMARK table is not located along an accessible route or located in the same area as the rest of the voting booths.
- AutoMARK machine does not have privacy hood installed and is not set up in a way that ensures voter privacy.
- A chair not provided at AutoMARK table.
- AutoMARK table located in a cluttered area with some rolling and lightweight objects that can be tripping and navigational hazards.
- Privacy sleeve not provided with AutoMARK ballots.

## Recommendations

This polling location requires major renovations to come into compliance as an accessible polling location

### **Parking**

- Regrade parking area to be level and smooth in all directions.
- Stripe at least one van-accessible parking space with markings for an 8-foot space plus an 8-foot access aisle, minimum. Alternatively, the van accessible space can be 11 feet wide with an access aisle of 5 feet wide, minimum.
- Provide signage for van-accessible parking space. This sign should be mounted with bottom of sign no lower than 5 feet and top of sign no higher than 8 feet above ground.

### **Building Entrance**

- Provide ADA-compliant directional signage at inaccessible front entrance.
- Provide a level walkway to the service entrance and a level landing at service entrance exterior.
- Replace door hardware with accessible hardware that has no sharp edges and can be operated with a closed fist and with no tight grasping, pinching or twisting of the wrist. Lever-operated, push-type and U-shaped handles are acceptable designs.
- If door does not open to at least 32 inches when opened to 90 degrees, reframe and replace door to allow for a minimum clear width of door opening. Ensure that door can be opened with 15 pounds or less of force.

Construct a ramp at the interior of the service door with the following minimum features:

- A level top and bottom landing that is at least as wide as the doorway and with a clear length of 60 inches long minimum.

- At the interior of the door, construct a ramp that begins with a level landing that is at least 36 inches wide and at least 4 feet long, minimum.
- Ramp shall have cross slopes not exceeding 2.08%.
- If ramp run has a rise greater than 6 inches, there should be ADA-compliant handrails installed at both sides.
- If the sides of the ramp landings have a vertical drop-off of more than 1/2 inch maximum within 10 inches horizontal of the minimum landing area, add edge protection to this ramp.
- The floor surface of the ramp run or landing should extend at least 12 inches beyond the inside face of the handrails, if handrails are required.
- Mitigate any wet conditions at and around the ramp and throughout the accessible route between the service entrance and the voting area.

### **Hallways and Corridors**

- Secure all weather mats with industrial-strength double-stick tape. Alternatively, replace them with recessed walk-off mats or grates at all entrances.
- Remove all moveable clutter from circulation path. If necessary, provide a low wall or barrier between clutter objects and the accessible circulation route, which should be a continuous route with at least 36 inches width.

**Voting Area** A checklist for accessibility should be used by poll workers prior to opening on Election Day to ensure that, at a minimum:

- The voting equipment is set up correctly, powered on, and working properly;
- Accessible equipment is located within the general voting area adjoining a circulation

route of at least 36 inches width with passing spaces and turning area, if needed;

- Earphones are available to ensure access to the audio ballot functions;
- Accessible machines and accessible tables are set up to accommodate voters who use wheelchairs with required clear space centered in front of the table and required knee and toe clearances; accessible voting equipment is set up in a way that ensures voter privacy, including installation of privacy hood.

Although not a requirement, it is also recommended that the chairs provided at accessible features be stable and not lightweight, so that visually impaired voters can feel and use chair without slipping.

## 6-5 Greenwood Gardens, Community Room



Photo 1

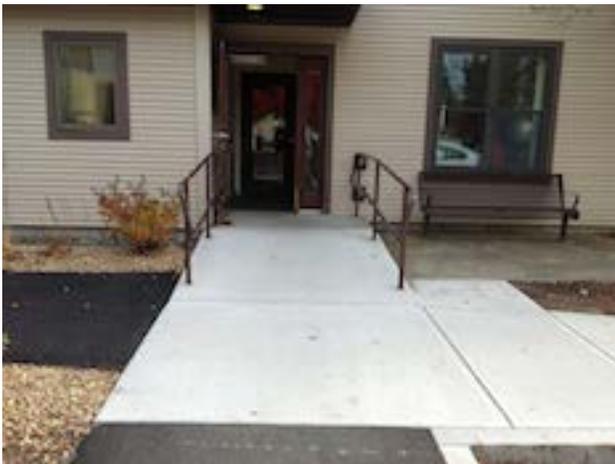


Photo 2



Photo 3

## Issues

**Parking** A van-designated space is provided close to entrance and with a curb ramp at the access aisle. However, the access aisle is only 5 feet wide, when it should be at least 8 feet wide.

### Walkways

- Walkway from south parking to accessible south entrance has slopes that are greater than 5%.
- Pedestrian crossing at Greenway, west side, lacks a curb ramp

### Building Entrance

- South side building entrance does not have a level landing.
- Door holders at both south and north entrances limit the required clearance of at least 32 inches width when doors are open 90 degrees. (Photo 2)

**Ramp** The ramp to polling location entrance on north side does not have edge protection. (Photo 2)

**Hallways and Corridors** Unsecured mats at north and south entrances can cause tripping hazards.

**Voting Area** Voting area is not set-up to enable voters to vote independently and cast a private ballot:

- AutoMARK table and accessible booth are not located along an accessible route located in the same area as the other voting booths.



- AutoMARK machine does not have privacy hood installed and is not set up in a way that ensures voter privacy.
- At both accessible pieces of equipment, there is not adequate back-up maneuvering clear space for voters using wheelchairs and scooters.
- At both accessible pieces of equipment, a route of at least 36 inches is not provided to features due to the location of registration table and furniture.
- At accessible voting booth, there are additional barriers to clear floor space due to materials under piano and moveable clutter.

## Recommendations

This is a Worcester Housing Authority Elderly/Disabled housing complex. As such, the following recommendations should be considered in tandem with the ADA Transition Plan actions.

**Parking** Link parking facility corrective actions with the municipal pedestrian access plan.

**Sidewalks and Walkways** Link crosswalk, curb ramp, sidewalk issues with the municipal pedestrian access plan.

### **Building Entrance**

- Install a graded path leading to a level landing at the north entrance door. Landing should be at least the width of the doorway and 60 inches, minimum in length. It has to be wider for maneuvering clearance at the latch side of the door.
- When propping open doors, choose a door holder method that does not restrict the width of the doorway and that will not obstruct a clear circulation path of travel.

**Ramp** Install edge protection on ramp to north entrance. (Photo 2)

**Hallways and Corridors** Secure all weather mats with industrial-strength double-stick tape. Alternatively, replace them with recessed walk-off mats or grates at all entrances.

**Voting Area** A checklist for accessibility should be used by poll workers prior to opening on Election Day to ensure that, at a minimum:

- The voting equipment is set up correctly, powered on, and working properly;
- Accessible equipment is located within the general voting area adjoining a circulation route of at least 36 inches width with passing spaces and turning area, if needed;
- Earphones are available to ensure access to the audio ballot functions;
- Accessible machines and accessible tables are set up to accommodate voters who use wheelchairs with required clear space centered in front of the table and required knee and toe clearances; accessible voting equipment is set up in a way that ensures voter privacy, including installation of privacy hood.

Although not a requirement, it is also recommended that the chairs provided at accessible features be stable and not lightweight, so that visually impaired voters can feel and use chair without slipping.

**Other** Implement a comprehensive signage plan throughout common areas in development to ensure that ADA-compliant signs are installed alongside latch side of all doors to identify permanent rooms and spaces

## 7-1 Beaver Brook Park Community House



Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3

## Issues

**Parking** Marked accessible parking is provided, but is not compliant:

- Cross slopes in all directions exceed 2.08%.
- There is not at least one designated van-accessible space. (Photo 1)

### Walkways

- An accessible route is not provided from parking to the accessible entrance.
- An accessible route is not provided from the public sidewalks to the accessible entrance.
- Walkways have excessive cross slopes and running slopes
- Walkways have maintenance issues, such as cracks with gaps wider than 1/2 inch and holes with diameter greater than 1/2 inch. (Photo 2)

### Building Entrance

- Entrance threshold is greater than 3/4 inches beveled on both sides and is 2 inches high. (Photo 3)

**Voting Area** Voting area is not set-up to enable voters to vote independently and cast a private ballot:

- AutoMARK table and accessible booth are not located along an accessible route located in the same area as the other voting booths.
- AutoMARK machine does not have privacy hood installed and is not set up in a way that ensures voter privacy.
- AutoMARK table does not have enough clear space underneath for knee clearance because there is a ridge under the table, which reduces the knee, clear space to less than 27 inches, minimum, above the floor. (Photo 4)



Photo 4

- There is not a clear unobstructed route between the registration table and the accessible equipment when polling location is crowded, which is a further barrier to independent voting. (Photo 5)

## Recommendations

This is a municipal parks and recreation facility. As such, the following recommendations may be considered in tandem with the ADA Transition Plan actions.

### **Parking**

- Relocate accessible parking spaces to a level area of the parking lot or regrade the accessible parking space area so that slopes do not exceed 1:48 (2.08%) in all directions.
- Provide a van-accessible parking space with markings for an 8-foot space plus an 8-foot access aisle, minimum. Alternatively, the van accessible space can be 11 feet wide with an access aisle of 5 feet wide, minimum.



Photo 5

**Walkways** Link crosswalk, curb ramp, sidewalk issues with the municipal pedestrian access plan.

### **Building Entrance**

- Provide a graded walkway to the entrance that will be flush with the threshold.

**Voting Area** A checklist for accessibility should be used by poll workers prior to opening on Election Day to ensure that, at a minimum:

- The voting equipment is set up correctly, powered on, and working properly;
- Accessible equipment is located within the general voting area adjoining a circulation

route of at least 36 inches width with passing spaces and turning area, if needed;

- Earphones are available to ensure access to the audio ballot functions;
- Accessible machines and accessible tables are set up to accommodate voters who use wheelchairs with required clear space centered in front of the table and required knee and toe clearances; accessible voting equipment is set up in a way that ensures voter privacy, including installation of privacy hood.

Although not a requirement, it is also recommended that the chairs provided at accessible features be stable and not lightweight, so that visually impaired voters can feel and use chair without slipping.

## 7-2 and 7-4 Shaw's Supermarket



Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3

## Issues

**Parking** The parking access aisle has cracks and uneven surfaces. There are excessive slopes between accessible parking and accessible entrance.

**Building Entrance** There is a large gap in the walkway between the parking area and the entrance that is over 1/2 inch wide. This can be a hazardous barrier for people using wheelchairs.

**Voting Area** Voting area is not set-up to enable voters to vote independently and cast a private ballot:

- AutoMARK table is not located along an accessible route located in the same area the other voting booths.
- AutoMARK machine does not have a privacy hood installed and is not set up in a way that ensures voter privacy.
- No chair is provided at AutoMARK table.

## Recommendations

**Parking** Repair cracks within the accessible parking area and ensure that an accessible route that is level, smooth, and slip-resistant is provided between the accessible parking and the accessible entrance.

**Building Entrance** Repair the entryway to be as level, smooth, slip-resistant and free of large gaps in the path of travel as possible.

**Voting Area** A checklist for accessibility should be used by poll workers prior to opening on Election Day to ensure that, at a minimum:

- The voting equipment is set up correctly, powered on, and working properly;

- Accessible equipment is located within the general voting area adjoining a circulation route of at least 36 inches width with passing spaces and turning area, if needed;
- Earphones are available to ensure access to the audio ballot functions;
- Accessible machines and accessible tables are set up to accommodate voters who use wheelchairs with required clear space centered in front of the table and required knee and toe clearances; accessible voting equipment is set up in a way that ensures voter privacy, including installation of privacy hood.

Although not a requirement, it is also recommended that the chairs provided at accessible features be stable and not lightweight, so that visually impaired voters can feel and use chair without slipping.

## 7-3 Coe's Pond Village



Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3

## Issues

**Parking** Accessible parking spaces have the following issues:

- Slopes at the accessible parking area exceed 1:48 (2.08%) in all directions.
- The accessible parking area surface is not smooth.

Signs are not mounted with the bottom edge of the sign at least 5 feet above ground.

### **Sidewalks and Walkways**

- The walkway between the accessible parking area and the accessible entrance has slopes that exceed 5%.

**Voting Area** The voting area is not set-up to enable voters to vote independently and cast a private ballot:

- AutoMARK table and the accessible booth are not located along an accessible route in the same area as the other voting booths. (Photo 4)
- AutoMARK machine does not have privacy hood installed and is not set up in a way that ensures voter privacy. (Photo 6)
- AutoMARK table is not adjusted to provide adequate clear space for knee clearance (at least 27 inches from floor to underneath table surface)
- Headphones were at the table but were not attached.
- A chair was not provided at or nearby the accessible voting features.



Photo 4



Photo 5

## Recommendations

### **Parking**

- Regrade the accessible parking area so that slopes do not exceed 1:48 (2.08%) in any direction.
- Restripe the parking lot to provide a van-accessible parking space with markings for an 8-foot space plus an 8-foot access aisle, minimum. Alternatively, the van accessible space can be 11 feet wide with an access aisle of 5 feet wide, minimum.
- Mount van-accessible designation signage so the bottom of sign is no lower than 5 feet above ground and the top of the sign is no higher than 8 feet above the ground (as measured from the parking lot ground surface).

**Sidewalks and Walkways** Install a graded pathway to the accessible entrance that has slopes no greater than 5% and cross slopes no greater than 2.08%.

**Voting Area** A checklist for accessibility should be used by poll workers prior to opening on Election Day to ensure that, at a minimum:

- The voting equipment is set up correctly, powered on, and working properly;
- Accessible equipment is located within the general voting area adjoining a circulation route of at least 36 inches width with passing spaces and turning area, if needed;
- Headphones are available to ensure access to the audio ballot functions;
- Accessible machines and accessible tables are set up to accommodate voters who use wheelchairs with required clear space centered in front of the table and required knee and toe clearances; accessible voting equipment is set up in a way that ensures voter privacy, including installation of privacy hood.

Although not a requirement, it is also recommended that the chairs provided at accessible features be stable and not lightweight, so that visually impaired voters can feel and use chair without slipping.

## 7-5 Hadwen Park Congregational Church



Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3

## Issues

**Parking** Accessible parking is provided, however:

- Ground surfaces are not smooth, level and slip-resistant. (Photo 1, Photo 2)
- There is not an accessible route between the accessible parking and the accessible entrance.
- Wall stencil signage is not compliant with regard to height. (Photo 1)
- Markings are not highly visible and access aisle markings are not apparent.

**Ramp, Exterior** The ramp to the entrance lacks handrails and edge protection. (Photo 3)

**Stairs, Interior** Stairs are the only method of accessing the exit door. These stairs do not have compliant handrails that should extend 12 inches, minimum, beyond the top and bottom of the stairs, parallel to the ground or floor surface. (Photo 4)

**Voting Area** AutoMARK table partially set up to facilitate independence because a large print instruction page was included at AutoMARK table. However:

- AutoMARK table and accessible booth were not located along an accessible route located in the same area as the other voting booths. (Photo 5, Photo 6)
- AutoMARK machine does not have a privacy hood installed and is not set up in a way that ensures voter privacy. (Photo 6)
- AutoMARK table is not adjusted to provide adequate clear space for knee clearance (at least 27 inches from floor to underneath table surface)
- Headphones were at the table but were not attached.



Photo 4

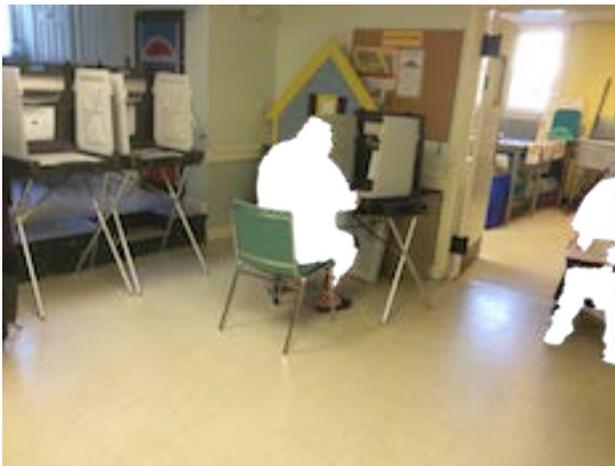


Photo 5



Photo 6

- Location of accessible lowered voting booth interferes with accessible route to other polling booths.

## Recommendations

### **Parking**

- Regrade accessible parking area so that slopes do not exceed 1:48 (2.08%) in any direction.
- Restripe the parking lot to provide at least one van-accessible and two car accessible parking spaces with access aisles.
- Install accessible parking signs so the bottom of sign is no lower than 5 feet above ground and the top of the sign is no higher than 8 feet above the ground.

**Ramp, Exterior** Install ADA-compliant handrails and edge protection on the exterior ramp to accessible entrance.

**Stairs, Interior** Install ADA-compliant handrails at the interior stairwell to the exit door. Install ADA-compliant exit door designation signage at exit door. This signage must have tactile characters duplicated in Braille, and be mounted at between 48 - 60 inches above the floor on the latch side of the door.

**Voting Area** A checklist for accessibility should be used by poll workers prior to opening on Election Day to ensure that, at a minimum:

- The voting equipment is set up correctly, powered on, and working properly;
- Accessible equipment is located within the general voting area adjoining a circulation route of at least 36 inches width with passing spaces and turning area, if needed;
- Earphones are available to ensure access to the audio ballot functions;

- Accessible machines and accessible tables are set up to accommodate voters who use wheelchairs with required clear space centered in front of the table and required knee and toe clearances; accessible voting equipment is set up in a way that ensures voter privacy, including installation of privacy hood.

Although not a requirement, it is also recommended that the chairs provided at accessible features be stable and not lightweight, so that visually impaired voters can feel and use chair without slipping.

## 8-1 Code Enforcement Department

## Issues

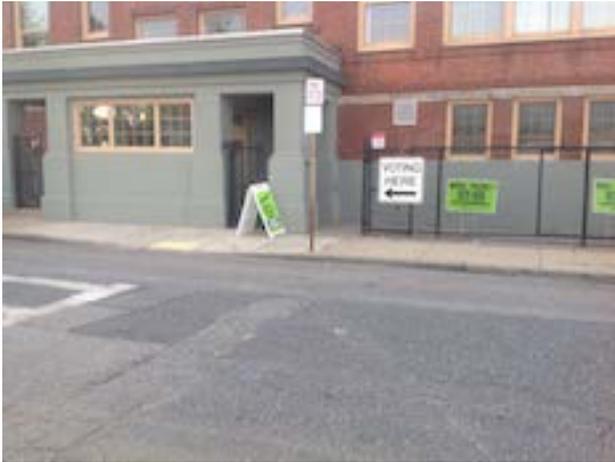


Photo 1



Photo 2

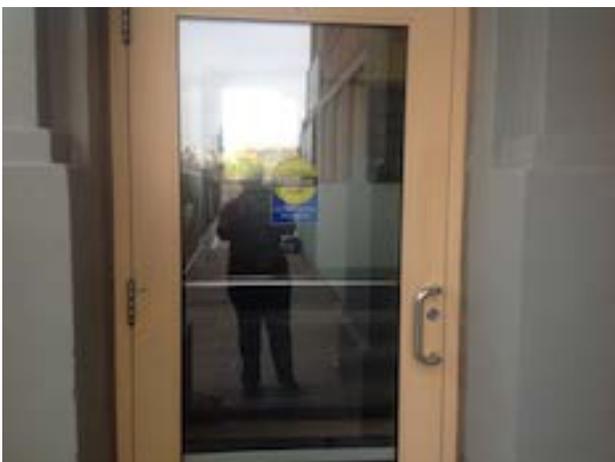


Photo 3

**Sidewalks and Walkways** Crosswalks, sidewalks, curb ramps and walkways between the accessible parking area and the accessible entrance are not accessible.

- An accessible route is not provided between nearby accessible parking and nearby sidewalks to an accessible entrance.
- Run slopes along sidewalks adjacent to the facility are greater than 5%
- Sidewalks do not provide a continuous accessible route with a 36-inch width, minimum.
- At the curb ramp adjacent to the entrance, the top landing is not level.
- Curb ramps on the parking lot side have excessive slopes.
- Signage posted along the walkway to the entrance further limits the required width for an accessible route.

### **Building Entrance**

- There is a sign on door that indicates that this is an automatic door; however there is no door actuator provided. The door does not have the required minimum maneuvering clearance on the latch side of the door.

**Voting Area** The voting area is not set-up to enable voters to vote independently and cast a private ballot:

- AutoMARK table is not located along an accessible route located in the same area the other voting booths. (Photo 4)
- AutoMARK machine does not have privacy hood installed and is not set up in a way that ensures voter privacy. (Photo 6)



Photo 4

- AutoMARK machine is not set up in a manner that facilitates use because it is located on the short end of the table with no clear space underneath for knee clearance.
- When voters using wheelchairs sit at AutoMARK table where knee clearance is provided, there is inadequate back-up maneuvering clear space. The space available interferes with, and overlaps with, general circulation within voting area. It looks to me like the floor space for a wheelchair itself blocks the circulation route.
- Headphones were not readily available.

## Recommendations

**Sidewalks and Walkways** Link crosswalk, curb ramp, and sidewalk issues with the municipal pedestrian access plan.

### **Building Entrance**

- Install an automatic door opener on this door. If it is a manually controlled opener, ensure that the clear floor space adjacent to the control is out of the swing of the door. Also ensure that the control is visible, there is an accessible route to it, that it is in reach range, and that it is in working condition at all times.

**Voting Area** A checklist for accessibility should be used by poll workers prior to opening on Election Day to ensure that, at a minimum:

- The voting equipment is set up correctly, powered on, and working properly;
- Accessible equipment is located within the general voting area adjoining a circulation route of at least 36 inches width with passing spaces and turning area, if needed;
- Earphones are available to ensure access to the audio ballot functions;

- Accessible machines and accessible tables are set up to accommodate voters who use wheelchairs with required clear space centered in front of the table and required knee and toe clearances; accessible voting equipment is set up in a way that ensures voter privacy, including installation of privacy hood.

Although not a requirement, it is also recommended that the chairs provided at accessible features be stable and not lightweight, so that visually impaired voters can feel and use chair without slipping.

## 8-2 Main South CDC



Photo 1

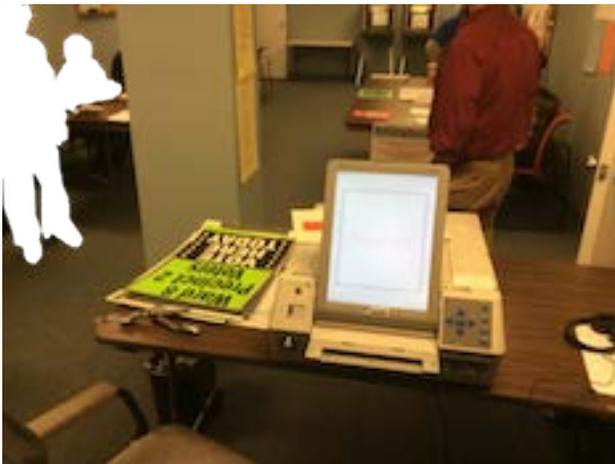


Photo 2

## Issues

### **Parking**

- The van accessible space and its access aisle do not meet the minimum width requirements
- The sign for the van accessible space is mounted below the required height.

**Voting Area** Voting area is not set-up to enable voters to vote independently and cast a private ballot: The location and conditions at the AutoMARK machine impedes access to independent voting:

- AutoMARK table is not located along an accessible route located in the same area as the other voting booths.
- AutoMARK machine does not have privacy hood installed and is not set up in a way that ensures voter privacy.
- AutoMARK table is cluttered with unnecessary papers and objects.

## Recommendations

### **Parking**

- Provide a van-accessible parking space with markings for an 8-foot space plus an 8-foot access aisle, minimum. Alternatively, the van accessible space can be 11 feet wide with an access aisle of 5 feet wide, minimum.
- Provide signage for a van accessible space mounted in the required location at the required height.

**Voting Area** A checklist for accessibility should be used by poll workers prior to opening on Election Day to ensure that, at a minimum:

- The voting equipment is set up correctly, powered on, and working properly;
- Accessible equipment is located within the general voting area adjoining a circulation

route of at least 36 inches width with passing spaces and turning area, if needed;

- Earphones are available to ensure access to the audio ballot functions;
- Accessible machines and accessible tables are set up to accommodate voters who use wheelchairs with required clear space centered in front of the table and required knee and toe clearances; accessible voting equipment is set up in a way that ensures voter privacy, including installation of privacy hood.

Although not a requirement, it is also recommended that the chairs provided at accessible features be stable and not lightweight, so that visually impaired voters can feel and use chair without slipping.

## 8-3 Saint Peter's Church, Hall

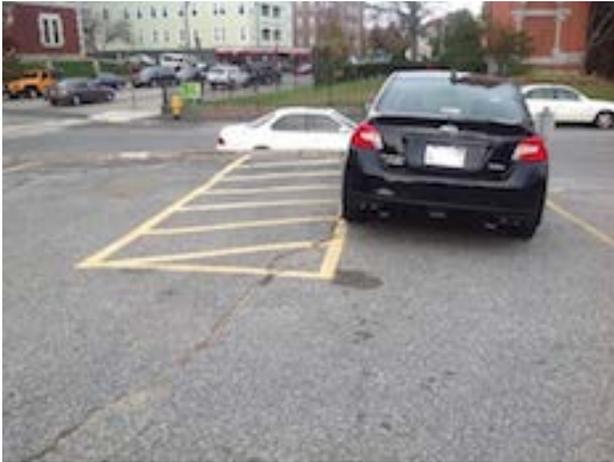


Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3

## Issues

**Parking** Although there is striping that appears to be for an access aisle in a nearby lot, there is no accessible parking provided.

- Cross slopes within parking area exceed 1:48 (2.08%) in all directions.
- If the markings are for an access aisle this element is not at least 5 feet wide.
- No signage is provided to indicate whether at least one van-accessible parking space is available.

## Sidewalks and Walkways

- There is no accessible route between nearby sidewalks to the accessible entrance.
- There is no accessible route between nearby parking lot and accessible entrance.
- From the parking lot to the entrance, the ground surface is not level, smooth, and slip-resistant.
- Sidewalks and walkways have excessive running and cross slopes.
- A curb ramp between the parking lot and accessible entrance has a level change over 1/2 inch at the bottom of ramp.
- The walkway at the accessible entrance has a running slope exceeding 5% (8.8%)
- A voting sign at the entrance doorway obstructs the minimal required width needed to enter the doorway.

**Voting Area** Voting area is not set-up to enable voters to vote independently and cast a private ballot:

- AutoMARK table is not located along an accessible route in the same area the other voting booths.  
(Photo 5)



Photo 4



Photo 5

- The accessible lower table is too cluttered for use.
- The accessible voting booth is placed at the end of the table, over the table leg, which blocks the required knee clearance under the table.
- AutoMARK machine does not have privacy hood installed and is not set up in a way that ensures voter privacy. (Photo 5)
- AutoMARK table is not adjusted to provide adequate clear space for knee clearance (at least 27 inches from floor to underneath table surface).
- Headphones were at table but were not attached.
- A chair was not provided at or nearby the accessible voting features.

## Recommendations

### **Parking**

#### *Short term:*

- Provide an accessible passenger drop-off/pick-up location that is as close as possible to the accessible entrance and along a sidewalk that is level, smooth, and slip-resistant, with slopes not exceeding 2.08% in all directions along the length of the passenger drop-off.
- Provide accurate information to voters regarding whether accessible parking is provided at this location and an update on the accessibility of the nearby sidewalks approaching the facility's accessible entrance.

#### *Long-term:*

- Work with the City of Worcester to reconstruct nearby public rights of way to provide accessible routes within this neighborhood.

**Sidewalks and Walkways** Reconstruct or repair sidewalks on both sides of the accessible entrance walkway to provide an accessible path of travel from the nearest intersection and the nearest accessible parking or passenger drip off location to the accessible entrance.

**Voting Area** A checklist for accessibility should be used by poll workers prior to opening on Election Day to ensure that, at a minimum:

- The voting equipment is set up correctly, powered on, and working properly;
- Accessible equipment is located within the general voting area adjoining a circulation route of at least 36 inches width with passing spaces and turning area, if needed;
- Earphones are available to ensure access to the audio ballot functions;
- Accessible machines and accessible tables are set up to accommodate voters who use wheelchairs with required clear space centered in front of the table and required knee and toe clearances; accessible voting equipment is set up in a way that ensures voter privacy, including installation of privacy hood.

Although not a requirement, it is also recommended that the chairs provided at accessible features be stable and not lightweight, so that visually impaired voters can feel and use chair without slipping.

## 8-4 Webster Square Towers, Community Room



Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3

## Issues

**Building Entrance** The entrance is at-grade, but the threshold strip is over 1/2 inch high. (Photos 1 and 2)

**Hallways and Corridors** An unsecured mat at the door is a tripping hazard. (Photo 3)

**Voting Area** The voting area is not set-up to enable voters to vote independently and cast a private ballot:

- AutoMARK table and accessible booth are not located along an accessible route in the same area as the other voting booths.
- AutoMARK machine does not have privacy hood installed and is not set up in a way that ensures voter privacy.
- Chair is not provided at AutoMARK machine.

At accessible lowered voting booth, the table is not adjusted to provide at least 27 inches of knee clearance.

They are not required for polling places.

## Recommendations

This is a Worcester Housing Authority Senior-only housing development. As such, the following recommendations should be addressed in tandem with the ADA Transition Plan actions.

**Building Entrance** Provide an accessible graded pathway to the building entrance that will have running slopes no greater than 5%, cross slopes no greater than 2.08%, will be level, smooth, and slip-resistant and at least 36 inches in width. Provide a beveled edge on



Photo 4

each side of the threshold to comply with 404.2.5.

**Hallways and Corridors** Secure all weather mats with industrial-strength double-stick tape. Alternatively, replace them with recessed walk-off mats or grates at all entrances.

**Voting Area** A checklist for accessibility should be used by poll workers prior to opening on Election Day to ensure that, at a minimum:

- The voting equipment is set up correctly, powered on, and working properly;
- Accessible equipment is located within the general voting area adjoining a circulation route of at least 36 inches width with passing spaces and turning area, if needed;
- Earphones are available to ensure access to the audio ballot functions;
- Accessible machines and accessible tables are set up to accommodate voters who use wheelchairs with required clear space centered in front of the table and required knee and toe clearances; accessible voting equipment is set up in a way that ensures voter privacy, including installation of privacy hood.

Although not a requirement, it is also recommended that the chairs provided at accessible features be stable and not lightweight, so that visually impaired voters can feel and use chair without slipping.

## 8-5 S Worcester Neighborhood Ctr., Harry Sherry FH



Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3

## Issues

### **Building Entrance**

- There are at least three entrances and all are inaccessible. (Photos 1, 2 and 3)
- Two entrances have staircases and one has an at-grade threshold that is over 3/4 inches, beveled.
- At-grade entrance has a concrete platform landing that is not along any accessible route.
- No entrances have directional signage informing voters where the nearest accessible entrance is located.

### **Lift**

- A vintage key-operated lift is available and the control is hidden behind a folding screen. (Photos 3 and 4)
- There is no two-way communication system at this key-operated lift.
- The door to enter and exit the lift to the voting area is also unlocked by key and the door hardware is inaccessible.
- The lift has controls that are too high for accessible reach ranges.
- The lift cannot be operated independently.

**Voting Area** Voting area is not set-up to enable voters to vote independently and cast a private ballot:

- AutoMARK table and accessible booth are not located along an accessible route in the same area as other voting booths. (Photo 4)
- AutoMARK machine does not have privacy hood installed and is not set up in a way that ensures voter privacy. (Photos 6 and 7)



Photo 4

- AutoMARK table is not adjusted to provide adequate knee clearance (at least 27 inches from floor to underneath the table surface)
- Boxes stored under AutoMark table further obstruct toe clearance.
- Headphones were at table but were not attached.
- Voting booth next to AutoMARK is located within circulation path to exit door and table legs are a tripping hazard. (Photo 7)

## Recommendations

Relocate Ward 8, Precinct 5 polling location to an accessible facility.



Photo 5



Photo 6

## 9-1 and 9-2 and 9-3 Temple Emanuel, Hall



Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3

## Issues

**Parking** Although there is accessible parking designated, it is not compliant:

- Ground surface is not smooth, level, or slip-resistant at the accessible parking area.
- There is no accessible route between designated accessible parking and the accessible entrance.

### **Sidewalks, Walkways and Curb Ramps**

Between the designated accessible parking and the entrance, the sidewalk and walkway running slopes are greater than 5% and the cross slopes are greater than 2.08%.

The curb ramp has a running slope that is greater than 8.3% (11.5%)

## Recommendations

### **Parking**

- Regrade the accessible parking area so that slopes do not exceed 1:48 (2.08%) in any direction.
- Restripe the parking lot to provide a van-accessible parking space with markings for an 8-foot space plus an 8-foot access aisle, minimum. Alternatively, the van accessible space can be 11 feet wide with an access aisle of 5 feet wide, minimum.
- Mount van-accessible designation signage so the bottom of sign is no lower than 5 feet above ground and the top of the sign is no higher than 8 feet above the ground (as measured from the parking lot ground surface).

### **Sidewalks, Walkways and Curb ramps**

- Regrade the walkway between the accessible parking and the accessible entrance so that the running slopes are no

more than 5% and the cross slopes are no more than 2.08%.

- Reconstruct the curb ramp as part of the City Curb Ramp program to ensure that it is ADA-compliant.

## 9-4 Worcester Seventh-Day Adventist Church



Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3

## Issues

### **Parking**

- There are no marked accessible spaces in the large parking lot. (Photo1)
- There is no accessible route between parking area and the accessible entrance.

### **Walkways**

- There is a 16.8% run slope on the path of travel between the parking lot and the accessible entrance.
- Cross slopes are excessive along the path of travel to the accessible entrance.
- The path of travel between the parking lot and the accessible entrance is not continuously at least 36 inches in width.
- Nearby sidewalks are poorly maintained.

### **Building Entrance**

- The building entry landing does not provide a level landing with sufficient space to accommodate maneuvering clearance at the door.
- Concrete entry slab is not flush with surrounding asphalt

**Voting Area** Voting area is not set-up to enable voters to vote independently and cast a private ballot:

- AutoMARK table and accessible booth are not located along an accessible route in the same area as the other voting booths.
- AutoMARK machine does not have privacy hood installed and is not set up in a way that ensures voter privacy.
- Accessible lower voting booth does not have adequate knee clearance.



Photo 4



Photo 5

## Recommendations

### **Parking**

- Regrade a portion of the parking area so that slopes do not exceed 1:48 (2.08%) in any direction.
- Restripe the parking lot to provide a van-accessible parking space with markings for an 8-foot space plus an 8-foot access aisle, minimum. Alternatively, the van accessible space can be 11 feet wide with an access aisle of 5 feet wide, minimum.
- Provide at least one additional accessible space for a car in this parking lot with 35+ spaces. The car markings should provide at least 8 feet minimum width and be adjacent to an access aisle at least 5 feet wide, and that is level, smooth and slip-resistant in all directions.
- These parking spaces should be located along at least one accessible route leading directly between the accessible parking and the accessible entrance.
- Mount van-accessible designation signage so the bottom of sign is no lower than 5 feet above ground and the top of the sign is no higher than 8 feet above the ground (as measured from the parking lot ground surface).

### **Walkways**

- *Short-term:* Install at least one path of travel between the accessible parking and the accessible entrance that is continuously at least 36 inches in width, has run slopes not exceeding 5%, has cross slopes not exceeding 2.08%, has a ground surface that is continuously smooth and slip-resistant.
- *Long-term:* Work with owners to develop a plan to improve the pedestrian accessibility conditions at this facility.

**Building Entrance** Repair the concrete landing adjacent to the public entry door in order to provide a level, smooth entryway that has cross slopes not exceeding 2.08%.

When installing an accessible route from nearby accessible parking to the accessible entrance, ensure that this pathway meets flush with the exterior door threshold to the maximum extent possible.

If possible, eliminate the pole in the entryway concrete. If that is not possible, the accessible route should approach the door from an open side that provides a clear, unobstructed, level, smooth and slip-resistant path of travel to the door with adequate maneuvering space on the latch side of the door.

**Voting Area** A checklist for accessibility should be used by poll workers prior to opening on Election Day to ensure that, at a minimum:

- The voting equipment is set up correctly, powered on, and working properly;
- Accessible equipment is located within the general voting area adjoining a circulation route of at least 36 inches width with passing spaces and turning area, if needed;
- Earphones are available to ensure access to the audio ballot functions;
- Accessible machines and accessible tables are set up to accommodate voters who use wheelchairs with required clear space centered in front of the table and required knee and toe clearances; accessible voting equipment is set up in a way that ensures voter privacy, including installation of privacy hood.

Although not a requirement, it is also recommended that the chairs provided at accessible features be stable and not lightweight, so that visually impaired voters can feel and use chair without slipping.

## 9-5 First Congregational Church in Worcester



Photo 1

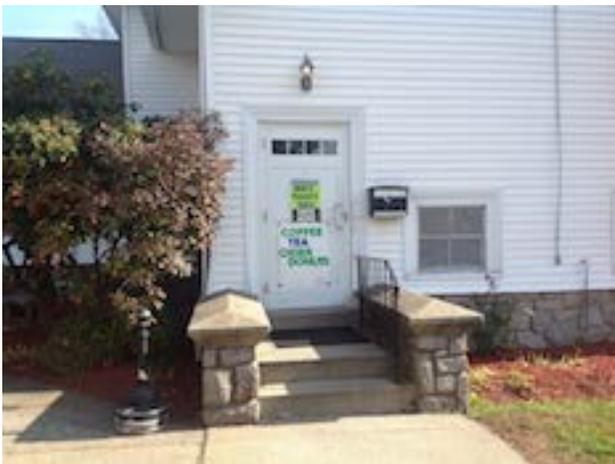


Photo 2



Photo 3

## Issues

**Parking** Two accessible parallel parking spaces are provided next to the accessible entrance. (Photo 1)

However these spaces are not compliant:

- Neither space includes an access aisle or a level space to lower a lift or ramp from an accessible van to a level, smooth and slip-free ground surface adjoining an accessible route to the entrance.
- Cross slopes are greater than 2.08% in every direction.

### **Building Entrance**

- There is no directional sign at the inaccessible entrance to inform voters where the nearest accessible entrance is located. (Photo 2)
- There is no sign at the accessible entrance that includes the International Symbol of Accessibility.
- The entrance is at-grade, but the transition from the asphalt to a concrete slab is an abrupt level change over 1/2 inch. (Photo 3)

**Elevator** The elevator call buttons are obstructed by a bench. (Photo 4)

### **Hallways and Corridor**

- There is no directional signage is posted at elevator directing voters to voting area.
- There is no directional signage posted when getting off elevator to inform voters where voting area is located.
- The route to the voting area is through a dining area where an accessible route is not maintained because of furniture and trash container placement (Photo 5)
- Multiple moveable objects clutter the hallway and corridor



Photo 4

### **Voting Area**

- AutoMARK machine does not have a privacy hood installed and is not set up in a way that ensures voter privacy. (Photo 6)
- AutoMARK table is not adjusted to provide adequate knee clearance (at least 27 inches from floor to underneath table surface) due to suitcase stored underneath.
- Headphones were at the table but were not attached.
- A chair was not provided at or nearby the accessible voting equipment.



Photo 5

### **Recommendations**

#### **Parking Short term:**

- Provide an accessible passenger drop-off/pick-up location that is as close as possible to the accessible entrance and along a sidewalk that is level, smooth and slip-resistant, with cross slopes not exceeding 2.08% in all directions along the length of the passenger drop-off location.
- In the Voter Information brochure, provide accurate information regarding whether accessible parking is provided at this location and an update on the accessibility of the nearby sidewalks approaching facility accessible entrance.

#### **Long-term:**

- Consider working with owner to provide at least one van-accessible parking space close to the entrance.

#### **Building Entrance**

- Install ADA-compliant directional signage at inaccessible entrances and provide the International Symbol of Accessibility at the accessible entrance.
- Repair the level change between asphalt and concrete entrance surface to provide a smooth and level access to the door.

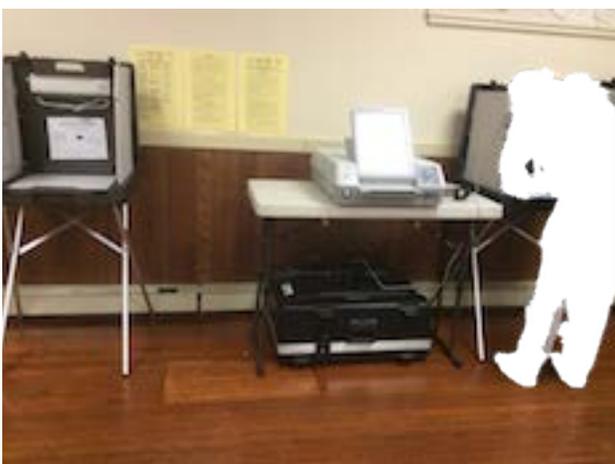


Photo 5

**Elevator**

- Relocate the bench to provide clear floor space at elevator call buttons.
- Ensure that clear floor space is available at call buttons on all floors used by the public during election day events.

**Hallways and Corridors**

- Remove all clutter from hallways to allow a clear unobstructed path of travel from the accessible entrance to the elevator and from the elevator to the voting area.
- Install compliant directional signs to the voting area at the elevator at the accessible entrance, at the voting area (basement) and at the public toilet rooms (Sanctuary).
- Remove chairs, trash bin, and any other items that can cause tripping hazards or obstruct a 36-inch minimum path of travel through the kitchen/dining area to the voting area.

**Voting Area** A checklist for accessibility should be used by poll workers prior to opening on Election Day to ensure that, at a minimum:

- The voting equipment is set up correctly, powered on, and working properly;
- Accessible equipment is located within the general voting area adjoining a circulation route of at least 36 inches width with passing spaces and turning area, if needed;
- Earphones are available to ensure access to the audio ballot functions;
- Accessible machines and accessible tables are set up to accommodate voters who use wheelchairs with required clear space centered in front of the table and required knee and toe clearances; accessible voting equipment is set up in a way that ensures voter privacy, including installation of privacy hood.

Although not a requirement, it is also recommended that the chairs provided at accessible features be stable and not lightweight, so that visually impaired voters can feel and use chair without slipping.

## 10-1 Elm Park Tower, Community Room



Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3

## Issues

**Parking** Although accessible parking spaces with two access aisles are designated, they are not compliant:

- Access aisles are not at least 5 feet wide for cars and 8 feet wide for vans.
- Signage is posted too low (53 inches instead of at least 60 inches above ground to the lower edge).
- The van-accessible designated space is 90 inches wide instead of at least 132 inches wide. (Photo 1)

**Building Entrance** The entrance is at grade but has a threshold over 3/4 inch high and a 1-inch width gap in the path of travel to the doorway. (Photo 3)

**Walkways** There is not an accessible route between the accessible parking and the accessible entrance because:

- Walkways are not smooth and level; they have abrupt level changes; and they are in severe disrepair. . (Photo 2)

**Sidewalks** There is not an accessible path of travel between adjacent sidewalks and the polling location because:

- Sidewalk pedestrian routes have excessive cross slope and running slope where sidewalks intersect with driveways along the path.
- Sidewalks have excessive cross slopes and there are width gaps at the joints between panels that are over 1/2 inch wide.



Photo 4



Photo 5

**Voting Area** Voting area is not set-up to enable voters to vote independently and cast a private ballot:

- AutoMARK table is not located along an accessible route located in the same area as the other voting booths. (Photo 4)
- AutoMARK machine does not have privacy hood installed and is not set up in a way that ensures voter privacy.
- AutoMARK table is not adjusted to provide adequate knee clearance (at least 27 inches from floor to underneath table surface is required). A chair was not provided at or nearby the accessible voting features.
- Voting information is displayed on tables that do not have adequate knee clearance. (Photo 4)

## Recommendations

This is a Worcester Housing Authority Senior-only housing development. As such, the following recommendations may be considered in tandem with the facility's ADA Transition Plan actions.

### **Parking**

- Regrade the accessible parking area so that slopes do not exceed 1:48 (2.08%) in any direction.
- Restripe the parking lot to provide a van-accessible parking space with markings for an 8-foot space plus an 8-foot access aisle, minimum. Alternatively, the van accessible space can be 11 feet wide with an access aisle of 5 feet wide, minimum.
- Mount van-accessible designation signage so the bottom of sign is no lower than 5 feet above ground and the top of the sign is no higher than 8 feet above the ground (as measured from the parking lot ground surface).

**Building Entrance** Repair and caulk or fill the gap at the entrance threshold to be level and smooth. The threshold cannot be higher than 3/4 inch and beveled on both sides.

**Walkways** Repair or construct at least one accessible route between accessible parking spaces and the accessible entrance. Consider linking this with the municipal pedestrian access plan.

**Sidewalks** Link this project with the municipal pedestrian access plan and ensure that at least one accessible route connects nearby sidewalks to the accessible entrance.

**Voting Area** A checklist for accessibility should be used by poll workers prior to opening on Election Day to ensure that, at a minimum:

- The voting equipment is set up correctly, powered on, and working properly;
- Accessible equipment is located within the general voting area adjoining a circulation route of at least 36 inches width with passing spaces and turning area, if needed;
- Headphones are available to ensure access to the audio ballot functions;
- Accessible machines and accessible tables are set up to accommodate voters who use wheelchairs with required clear space centered in front of the table and required knee and toe clearances; accessible voting equipment is set up in a way that ensures voter privacy, including installation of privacy hood.

Additionally, ensure that all ballot and voting information is mounted or placed in a manner that is within reach ranges and on surfaces that are within ADA-compliant heights for work surfaces (table heights should be between 28 - 34 inches above floor). If materials are on registration tables, please note that work

surfaces should be between 28 -34 inches above floor.

Although not a requirement, consider ensuring that chair at AutoMARK and accessible low voting booth table is stable and not lightweight, so that it will not move or slip when gripped.

**Other**

- Secure all weather mats with industrial-strength double-stick tape. Alternatively, replace them with recessed walk-off mats or grates at all entrances.

## 10-2 Order of Ahepa Lodge



Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3

## Issues

**Parking** There were no accessible parallel on-street parking spaces designated during Election Day event.

**Sidewalks and Walkways** Sidewalks and walkways do not provide an accessible route to the accessible entrance:

- Sidewalks have abrupt level changes, and cross slopes are excessive in places.
- Walkway to the entrance has excessive slopes in places.

**Voting Area** Voting area was not set-up to enable voters to vote independently and cast a private ballot:

- AutoMARK table and accessible booth were not located along an accessible route in the same area the other voting booths. (Photo 3)
- AutoMARK machine did not have privacy hood installed and was not set up in a way that ensures voter privacy. (Photo 2)
- AutoMARK table was not adjusted to provide adequate knee clearance (at least 27 inches from floor to underneath table surface)

### Other

- Voting information was displayed on counter that is higher than 36 inches (42 inches). In Elm Park Tower (immediately before this entry) it is stated that they must provide a work surface of 28-34" aff. This must be consistent.



Photo 4

## Recommendations

### **Parking**

- Provide an accessible passenger drop-off pick up location during next Election Day event that is as close as possible to the accessible entrance and along a sidewalk that is level, smooth and slip-resistant, with cross slopes not exceeding 2.08% in all directions along the length of the passenger drop-off location.
- In the Voter Information brochure, provide accurate information regarding whether accessible parking is provided at this location and an update on the accessibility of the nearby sidewalks approaching facility accessible entrance.

### **Sidewalks and Walkways**

- Reconstruct or repair sidewalks on both sides of accessible entrance walkway to provide an accessible path of travel from the nearest intersection and the nearest accessible parking or passenger drop off location to the accessible entrance.

**Voting Area** A checklist for accessibility should be used by poll workers prior to opening on Election Day to ensure that, at a minimum:

- The voting equipment is set up correctly, powered on, and working properly;
- Accessible equipment is located within the general voting area adjoining a circulation route of at least 36 inches width with passing spaces and turning area, if needed;
- Earphones are available to ensure access to the audio ballot functions;
- Accessible machines and accessible tables are set up to accommodate voters who use wheelchairs with required clear space centered in front of the table and required knee and toe clearances; accessible voting equipment is set up in a way that ensures

voter privacy, including installation of privacy hood.

Although not a requirement, it is also recommended that the chairs provided at accessible features be stable and not lightweight, so that visually impaired voters can feel and use chair without slipping.

## 10-3 and 10-5 Murray Avenue Apts. Community Room



Photo 1

### Issues

**Voting Area** Voting area was not set-up to enable voters to vote independently and cast a private ballot:

- AutoMARK table and accessible booth were not located along an accessible route located in the same area as general circulation paths.
- AutoMARK machine did not have privacy hood installed and was not set up in a way that ensured voter privacy.
- Chair was not provided at AutoMARK machine.
- At the accessible lowered voting booth, the table was not adjusted to provide at least 27 inches, minimum knee clearance because of the suitcase stored underneath.

### Recommendations

This is a Worcester Housing Authority Elderly/Disabled housing development. As such, the following recommendations may be considered in tandem with the ADA Transition Plan actions.

**Voting Area** A checklist for accessibility should be used by poll workers prior to opening on Election Day to ensure that, at a minimum:

- The voting equipment is set up correctly, powered on, and working properly;
- Accessible equipment is located within the general voting area adjoining a circulation route of at least 36 inches width with passing spaces and turning area, if needed;
- Earphones are available to ensure access to the audio ballot functions;
- Accessible machines and accessible tables are set up to accommodate voters who use wheelchairs with required clear space

centered in front of the table and required knee and toe clearances; accessible voting equipment is set up in a way that ensures voter privacy, including installation of privacy hood.

Although not a requirement, it is also recommended that the chairs provided at accessible features be stable and not lightweight, so that visually impaired voters can feel and use chair without slipping.

## 10-4 Mayside Apartments, Community Room



Photo 1



Photo 2

## Issues

**Voting Area** Voting area is set-up to enable voters to vote independently and cast a private ballot. However, there were two issues to report:

- AutoMARK machine did not have privacy hood installed.
- A chair was not provided at AutoMARK machine.
- Headphones were available but were not connected.
- Turning space to get to and away from the AutoMARK table was insufficient due to the suitcases less than 48 inches behind machine.

## Other

They are not required for polling places.

## Recommendations

This is a Worcester Housing Authority Elderly/Disabled housing development. As such, the following recommendations may be considered in tandem with the ADA Transition Plan activities.

**Voting Area** A checklist for accessibility should be used by poll workers prior to opening on Election Day to ensure that, at a minimum:

- The voting equipment is set up correctly, powered on, and working properly;
- Accessible equipment is located within the general voting area adjoining a circulation route of at least 36 inches width with passing spaces and turning area, if needed;
- Earphones are available to ensure access to the audio ballot functions;
- Accessible machines and accessible tables are set up to accommodate voters who use wheelchairs with required clear space

centered in front of the table and required knee and toe clearances; accessible voting equipment is set up in a way that ensures voter privacy, including installation of privacy hood.

Although not a requirement, it is also recommended that the chairs provided at accessible features be stable and not lightweight, so that visually impaired voters can feel and use chair without slipping.

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# City of Worcester, Massachusetts

## Evaluation and Transition Plan (ADA) of Polling Places

### Part III: Catalogs **DRAFT**

Prepared by  
The Institute for Human Centered Design  
March 15, 2015



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**Approach & Entrance**

**Entrance Door**

**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 6-151

**Type**

**Issues**

Ramp to doorway > 8.3%

**Existing**

9,2%



Unitarian Universalist Church, hall

**Comments**

Ramp also has large width gap at transition between walkway and ramp.

**Parking**

**Element** Parking

**ID** 6-150

**Type**

**Issues**

access aisle does not connect to accessible route  
spaces +/- or aisles not level > 2.08%

**Existing**

-

-



Unitarian Universalist Church, hall

**Comments**

Parking area does not have consistent level, smooth and slip-resistant surface.



**Voting Area**

**Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK**

**Element** Election Systems and Software (ES&S) **ID** 6-155

**Type**

**Issues**

AutoMARK not along accessible route

**Existing**



Unitarian Universalist Church, hall

**Comments**

AutoMARK table set up with only 26" underneath, preventing knee / toe clearance(along with the suitcase barrier).

**Element** Election Systems and Software (ES&S) **ID** 6-154

**Type**

**Issues**

- AutoMARK not along accessible route
- AutoMARK not in working order at \_\_\_o'clock
- AutoMARK not readily available for use
- AutoMARK screen not positioned for privacy

**Existing**



Unitarian Universalist Church, hall

**Comments**

Orientation of machine and Suitcase under AutoMARK table entirely prevents use.



**Voting Area**

**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 6-153

**Type**

**Issues**

**Existing**



Unitarian Universalist Church, hall

**Comments**

No space between AutoMARK and adjacent lower table to accommodate a seated voter.

**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 6-152

**Type**

**Issues**

**Existing**



Unitarian Universalist Church, hall

**Comments**

AutoMARK not prepared to be used.



**Approach & Entrance**

**Parking**



**Element** Parking

**ID** 6-157

**Issues**

# designated accessible \_\_\_\_  
# of spaces \_\_\_\_ (total)

**Existing**

3+  
50+

The Willows

**Comments**

The accessible parking spaces are well graded, ~~but do not connect to entry walkway without overlapping with motorist's route.~~ 

**Sidewalks + Walkways**



**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 6-156

**Issues**

no accessible route provided from parking to entrance

**Existing**

The Willows

**Comments**

Walkway and depressed curb cut not level, but usable. However, walkways on either side not adequate width.

**Public Amenities**

**Toilet Compartment**



**Element** Toilet Compartment

**ID** 6-161

**Issues**

Inadequate maneuvering clearances

**Existing**

The Willows

**Comments**

Trash bin placement obstructs clear maneuvering space between water closet and sink- otherwise, this facility offers accessible public amenities.



**Voting Area**

**Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK**



**Element** Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK

**ID** 6-160

**Issues**

**Existing**

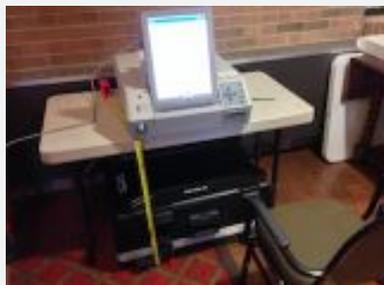
- AutoMARK not along accessible route
- AutoMARK not readily available for use
- AutoMARK screen not positioned for privacy
- Protruding objects within circulation route

**Comments**

Table legs act as pole-mounted protruding object- not cane detectable. AutoMARK set up "out of the way", partially into registration /staff area. No clearance under table.

The Willows

**Voting Area**



**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 6-159

**Issues**

**Existing**

- Chair not provided at AutoMARK table
- AutoMARK table separated from general area / route
- AutoMARK Privacy Hood not attached
- Headphones not attached / provided

**Comments**

AutoMARK located nearly behind registration table out of general circulation route. Suitcase under table, lack of headphones, clearly not ready for use.

The Willows



**Approach & Entrance**

**Entrance Door**



**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 6-200

**Issues**

**Existing**

Assumption College,  
La Maison Francais

**Comments**

mat at accessible entrance foyer unsecured- a potential tripping hazard.



**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 6-189

**Issues**

**Existing**

Assumption College,  
La Maison Francais

**Comments**

Directions to accessible door or elevator unclear  
No sign at inaccessible door to accessible entrance

**Sidewalks + Walkways**



**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 6-188

**Issues**

**Existing**

Assumption College,  
La Maison Francaise

**Comments**

Level change between main and side path to accessible entrance over 1/2 inch.  
There is no voting signage here, as there is at front entrance



**Voting Area**

**Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK**



**Element** Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK

**ID** 6-198

**Issues**

**Existing**

Assumption College,  
La Maison Francais

**Comments**

When surveyer arrived, AutoMARK was positioned on a table pushed against the stage, not readily available to voters.

**Voting Area**



**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 6-199

**Issues**

**Existing**

- AutoMARK Privacy Hood not attached
- AutoMARK table separated from general area / route
- Chair not provided at AutoMARK table
- Headphones not attached / provided
- Accessible voting table separated from general area / route

Assumption College,  
La Maison Francais

**Comments**



**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 6-201

**Issues**

**Existing**

- AutoMARK Privacy Hood not attached
- Chair not provided at AutoMARK table
- Headphones not attached / provided

Assumption College,  
La Maison Francais

**Comments**



**Approach & Entrance**

**Parking**



Congregation Beth Israel, social hall

**Element** Parking

**ID** 6-196

**Issues**

**Existing**

no van-accessible space (if parking lot provided)  
spaces +/- or aisles not level > 2.08%

**Comments**

temporary accessible parking space located along shortest route, but there are level changes over 3/4 inch and excessive cross slopes along route between parking space and entrance.

**Voting Area**

**Voting Area**



Congregation Beth Israel, social hall

**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 6-197

**Issues**

**Existing**

AutoMARK Privacy Hood not attached

**Comments**

provision of large print instructions at AutoMARK table facilitates independence.



**Approach & Entrance**

**Sidewalks + Walkways**



Price Chopper Supermarket

**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 6-111

**Issues**

**Existing**

no accessible route provided from sidewalks to entrance

**Comments**

sidewalks lack adequate width and pedestrian access features



Price Chopper Supermarket

**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID**

**Issues**

**Existing**

Sidewalks poorly maintained and unusable

**Comments**

Curb ramps require maintenance, sidewalks have excessive cross slopes

**Voting Area**

**Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK**



Price Chopper Supermarket

**Element** Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK

**ID** 6-112

**Issues**

**Existing**

AutoMARK screen not positioned for privacy

**Comments**



**Voting Area**



**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 6-203

**Issues**

**Existing**

- AutoMARK Privacy Hood not attached
- Foot-rocking pedals not readily available / provided
- Sip / puff accessories not readily available / provided
- Stylus not readily available/ provided

**Comments**

Price Chopper  
Supermarket



**Approach & Entrance**

**Entrance Door**



**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 6-116

**Issues**

- Door too heavy
- Doorway at-grade but transition > 1/2"
- No accessible entrance provided

**Existing**

>12 lbs.  
3"

Salem Covenant Church, hall

**Comments**

This back entrance to the hall is currently inaccessible.



**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 6-117

**Issues**

- No accessible entrance provided

**Existing**

Salem Covenant Church, hall

**Comments**

Along with the high threshold, there is a large width gap running perpendicular to path of travel- wheels can get stuck here.

**Parking**



**Element** Parking

**ID** 6-120

**Issues**

- access aisle does not connect to accessible route
- spaces +/- or aisles not level > 2.08%

**Existing**

-  
-

Salem Covenant Church, hall

**Comments**

accessible spaces block walkway when in use.



Salem Covenant Church, hall

**Element** Parking **ID** 6-113

**Issues** **Existing**

- no access aisle (if not parallel space)
- no van-accessible space (if parking lot provided)

**Comments**

front parking area. Signage too low (<60" above ground). Ground surface not level and smooth in all directions to accessible entrance.

**Sidewalks + Walkways**



Salem Covenant Church, hall

**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways **ID** 6-114

**Issues** **Existing**

- no accessible route provided from sidewalks to entrance
- Sidewalks poorly maintained and unusable

**Comments**

Ped crossing is not accessible. APS not located adjoining an accessible route and controls not located with clear space adjacent.



Salem Covenant Church, hall

**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways **ID** 6-115

**Issues** **Existing**

- no accessible route provided from sidewalks to entrance
- Sidewalks poorly maintained and unusable

**Comments**

Sidewalk ground surface not level, smooth or slip-resistant.



**Voting Area**

**Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK**



**Element** Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK

**ID** 6-118

**Issues**

**Existing**

AutoMARK screen not positioned for privacy

**Comments**

Salem Covenant Church, hall

**Voting Area**



**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 6-119

**Issues**

**Existing**

AutoMARK Privacy Hood not attached

AutoMARK table separated from general area / route

Chair not provided at AutoMARK table

**Comments**

Salem Covenant Church, hall



**Approach & Entrance**

**Entrance Door**



Zion Lutheran Hall

**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 6-139

**Issues**

**Existing**

- Directions to accessible door or elevator unclear
- No sign at inaccessible door to accessible entrance

**Comments**

Stair handrails noncompliant. No directional signage provided to at-grade entrance.



Zion Lutheran Hall

**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 6-140

**Issues**

**Existing**

- Directions to accessible door or elevator unclear
- No sign at inaccessible door to accessible entrance

**Comments**

Inaccessible entrance walkway is in disrepair and hazardous.

**Parking**



Zion Lutheran Hall

**Element** Parking

**ID** 6-137

**Issues**

**Existing**

- # designated accessible \_\_\_\_
- access aisle does not connect to accessible route
- no van-accessible space (if parking lot provided)
- spaces +/- or aisles not level > 2.08%

- 3
- 
- 
- 

**Comments**

One parking space entirely unusable because blocked by pole and trash.



**Element** Parking

**ID** 6-149

**Issues**

spaces +/- or aisles not level > 2.08%

**Existing**

4.6%

Zion Lutheran Hall

**Comments**

The 2 available access aisles in this lot are not smooth or slip-resistant and the the path of travel is blocked by a folding sign.

**Sidewalks + Walkways**



**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 6-148

**Issues**

**Existing**

Zion Lutheran Hall

**Comments**

Handrail end is a protruding object in path of travel where there is a gap in the ground surface materials and people may be off-balance.



**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 6-138

**Issues**

no accessible route provided from parking to entrance  
no accessible route provided from sidewalks to entrance

**Existing**

Zion Lutheran Hall

**Comments**

Sidewalks are poorly maintained and have excessive cross slopes at curb ramps and along routes to polling entrances.



Zion Lutheran Hall

**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 6-141

**Issues**

**Existing**

- no accessible route provided from parking to entrance
- no accessible route provided from sidewalks to entrance
- Sidewalks poorly maintained and unusable

**Comments**

A walkway was recently installed to the at-grade entry route; however, the run slope leading to it is excessive - 15/6% - and the paving did not connect to the sidewalk.



Zion Lutheran Hall

**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 6-142

**Issues**

**Existing**

- no accessible route provided from parking to entrance
- no accessible route provided from sidewalks to entrance

**Comments**

15.9% run slope measured at sidewalk adjoining new paved walkway to at-grade rear entrance. A designated on-street parking space across the street does not provide a safe, accessible route to entrance.



Zion Lutheran Hall

**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 6-143

**Issues**

**Existing**

- no accessible route provided from parking to entrance
- no accessible route provided from sidewalks to entrance

**Comments**

Newly installed curb ramp to rear at-grade entrance has excessive slopes.



Zion Lutheran Hall

**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 6-147

**Issues**

**Existing**

- no accessible route provided from parking to entrance
- no accessible route provided from sidewalks to entrance

**Comments**

handrail not required, but since it is provided, it should be continuous, on both sides, and designed as cane-detectable.

**Voting Area**

**Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK**



Zion Lutheran Hall

**Element** Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK

**ID** 6-146

**Issues**

**Existing**

- Accessible voting station Height > 34"

**Comments**

Ballot Box 38" height. (Service Counter)



Zion Lutheran Hall

**Element** Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK

**ID** 6-145

**Issues**

**Existing**

- Accessible voting station Knee clearance < 27"
- AutoMARK screen not positioned for privacy

**Comments**

Storage of AutoMARK suitcase under table prevents toe and knee clearance.



**Voting Area**



**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 6-144

**Issues**

**Existing**

AutoMARK Privacy Hood not attached  
Chair provided at AutoMARK table, but not secure (for example, light folding chairs are not secure b/c they move easily on contact)

**Comments**

Zion Lutheran Hall

Not positioned for privacy.



**Approach & Entrance**



**Element**

**ID** 6-205

**Issues**

**Existing**

**Comments**

Ramp does not have edge protection, walkways are steep

Lincoln Village (Pool Center)

**Entrance Door**



**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 6-128

**Issues**

Doorway too narrow < 32"

**Existing**

29"

**Comments**

Ramp has adequate slopes and handrails; however, doorway is too narrow and has a high threshold.

Lincoln Village (Pool Center)



**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 6-204

**Issues**

Doorway too narrow < 32"

No accessible entrance provided

**Existing**

29.5

**Comments**

Door provides only 29 inches clear passage when open 90 degrees.

Lincoln Village (Pool Center)



**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 6-134

**Issues**

**Existing**

Ramp to doorway > 8.3%

**Comments**

Ramp has slightly excessive cross slopes (not shown) but bigger problem is disrepair. Also, handrails are less than 1.5 inches from wall.

Lincoln Village (Pool Center)

**Sidewalks + Walkways**



**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 6-127

**Issues**

**Existing**

no accessible route provided from parking to entrance

**Comments**

On-street parking is not connected via accessible route to entrance ramp.

Lincoln Village (Pool Center)



**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 6-135

**Issues**

**Existing**

no accessible route provided from parking to entrance  
no accessible route provided from sidewalks to entrance  
Sidewalks poorly maintained and unusable  
there is a public trans stop at polling site but no accessible route provided from stop to entrance

**Comments**

On-street parking is generally not connected to ramp with level, smooth, well maintained walkways.

Lincoln Village (Pool Center)



Lincoln Village (Pool Center)

**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 6-130

**Issues**

**Existing**

no accessible route provided from parking to entrance  
there is a public trans stop at polling site but no accessible route provided from stop to entrance

**Comments**

at pedestrian crossing, run slope of 15.9% measured.



Lincoln Village (Pool Center)

**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 6-126

**Issues**

**Existing**

no accessible route provided from sidewalks to entrance

**Comments**

Run slope of 15.9% at transition between pedestrian crossing and facility sidewalk.



Lincoln Village (Pool Center)

**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 6-125

**Issues**

**Existing**

there is a public trans stop at polling site but no accessible route provided from stop to entrance

**Comments**

Bus Rte. 23 Stop within 50 feet of crosswalk.  
Sidewalks not level, smooth, slip-resistant. Walkways have excessive run and cross slopes.



**Voting Area**

**Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK**



Lincoln Village (Pool Center)

**Element** Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK

**ID** 6-132

**Issues**

Accessible voting station Knee clearance < 27"

**Existing**

26.75

**Comments**

Unsecured mat at low table can pose tripping hazards.



Lincoln Village (Pool Center)

**Element** Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK

**ID** 6-133

**Issues**

Accessible voting station Knee clearance < 27"

**Existing**

26"

**Comments**

It is important to check measurements under table to ensure minimal knee clearance



Lincoln Village (Pool Center)

**Element** Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK

**ID** 6-129

**Issues**

AutoMARK not along accessible route

**Existing**

**Comments**

Maneuvering clear turning width to AutoMARK overlaps use space for general public.



**Voting Area**



**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 6-131

**Issues**

**Existing**

AutoMARK Privacy Hood not attached  
AutoMARK table separated from general area / route  
Chair provided at AutoMARK table, but not secure (for example, light folding chairs are not secure b/c they move easily on contact)

**Comments**

Lincoln Village (Pool Center)



**Approach & Entrance**

**Entrance Door**



**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 6-122

**Issues**

Doorway at-grade but transition > 1/2"

**Existing**

15.9%

**Comments**

Walkways not smooth, level, slip-resistant.

Great Brook Valley Multi-purpose Center

**Parking**



**Element** Parking

**ID** 6-121

**Issues**

no van-accessible space (if parking lot provided)

**Existing**

**Comments**

accessible space markings highly visible but not marked for current required widths.

Great Brook Valley Multi-purpose Center

**Public Amenities**

**Toilet Compartment**



**Element** Toilet Compartment

**ID** 6-123

**Issues**

Non-compliant side grab bar

**Existing**

**Comments**

Toilet Room has many accessible features, but side grab bar use is impeded by objects under and above it.

Great Brook Valley Multi-purpose Center



**Voting Area**

**Voting Area**



**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 6-124

**Issues**

**Existing**

- AutoMARK Privacy Hood not attached
- Chair not provided at AutoMARK table

**Comments**

Great Brook Valley  
Multi-purpose Center



**Approach & Entrance**



**Element**

**ID** 6-171

**Issues**

**Existing**

Dodge Park Rest Home

**Comments**

Carpet at entrance (interior side) is not secured and can present a tripping hazard for people with low vision, since the edges are not highly contrasted with carpet underneath.

**Entrance Door**



**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 6-165

**Issues**

**Existing**

Dodge Park Rest Home

**Comments**

Unsecured mats with little contrast outside threshold may pose tripping hazards for people with low vision.

**Parking**



**Element** Parking

**ID** 6-164

**Issues**

**Existing**

# designated accessible \_\_\_\_  
no access aisle (if not parallel space)  
no van-accessible space (if parking lot provided)  
spaces +/- or aisles not level > 2.08%

1

Dodge Park Rest Home

**Comments**

Designated accessible parking not marked. Cross slopes good.



**Sidewalks + Walkways**



**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 6-162

**Issues**

**Existing**

Sidewalks poorly maintained and unusable

**Comments**

Curb ramps missing where sidewalk crosses road.

Dodge Park Rest Home



**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 6-163

**Issues**

**Existing**

Sidewalks poorly maintained and unusable  
no accessible route provided from sidewalks to entrance

**Comments**

Parking across street not connected to facility via smooth, level, slip-resistant crossing.

Dodge Park Rest Home

**Interior Circulation Access**

**interior route**



**Element** interior route

**ID** 6-167

**Issues**

**Existing**

**Comments**

This tiny and friendly area did not have adequate maneuvering clearance for wheelchair users between

Dodge Park Rest Home

**Public Amenities**



**Overall Access**



**Element** Overall Access

**ID** 6-170

**Issues**

**Existing**

- Accessible Accessories not provided
- Clear Floor Space not Provided
- Turning space not provided

**Comments**

Dodge Park Rest Home

The public toilet room nearest the Election Day event is an accessible ambulatory room, but not accessible for wheelchair users.

**Voting Area**

**Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK**



**Element** Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK

**ID** 6-168

**Issues**

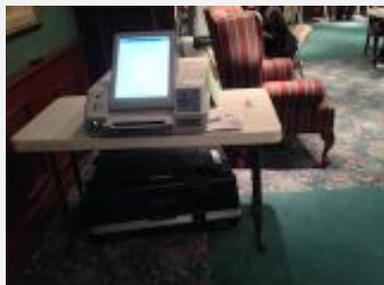
**Existing**

- AutoMARK not along accessible route
- AutoMARK not readily available for use

**Comments**

Dodge Park Rest Home

**Voting Area**



**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 6-169

**Issues**

**Existing**

- Chair not provided at AutoMARK table
- Headphones not attached / provided

**Comments**

Dodge Park Rest Home

Suitcase under AutoMARK table prevent toe/knee clearance.



**Approach & Entrance**

**Entrance Door**



Worcester Art Museum

**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 6-183

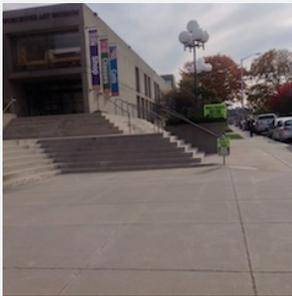
**Issues**

**Existing**

Directions to accessible door or elevator unclear

**Comments**

Signage to accessible entrance was not provided at front staircase entrance.



Worcester Art Museum

**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 6-178

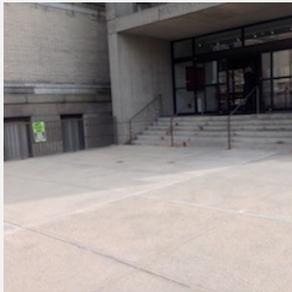
**Issues**

**Existing**

No sign at inaccessible door to accessible entrance

**Comments**

There were many signs pointing to the inaccessible entrance but no sign pointing to any route to any accessible entrance.



Worcester Art Museum

**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 6-190

**Issues**

**Existing**

No sign at inaccessible door to accessible entrance

**Comments**



**Parking**



**Element** Parking

**ID** 6-182

**Issues**

**Existing**

no access aisle (if not parallel space)

**Comments**

Curb from parking area to rear accessible entrance has level changes over 1/2" beveled, and there are no designated Van accessible spaces or access aisles.

Worcester Art Museum

**Sidewalks + Walkways**



**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 6-177

**Issues**

**Existing**

no accessible route provided from parking to entrance

**Comments**

On-street parking and pedestrian walkways do not offer continuously well maintained, level and slip-resistant routes.

Worcester Art Museum



**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 6-176

**Issues**

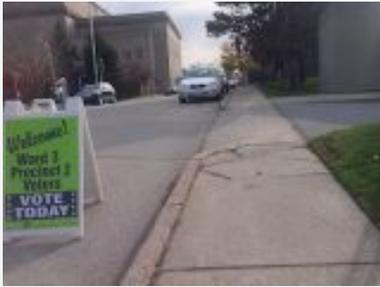
**Existing**

no accessible route provided from parking to entrance  
no accessible route provided from sidewalks to entrance

**Comments**

Sidewalks poorly maintained and curb ramps in front of front entrance need repair.

Worcester Art Museum



Worcester Art Museum

**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 6-184

**Issues**

**Existing**

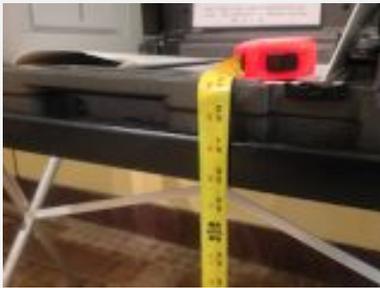
no accessible route provided from sidewalks to entrance  
Sidewalks poorly maintained and unusable

**Comments**

Sidewalks adjoining rear parking lot and accessible entrance have steep slopes, lack curb ramps where street and sidewalks intersect, and are very poorly maintained.

**Voting Area**

**Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK**



Worcester Art Museum

**Element** Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK

**ID** 6-179

**Issues**

**Existing**

Accessible voting station Knee clearance < 27"

26"

**Comments**



Worcester Art Museum

**Element** Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK

**ID** 6-180

**Issues**

**Existing**

Accessible voting station Knee clearance < 27"

26.25"

**Comments**

AutoMARK table did not provide knee clearance either.



**Element** Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK

**ID** 6-191

**Issues**

**Existing**

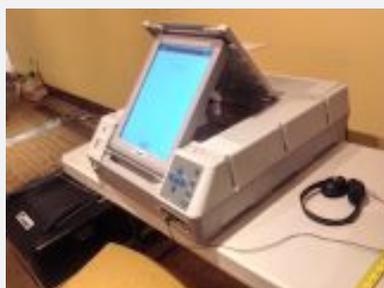
AutoMARK not in working order at \_\_\_ o'clock

**Comments**

around 1 pm

Worcester Art  
Museum

**Voting Area**



**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 6-181

**Issues**

**Existing**

AutoMARK Privacy Hood not attached

**Comments**

Other than headphone attached, this AutoMARK was not set up properly. Staff did not appear to know how to use it.

Worcester Art  
Museum



**Approach & Entrance**

**Parking - Curb ramp**



**Element** Parking - Curb ramp

**ID** 6-194

**Issues**

**Existing**

curb ramp landings > 2.08%

**Comments**

Worcester Center for Crafts

no level transition to walkway from access aisle, not smooth. excessive run and cross slopes.



**Element** Parking - Curb ramp

**ID** 6-195

**Issues**

**Existing**

No curb cuts provided

**Comments**

Worcester Center for Crafts

close-up of transition- needs bottom landing or ramp

**Sidewalks + Walkways**



**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 6-193

**Issues**

**Existing**

**Comments**

Worcester Center for Crafts

level change over 1/2 inch



**Voting Area**

**Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK**



**Element** Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK

**ID** 6-192

**Issues**

Accessible voting station Knee clearance < 27"

**Existing**

26

**Comments**

Chair insecure, staff concerned about this.  
table 26"

Worcester Center for  
Crafts



**Approach & Entrance**

**Entrance Door**



**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 6-185

**Issues**

Doorway at-grade but transition > 1/2"

**Existing**

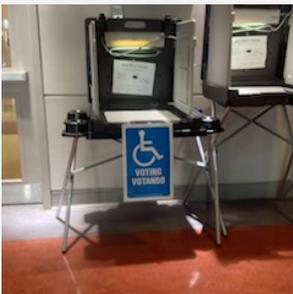
>1/2"

**Comments**

Worcester Technical High School, lobby

**Voting Area**

**Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK**



**Element** Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK

**ID** 6-186

**Issues**

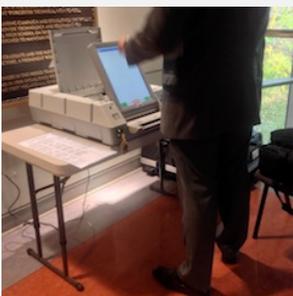
Accessible voting station Knee clearance < 27"

**Existing**

**Comments**

sign is barrier, preventing knee clearance for wheelchair users.

Worcester Technical High School, lobby



**Element** Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK

**ID** 6-187

**Issues**

AutoMARK not in working order at \_\_\_ o'clock

**Existing**

**Comments**

AutoMARK was not in working order when surveyer arrived, between 12 - 1.

Worcester Technical High School, lobby



**Approach & Entrance**

**Entrance Door**



**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 6-172

**Issues**

Doorway at-grade but transition > 1/2"

**Existing**

>1,5"

**Comments**

First Assembly of God,  
hall



**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 6-173

**Issues**

portable ramp presents excessive level changes

**Existing**

**Comments**

Close-up of level changes between portable ramp and walkway at entrance.

First Assembly of God,  
hall

**Interior Circulation Access**

**interior route**



**Element** interior route

**ID** 6-175

**Issues**

**Existing**

**Comments**

This facility offered Election information mounted at an accessible height. Both the accessible (lower) and AutoMARK tables were integrated within the general public's voting area.

First Assembly of God,  
hall

**Voting Area**



**Voting Area**



**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 6-174

**Issues**

**Existing**

- AutoMARK Privacy Hood not attached
- Chair not provided at AutoMARK table

**Comments**

First Assembly of God,  
hall



**Approach & Entrance**

**Entrance Door**



**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 131-087

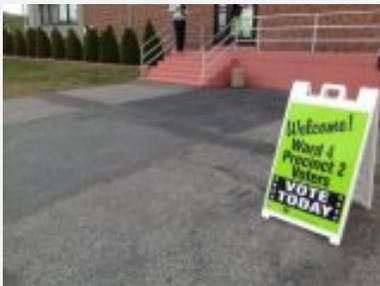
**Issues**

**Existing**

**Comments**

cross slope is 3%

Our Lady of Mt.  
Carmel Recreation  
Center



**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 131-077

**Issues**

**Existing**

No sign at inaccessible door to accessible entrance

-

**Comments**

Our Lady of Mt.  
Carmel Recreation  
Center



**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 131-092

**Issues**

**Existing**

No sign at inaccessible door to accessible entrance

-

**Comments**

Our Lady of Mt.  
Carmel Recreation  
Center



**Parking**



**Element** Parking

**ID** 131-091

**Issues**

**Existing**

**Comments**

slope 13.9"

Our Lady of Mt.  
Carmel Recreation  
Center



**Element** Parking

**ID** 131-098

**Issues**

**Existing**

**Comments**

no accessible route from parking

Our Lady of Mt.  
Carmel Recreation  
Center



**Element** Parking

**ID** 131-099

**Issues**

**Existing**

**Comments**

walkways not level, deteriorated.

Our Lady of Mt.  
Carmel Recreation  
Center



**Element** Parking

**ID** 131-090

**Issues**

# designated accessible \_\_\_\_

**Existing**

3

**Comments**

91" wide  
aisle 43.5" wide  
slope 6.9%-7%

Our Lady of Mt.  
Carmel Recreation  
Center

**Sidewalks + Walkways**



**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 131-089

**Issues**

Sidewalks poorly maintained and unusable

**Existing**

-

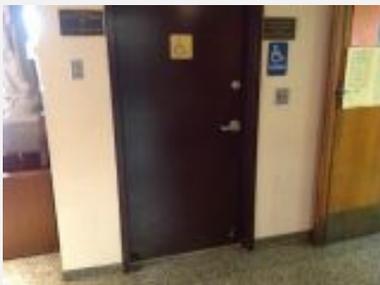
**Comments**

Slope: 7.5%

Our Lady of Mt.  
Carmel Recreation  
Center

**Interior Circulation Access**

**interior route**



**Element** interior route

**ID** 131-086

**Issues**

**Existing**

**Comments**

sign

Our Lady of Mt.  
Carmel Recreation  
Center



**Element** interior route

**ID** 131-094

**Issues**

**Existing**

**Comments**

carpets not attached.

Our Lady of Mt.  
Carmel Recreation  
Center

**Public Amenities**

**Drinking fountain**



**Element** Drinking fountain

**ID** 131-095

**Issues**

**Existing**

Clear floor space not provided at drinking fountain

-

**Comments**

Knee clearance not provided- this is inaccessible fountain

Our Lady of Mt.  
Carmel Recreation  
Center

**Lavatory**



**Element** Lavatory

**ID** 131-096

**Issues**

**Existing**

Mirror above lavatory w/ reflective surface > 40"

49"

Toe or knee clearances not provided

-

**Comments**

protrude 9" and 40" high

Our Lady of Mt.  
Carmel Recreation  
Center



**Toilet**



**Element** Toilet

**ID** 131-097

**Issues**

Inadequate maneuvering clearances

**Existing**

-

**Comments**

36" wide

Our Lady of Mt.  
Carmel Recreation  
Center

**Voting Area**

**Voting Area**



**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 131-078

**Issues**

**Existing**

**Comments**

Our Lady of Mt.  
Carmel Recreation  
Center



**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 131-079

**Issues**

**Existing**

**Comments**

Our Lady of Mt.  
Carmel Recreation  
Center



**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 131-082

**Issues**

**Existing**

Our Lady of Mt.  
Carmel Recreation  
Center

**Comments**

8 plus the accessible one  
no automark in this side



**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 131-083

**Issues**

**Existing**

Our Lady of Mt.  
Carmel Recreation  
Center

**Comments**

Table: 28" high.



**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 131-084

**Issues**

**Existing**

Our Lady of Mt.  
Carmel Recreation  
Center

**Comments**



**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 131-080

**Issues**

AutoMARK Privacy Hood not attached

**Existing**

-  
-

**Comments**

TBle: 26.5" height

Our Lady of Mt.  
Carmel Recreation  
Center



**Approach & Entrance**

**Entrance Door**



**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 131-056

**Issues**

**Existing**

**Comments**

carpet not attached

Belmont Apartments,  
community room

**Parking**



**Element** Parking

**ID** 131-061

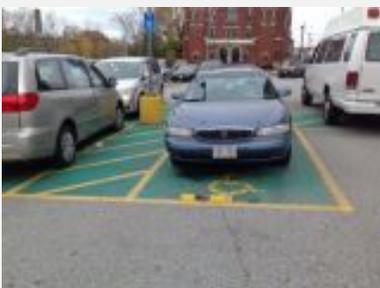
**Issues**

**Existing**

**Comments**

designated drop off area

Belmont Apartments,  
community room



**Element** Parking

**ID** 131-059

**Issues**

**Existing**

# designated accessible \_\_\_\_  
access aisle does not connect to accessible route

4

-

**Comments**

slope at parking space: 5.9%  
access aisle 57" wide  
space 90" wide

Belmont Apartments,  
community room



**Passenger Drop-Off**



**Element** Passenger Drop-Off

**ID** 131-058

**Issues**

curb ramp slope exceeds 8.3%

**Existing**

12.8%

**Comments**

12%

Belmont Apartments,  
community room

**Sidewalks + Walkways**



**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 131-057

**Issues**

Sidewalks poorly maintained and unusable

**Existing**

-

**Comments**

maintenance  
slope at ramp: 8.8%

Belmont Apartments,  
community room



**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 131-060

**Issues**

Sidewalks poorly maintained and unusable

**Existing**

-

**Comments**

slope 10.1

Belmont Apartments,  
community room

**Interior Circulation Access**



**interior route**



**Element** interior route

**ID** 131-069

**Issues**

**Existing**

Belmont Apartments,  
community room

**Comments**

designation sign: is 38" AFF



**Element** interior route

**ID** 131-072

**Issues**

**Existing**

Belmont Apartments,  
community room

**Comments**

Designation sign: 41" AFF



**Element** interior route

**ID** 131-067

**Issues**

Hallways cluttered

**Existing**

-

Belmont Apartments,  
community room

**Comments**



Belmont Apartments, community room

**Element** interior route

**ID** 131-071

**Issues**

Protruding objects along circulation route < 27" > 80"

**Existing**

42"

**Comments**

42" high protrude 5"



Belmont Apartments, community room

**Element** interior route

**ID** 131-073

**Issues**

Protruding objects along circulation route < 27" > 80"

**Existing**

43.5"

**Comments**

paper dispenser: protrude 5"  
women's was locked.

**Public Amenities**

**Entry**



Belmont Apartments, community room

**Element** Entry

**ID** 131-055

**Issues**

**Existing**

**Comments**

Informational signage not complaint.



**Lavatory**



**Element** Lavatory

**ID** 131-075

**Issues**

**Existing**

Sidewalks poorly maintained and unusable

**Comments**

Bus stop along perimeter of site.

Belmont Apartments,  
community room

**Toilet Compartment**



**Element** Toilet Compartment

**ID** 131-070

**Issues**

**Existing**

Flush controls too high or not properly located

**Comments**

Belmont Apartments,  
community room

**Voting Area**

**Voting Area**



**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 131-064

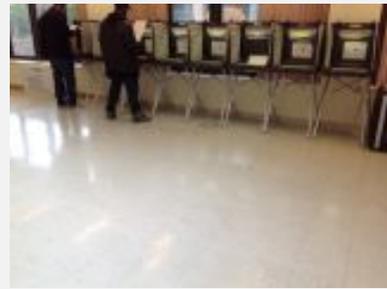
**Issues**

**Existing**

**Comments**

Table: 26.5"

Belmont Apartments,  
community room



**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 131-065

**Issues**

**Existing**

Belmont Apartments,  
community room

**Comments**

8 booths



**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 131-066

**Issues**

**Existing**

Belmont Apartments,  
community room

**Comments**

voting area  
signs directing people



**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 131-063

**Issues**

**Existing**

Accessible voting table separated from general area / route

-

Belmont Apartments,  
community room

**Comments**

Voting table: 26" high



**Approach & Entrance**



**Element**

**ID** 131-111

**Issues**

**Existing**

**Comments**

Friendly House

**Entrance Door**



**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 131-104

**Issues**

**Existing**

**Comments**

Carpet not attached

Friendly House



**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 131-120

**Issues**

**Existing**

**Comments**

Carpet not attached

Friendly House



**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 131-106

**Issues**

Directions to accessible door or elevator unclear

**Existing**

-

**Comments**

Friendly House



**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 131-112

**Issues**

No sign at inaccessible door to accessible entrance

**Existing**

-

**Comments**

Friendly House

**Parking**



**Element** Parking

**ID** 131-107

**Issues**

unmarked parking lot used by voters, no accessible parking marked.

**Existing**

**Comments**

Friendly House



**Element** Parking

**ID** 131-109

**Issues**

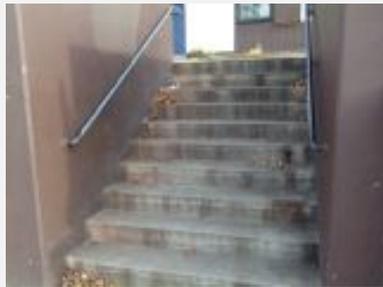
**Existing**

Friendly House

**Comments**

Polling place uses this parking lot but no sign indicating this is the parking lot.

### Sidewalks + Walkways



**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 131-110

**Issues**

**Existing**

no accessible route provided from parking to entrance

-

Friendly House

**Comments**



**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 131-105

**Issues**

**Existing**

no accessible route provided from sidewalks to entrance

-

Friendly House

**Comments**



**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 131-108

**Issues**

Sidewalks poorly maintained and unusable

**Existing**

-

**Comments**

Friendly House

**Interior Circulation Access**

**interior route**



**Element** interior route

**ID** 131-100

**Issues**

Hallways cluttered

**Existing**

-

**Comments**

Friendly House

**Public Amenities**

**Lavatory**



**Element** Lavatory

**ID** 131-114

**Issues**

**Existing**

**Comments**

26" high  
31 plus 9.5"

Friendly House



**Element** Lavatory

**ID** 131-117

**Issues**

Toe or knee clearances not provided

**Existing**

-

**Comments**

Friendly House

**Overall Access**



**Element** Overall Access

**ID** 131-113

**Issues**

Signage

**Existing**

**Comments**

Friendly House

**Voting Area**

**Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK**



**Element** Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK

**ID** 131-135

**Issues**

AutoMARK not along accessible route  
AutoMARK not readily available for use

**Existing**

**Comments**

Friendly House



**Voting Area**



**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 131-102

**Issues**

**Existing**

**Comments**

Friendly House



**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 131-103

**Issues**

**Existing**

AutoMARK Privacy Hood not attached  
Chair not provided at AutoMARK table

-  
-

**Comments**

Friendly House



**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 131-101

**Issues**

**Existing**

Chair not provided at AutoMARK table  
AutoMARK Privacy Hood not attached  
Accessible voting table separated from general area / route  
AutoMARK table separated from general area / route

**Comments**

8 booth plus one accessible

Friendly House



**Public Amenities**

**Lavatory**



**Element** Lavatory

**ID** 131-132

**Issues**

**Existing**

Lincoln Park Tower,  
community room

**Comments**

entry passenger loading area



**Element** Lavatory

**ID** 131-129

**Issues**

**Existing**

Exposed plumbing underneath

-

Lincoln Park Tower,  
community room

**Comments**

**Voting Area**

**Voting Area**



**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 131-127

**Issues**

**Existing**

AutoMARK Privacy Hood not attached

-

Lincoln Park Tower,  
community room

**Comments**

8



**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 131-126

**Issues**

AutoMARK table separated from general area / route

**Existing**

-

**Comments**

Lincoln Park Tower,  
community room



**Approach & Entrance**

**Entrance Door**



**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 131-122

**Issues**

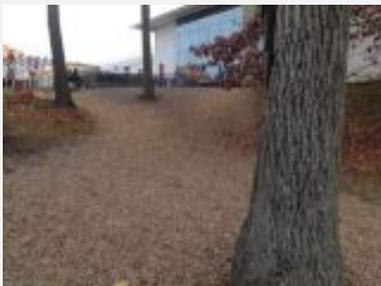
**Existing**

EcoTarium

**Comments**

Carpet not attached

**Sidewalks + Walkways**



**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 131-125

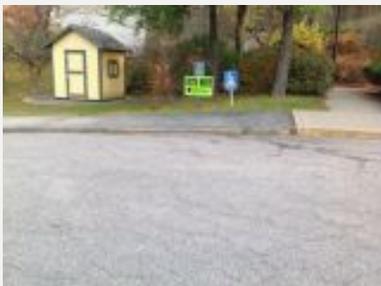
**Issues**

**Existing**

no accessible route provided from sidewalks to entrance

EcoTarium

**Comments**



**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 131-121

**Issues**

**Existing**

no accessible route provided from sidewalks to entrance  
Sidewalks poorly maintained and unusable

EcoTarium

**Comments**



**Voting Area**

**Voting Area**



**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 131-123

**Issues**

AutoMARK table separated from general area / route

**Existing**

-

EcoTarium

**Comments**

Could not take pictures at this polling place.



**Voting Area**

**Voting Area**



**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 131-133

**Issues**

**Existing**

AutoMARK table separated from general area / route  
Chair not provided at AutoMARK table

-  
-

**Comments**

Super Stop and Shop,  
Board Room (2nd  
floor)



**Approach & Entrance**

**Parking**



**Element** Parking

**ID** 6-105

**Issues**

# designated accessible \_\_\_\_  
# of spaces \_\_\_\_ (total)

**Existing**

7  
25+

**Comments**

markings not highly visible

Worcester Senior Center



**Element** Parking

**ID** 6-104

**Issues**

# designated accessible \_\_\_\_  
# of spaces \_\_\_\_ (total)  
spaces +/- or aisles not level > 2.08%

**Existing**

5  
5

**Comments**

Worcester Senior Center

**Sidewalks + Walkways**



**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 6-100

**Issues**

**Existing**

**Comments**

128 Providence Street: Precincts 1 & 2: 21 voting stations (including 2 accessible) plus one AutoMARK. Precinct 3: 13 voting stations(including two accessible) + one AutoMARK

Worcester Senior Center



Worcester Senior Center

**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 6-101

**Issues**

no accessible route provided from sidewalks to entrance

**Existing**

**Comments**

curb ramp at end of crosswalk across Providence Street poorly maintained



Worcester Senior Center

**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 6-102

**Issues**

no accessible route provided from sidewalks to entrance

**Existing**

**Comments**

curb ramps at both ends of crosswalk across Spurr Street not provided



Worcester Senior Center

**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 6-103

**Issues**

Sidewalks poorly maintained and unusable

**Existing**

**Comments**



**Interior Circulation Access**

**interior route**



**Element** interior route

**ID** 6-110

**Issues**

**Existing**

**Comments**

unsecured weather mat at exit door to Spurr Street, AutoMARK suitcase a tripping hazard

Worcester Senior Center



**Voting Area**



Worcester Senior Center

**Element**

**Issues**

**Existing**

**ID** 6-106

**Comments**

signs not provided



Worcester Senior Center

**Element**

**Issues**

**Existing**

**ID** 6-107

**Comments**

sign not provided

**Voting Area**



Worcester Senior Center

**Element** Voting Area

**Issues**

**Existing**

**ID** 6-109

Secrecy Sleeve not provided with AutoMARK ballots  
AutoMARK Privacy Hood not attached  
Chair not provided at AutoMARK table  
Headphones not attached / provided

**Comments**

Precinct 3 - privacy not provided  
no foot-rocking pedals provided  
Sip / puff and stylus accessories not readily available / provided



**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 6-108

**Issues**

**Existing**

- Secrecy Sleeve not provided with AutoMARK ballots
- Headphones not attached / provided
- Chair not provided at AutoMARK table
- AutoMARK Privacy Hood not attached

**Comments**

Precincts 1 & 2 - privacy not provided

Worcester Senior  
Center



**Approach & Entrance**

**Entrance Door**



Quinsigamond Village Neighborhood Center

**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 6-400

**Issues**

**Existing**

**Comments**

16 Greenwood Street  
10 voting stations (including one accessible), plus AutoMARK



Quinsigamond Village Neighborhood Center

**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 6-402

**Issues**

**Existing**

Door too heavy  
No accessible entrance provided

**Comments**

secondary entrance designated as accessible on North side of the building, adjacent to parking lot  
sign not provided, landing not level



Quinsigamond Village Neighborhood Center

**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 6-403

**Issues**

**Existing**

No sign at inaccessible door to accessible entrance

**Comments**

main entrance



**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 6-410

**Issues**

**Existing**

- Ramp to doorway > 8.3%
- No accessible entrance provided
- Doorway at-grade but transition > 1/2"
- Door too heavy

**Comments**

secondary entrance designated as accessible  
 ad hoc ramp between 1-2" below door threshold  
 maneuvering clearance not provided on the push side

Quinsigamond Village Neighborhood Center

**Parking**



**Element** Parking

**ID** 6-401

**Issues**

**Existing**

- # designated accessible \_\_\_\_
- # of spaces \_\_\_\_ (total)
- no van-accessible space (if parking lot provided)
- no access aisle (if not parallel space)

1  
 10+  
 36"

**Comments**

markings not highly visible

Quinsigamond Village Neighborhood Center



**Interior Circulation Access**

**interior route**



**Element** interior route

**ID** 6-407

**Issues**

Hallways too narrow < 36"

**Existing**

**Comments**

unsecured weather mat near main entrance. Exit lacks accessible tactile signage. Circulation route marked by mat is less than 36"

Quinsigamond Village Neighborhood Center



**Element** interior route

**ID** 6-408

**Issues**

Hallways too narrow < 36"

Hallways cluttered

**Existing**

**Comments**

unsecured weather mat near secondary entrance

Quinsigamond Village Neighborhood Center



**Element** interior route

**ID** 6-409

**Issues**

No accessible polling area provided

Hallways cluttered

**Existing**

**Comments**

door hardware not compliant. Threshold excessively high. No accessible exit signage. Limited circulation causes voting booths to be protruding objects, not cane detectable at edge of route.

Quinsigamond Village Neighborhood Center



**Public Amenities**

**Lavatory**



**Element** Lavatory

**ID** 6-405

**Issues**

**Existing**

- Clear floor space not provided at lavatory
- Exposed plumbing underneath

**Comments**

- maneuvering clearance obstructed by furniture
- fire alarm not provided

Quinsigamond Village Neighborhood Center

**Toilet**



**Element** Toilet

**ID** 6-404

**Issues**

**Existing**

**Comments**

- sign not provided
- door hardware not compliant

Quinsigamond Village Neighborhood Center



**Element** Toilet

**ID** 6-406

**Issues**

**Existing**

- Flush valve too high or not properly located
- Inadequate maneuvering clearances
- Non-compliant side grab bar
- Toilet seat <16" or > 19" height

30" AFF  
20"

**Comments**

- maneuvering clearance obstructed by furniture
- fire alarm not provided

Quinsigamond Village Neighborhood Center



**Voting Area**

**Voting Area**



**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 6-411

**Issues**

**Existing**

- AutoMARK Privacy Hood not attached
- Chair not provided at AutoMARK table
- Secrecy Sleeve not provided with AutoMARK ballots

**Comments**

Quinsigamond Village  
Neighborhood Center



**Approach & Entrance**



**Element**

**ID** 6-500

**Issues**

**Existing**

Greenwood Gardens,  
community room

**Comments**

337 Greenwood Street  
7 voting stations (including one accessible), plus one AutoMARK

**Entrance Door**



**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 6-503

**Issues**

**Existing**

Greenwood Gardens,  
community room

**Comments**

door clearance obstructed by door holder at South entrance  
level landing not provided



**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 6-505

**Issues**

**Existing**

Greenwood Gardens,  
community room

**Comments**

ISSUE: ramp leading to North entrance lacks edge protection



**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 6-513

**Issues**

Doorway too narrow < 32"

**Existing**

**Comments**

door clearance obstructed by door holder at North entrance

Greenwood Gardens,  
community room

**Parking**



**Element** Parking

**ID** 6-501

**Issues**

# of spaces \_\_\_\_ (total)

**Existing**

2

# designated accessible \_\_\_\_

15+

van-accessible space + aisle= inadequate dimensions

60"

**Comments**

van-designated space with narrow access aisle (60" wide)

Greenwood Gardens,  
community room

**Sidewalks + Walkways**



**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 6-502

**Issues**

no accessible route provided from parking to entrance

**Existing**

**Comments**

walkway between South parking lot and South entrance too steep  
(7.3% running slope)

Greenwood Gardens,  
community room



**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 6-504

**Issues**

**Existing**

no accessible route provided from sidewalks to entrance

**Comments**

curb ramp not provided on West side of Greenwood Street

Greenwood Gardens,  
community room



**Interior Circulation Access**

**interior route**



Greenwood Gardens, community room

**Element** interior route

**ID** 6-506

**Issues**

**Existing**

30" AFF

20"

**Comments**

unsecured weather mat at North entrance



Greenwood Gardens, community room

**Element** interior route

**ID** 6-507

**Issues**

**Existing**

Hallways cluttered

**Comments**

unsecured weather mat at South entrance



**Public Amenities**

**Entry**



Greenwood Gardens, community room

**Element** Entry

**ID** 6-508

**Issues**

**Existing**

Designation sign non-compliant or not provided

**Comments**

sign not compliant, misplaced



Greenwood Gardens, community room

**Element** Entry

**ID** 6-509

**Issues**

**Existing**

Designation sign non-compliant or not provided

**Comments**

sign not compliant, misplaced

**Lavatory**



Greenwood Gardens, community room

**Element** Lavatory

**ID** 6-512

**Issues**

**Existing**

Clear floor space not provided at lavatory  
Mirror above lavatory w/ reflective surface > 40"

43"

**Comments**

clear floor space not centered for forward approach use of hot water



**Overall Access**



Greenwood Gardens,  
community room

**Element** Overall Access

**ID** 6-510

**Issues**

**Existing**

- Accessible Accessories not provided
- Accessible plumbing fixtures or stalls not provided
- Clear Floor Space not Provided
- Turning space not provided
- Visual & visible alarm not provided

**Comments**

women's toilet room

**Toilet**



Greenwood Gardens,  
community room

**Element** Toilet

**ID** 6-511

**Issues**

**Existing**

- Non-compliant side grab bar
- Flush valve too high or not properly located

30" AFF

**Comments**

also: fire alarm not provided



**Voting Area**

**Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK**



**Element** Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK

**ID** 6-515

**Issues**

**Existing**

Accessible table not along accessible route

**Comments**

accessible table obstructed by registration table and furniture

Greenwood Gardens,  
community room

**Voting Area**



**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 6-514

**Issues**

**Existing**

Secrecy Sleeve not provided with AutoMARK ballots  
Headphones not attached / provided  
AutoMARK Privacy Hood not attached  
Accessible voting table separated from general area / route

**Comments**

obstructed by registration table and furniture

Greenwood Gardens,  
community room



**Approach & Entrance**

**Entrance Door**



Beaver Brook Park Community House

**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 131-052

**Issues**

No accessible entrance provided

**Existing**

2"

**Comments**

Door threshold is 2" high.

**Parking**



Beaver Brook Park Community House

**Element** Parking

**ID** 131-132

**Issues**

no van-accessible space (if parking lot provided)

**Existing**

**Comments**

Parking lot transition to walkway: level changes over 1/2 inch. (No signage provided.)

**Sidewalks + Walkways**



Beaver Brook Park Community House

**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 131-134

**Issues**

**Existing**

**Comments**

This is a crowded precinct with many older voters.



Beaver Brook Park Community House

**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways **ID** 131-130

**Issues** **Existing**  
no accessible route provided from parking to entrance 27 or 28

**Comments**

Parking spaces on a route that is not level between accessible spaces and walkway. No signs provided for temporary voting day parking (State reg)



Beaver Brook Park Community House

**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways **ID** 131-133

**Issues** **Existing**  
no accessible route provided from parking to entrance

**Comments**

2.5% cross slope and depression over 1/2 inch diameter within path of travel between parking and polling location entrance



Beaver Brook Park Community House

**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways **ID** 131-131

**Issues** **Existing**  
Sidewalks poorly maintained and unusable

**Comments**

Walkway to entrance: width gap over 2 inches perpendicular to path of travel.



**Interior Circulation Access**

**interior route**

**Element** interior route

**ID** 131-050

**Issues**

**Existing**



Beaver Brook Park  
Community House

**Comments**

voting area circulation is crowded. Both accessible features are located outside of general voting booth area. The accessible (lower) booth is in front of the empty chair.



**Public Amenities**

**Element**

**ID** 131-051

**Issues**

**Existing**

**Comments**

Beaver Brook Park  
Community House

no restroom provided at this housing authority location.



**Voting Area**

**Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK**



**Element** Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK

**ID** 131-047

**Issues**

Accessible voting station Knee clearance < 27"  
AutoMARK screen not positioned for privacy

**Existing**

25.5  
-

Beaver Brook Park  
Community House

**Comments**

knee clearance not provided at AutoMARK table,  
Headphones not connected.



**Element** Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK

**ID** 131-048

**Issues**

Accessible voting station Knee clearance < 27"  
AutoMARK screen not positioned for privacy  
AutoMARK not readily available for use

**Existing**

25.5

Beaver Brook Park  
Community House

**Comments**

ridge under table at about 25.5 inches. Headphones not attached.

**Voting Area**



**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 131-049

**Issues**

AutoMARK table separated from general area / route  
Headphones not attached / provided  
Paper tray not in ready (out) position  
Foot-rocking pedals not readily available / provided  
Chair provided at AutoMARK table, but not secure (for  
example. light folding chairs are not secure b/c they move

**Existing**

-  
-  
-  
-  
-  
-

Beaver Brook Park  
Community House

**Comments**

route to AutoMARK table from registration table overlaps with, and is  
obstructed by, general public's waiting line- a problem not faced by  
voters using other polling booths.



**Approach & Entrance**

**Entrance Door**



**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 131-137

**Issues**

**Existing**

Doorway at-grade but transition > 1/2"

**Comments**

PHoto shows transition from parking to store entry/ exit. Level changes, and excessive slopes, - needs a level landing.

Shaw's Supermarket

**Parking**



**Element** Parking

**ID** 131-136

**Issues**

**Existing**

spaces +/- or aisles not level > 2.08%

**Comments**

~5% cross slope to left of crack (access aisle)

Shaw's Supermarket

**Sidewalks + Walkways**



**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 131-135

**Issues**

**Existing**

**Comments**

6 designated accessible parking spaces on nearly accessible route to accessible entrance

Shaw's Supermarket



**Interior Circulation Access**

**interior route**



**Element** interior route

**ID** 131-057

**Issues**

**Existing**

**Comments**

Shaw's Supermarket

circulation is reasonable.



**Public Amenities**

**Drinking fountain**



**Element** Drinking fountain

**ID** 131-059

**Issues**

**Existing**

Clear floor space not provided at drinking fountain

**Comments**

hi-lo fountain provided, but blocked.

Shaw's Supermarket

**Entry**



**Element** Entry

**ID** 131-058

**Issues**

**Existing**

Designation sign non-compliant or not provided

**Comments**

Tripping hazards along the way

Shaw's Supermarket



**Element** Entry

**ID** 131-060

**Issues**

**Existing**

Maneuvering clearance(s) not provided

**Comments**

Maneuvering clearance may overlap with drinking fountain.

Shaw's Supermarket



**Overall Access**



Shaw's Supermarket

**Element** Overall Access

**ID** 131-063

**Issues**

Accessible Accessories not provided

**Existing**

59"

**Comments**

paper towel control at 59"

**Toilet**



Shaw's Supermarket

**Element** Toilet

**ID** 131-062

**Issues**

- Non-compliant rear grab bar
- Non-compliant side grab bar
- Non-compliant toilet paper dispenser

**Existing**

**Comments**

one grab bar at 36 inches. toilet paper too far from seat.

Seat cover amenity not usable due to placement

**Urinal**



Shaw's Supermarket

**Element** Urinal

**ID** 131-061

**Issues**

**Existing**

**Comments**



**Voting Area**

**Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK**



Shaw's Supermarket

**Element** Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK

**ID** 131-055

**Issues**

**Existing**

Accessible table not along accessible route

-

Accessible voting station Height > 34"

-

Accessible voting station Knee clearance < 27"

Accessible voting station Toe clearance < 9"

**Comments**

27" to bottom, 39.5" to top



Shaw's Supermarket

**Element** Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK

**ID** 131-054

**Issues**

**Existing**

AutoMARK screen not positioned for privacy

-

AutoMARK not readily available for use

**Comments**

AutoMARK seems to be out of order. It is not set up properly.

**TRAINING / PROCEDURES**



Shaw's Supermarket

**Element** TRAINING / PROCEDURES

**ID** 131-056

**Issues**

**Existing**

**Comments**

No chair readily available at lower table.  
ISA signage is not enabling.



**Voting Area**



**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 131-053

**Issues**

**Existing**

- Chair not provided at AutoMARK table
- AutoMARK table separated from general area / route
- AutoMARK Privacy Hood not attached

**Comments**

Shaw's Supermarket

no chair. 27" to bottom, 29" to top.



**Approach & Entrance**

**Parking**



Coes Pond Village

**Element** Parking

**ID** 131-138

**Issues**

# designated accessible \_\_\_\_

**Existing**

2

**Comments**

Designated accessible parking area not graded level, not close to entrance.  
(accessible spaces nearer to entrance are reserved for residents and



Coes Pond Village

**Element** Parking

**ID** 131-139

**Issues**

spaces +/- or aisles not level > 2.08%

**Existing**

3.8

**Comments**

Parking space: cross slope 3.8%



Coes Pond Village

**Element** Parking

**ID** 131-141

**Issues**

spaces not on shortest route to entrance

**Existing**

**Comments**

Accessible designated spaces located far away, with no sidewalk provided.



**Parking - Signage**



**Element** Parking - Signage

**ID** 131-140

**Issues**

signage < 48" > 60"

**Existing**

42

Coes Pond Village

**Comments**

sign only 42" above ground.

**Sidewalks + Walkways**



**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 131-142

**Issues**

Sidewalks poorly maintained and unusable  
no accessible route provided from sidewalks to entrance

**Existing**

Coes Pond Village

**Comments**

Walkway between parking and entrance: excessive cross slope- 7.4%



**Interior Circulation Access**

**interior route**



**Element** interior route

**ID** 131-066

**Issues**

**Existing**

**Comments**

Coes Pond Village

circulation looks clear.



**Public Amenities**

**Entry**



Coes Pond Village

**Element** Entry

**ID** 131-067

**Issues**

**Existing**

Entry door with non-compliant hardware

**Comments**

women's room. No maneuvering clearance on latch side of door.

**Toilet**



Coes Pond Village

**Element** Toilet

**ID** 131-068

**Issues**

**Existing**

Centerline <16" or >18"

Non-compliant side grab bar

**Comments**

men's room. 18.5 to center of toilet. Side grab bar does not extend to 54" from corner (no space btn bar and corner)

**Toilet Compartment**



Coes Pond Village

**Element** Toilet Compartment

**ID** 131-070

**Issues**

**Existing**

Door with malfunctioning self-closing hinge

**Comments**

No (or malfunctioning) gravity closer



**Voting Area**

**Voting Area**



Coes Pond Village

**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 131-065

**Issues**

**Existing**

Accessible voting table separated from general area / route

**Comments**

28" bottom 32" to top.

Good sturdy chair.



Coes Pond Village

**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 131-064

**Issues**

**Existing**

AutoMARK Privacy Hood not attached

-

Chair not provided at AutoMARK table

-

Headphones not attached / provided

-

AutoMARK table separated from general area / route

-

**Comments**

26" to bottom, 28.5 to top

Knee/toe clearance not provided.

Headphones not attached.



**Approach & Entrance**

**Entrance Door**



**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 131-146

**Issues**

**Existing**

Door too heavy

**Comments**

Ramp to at-grade entrance lacks handrails and edge protection.  
Entrance lacks ISA.

Hadwen Park  
Congregational  
Church



**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 131-147

**Issues**

**Existing**

Doorway at-grade but transition > 1/2"

**Comments**

lip on stairway

Hadwen Park  
Congregational  
Church

**Parking**



**Element** Parking

**ID** 131-143

**Issues**

**Existing**

no access aisle (if not parallel space)

**Comments**

3 spaces, no access aisle

Hadwen Park  
Congregational  
Church



**Parking - Signage**



**Element** Parking - Signage

**ID** 131-145

**Issues**

signage < 48" > 60"

**Existing**

42"

**Comments**

ground surface not level, smooth.

Hadwen Park  
Congregational  
Church

**Sidewalks + Walkways**



**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 131-144

**Issues**

no accessible route provided from parking to entrance  
no accessible route provided from sidewalks to entrance  
Sidewalks poorly maintained and unusable

**Existing**

**Comments**

lumpy path of travel in parking area.

Hadwen Park  
Congregational  
Church



**Interior Circulation Access**

**interior route**



**Element** interior route

**ID** 131-075

**Issues**

**Existing**

**Comments**

stairs in main voting area. Handrails are non-compliant. Route to exit door inaccessible, and exit door lacks designation and directional signage.

Hadwen Park  
Congregational  
Church



**Public Amenities**

**Lavatory**



**Element** Lavatory

**ID** 131-077

**Issues**

**Existing**

**Comments**

trash obstructs clear space.

Hadwen Park  
Congregational  
Church



**Element** Lavatory

**ID** 131-148

**Issues**

**Existing**

Mirror above lavatory w/ reflective surface > 40"

43"

Toe or knee clearances not provided

**Comments**

19.5" to center of toilet, toilet paper more than two feet from toilet.

Hadwen Park  
Congregational  
Church

**Toilet**



**Element** Toilet

**ID** 131-149

**Issues**

**Existing**

Non-compliant toilet paper dispenser

**Comments**

tp dispenser not btn 7 - 9 " from front of water closet

Hadwen Park  
Congregational  
Church



**Voting Area**

**Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK**



**Element** Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK

**ID** 131-072

**Issues**

**Existing**

**Comments**

Including printed instructions at AutoMARK table facilitates independence.

Hadwen Park  
Congregational  
Church



**Element** Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK

**ID** 131-071

**Issues**

Accessible voting station Knee clearance < 27"  
AutoMARK screen not positioned for privacy

**Existing**

26"

**Comments**

26" bottom, 29" top. No privacy hood attached. Machine not in general circulation area. Wires at side of table are a tripping hazard in registration and information area

Hadwen Park  
Congregational  
Church

**Voting Area**



**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 131-074

**Issues**

Accessible voting table separated from general area / route

**Existing**

-

**Comments**

Seating at lower polling booth overlaps with, and is a barrier to, circulation to other voting booths.

Hadwen Park  
Congregational  
Church



**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 131-073

**Issues**

**Existing**

- AutoMARK Privacy Hood not attached
- AutoMARK table separated from general area / route

**Comments**

Maneuvering clearance not provided to AutoMARK table, which is set up next to registration table instead of within general polling booth area, despite ample room elsewhere.

Hadwen Park  
Congregational  
Church



**Approach & Entrance**

**Entrance Door**



Code Enforcement Department

**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 131-174

**Issues**

**Existing**

- Door too heavy
- Directions to accessible door or elevator unclear
- No accessible entrance provided

**Comments**

no exterior actuator button at automatic door!

**Parking**



Code Enforcement Department

**Element** Parking

**ID** 131-167

**Issues**

**Existing**

# designated accessible \_\_\_\_

4

**Comments**

4 spaces, 1 van-accessible, widths may not be compliant. Signs at 87"

**Sidewalks + Walkways**



Code Enforcement Department

**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 131-169

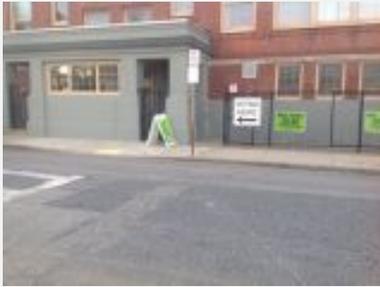
**Issues**

**Existing**

- no accessible route provided from parking to entrance
- no accessible route provided from sidewalks to entrance

**Comments**

crosswalk does not lead directly to curb ramp on facility side. No level landing provided on parking lot side of crosswalk.



**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 131-168

**Issues**

**Existing**

no accessible route provided from sidewalks to entrance  
Sidewalks poorly maintained and unusable

**Comments**

Entrance path of travel width restricted by signage.

Code Enforcement  
Department



**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 131-172

**Issues**

**Existing**

no accessible route provided from sidewalks to entrance  
Sidewalks poorly maintained and unusable  
no accessible route provided from parking to entrance

**Comments**

7.5% cross slope at curb ramp top landing. Maneuvering width severely restricted. Sidewalk route narrows to less than 36" even without the sign barrier.

Code Enforcement  
Department



**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 131-170

**Issues**

**Existing**

Sidewalks poorly maintained and unusable

**Comments**

8.6%  
Curb ramp lacks level gutter transition

Code Enforcement  
Department



**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 131-171

**Issues**

**Existing**

Sidewalks poorly maintained and unusable

**Comments**

On parking lot side, cross slope is 2.7%

Code Enforcement  
Department



**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 131-173

**Issues**

**Existing**

Sidewalks poorly maintained and unusable

**Comments**

Cross slopes on walkway to entrance range from 5.3% - 7.5% (above photo is 5.3%)

Code Enforcement  
Department



**Interior Circulation Access**

**interior route**



**Element** interior route

**ID** 131-113

**Issues**

**Existing**

**Comments**

route into voting includes automatic door.

Code Enforcement  
Department



**Public Amenities**

**Entry**

**Element** Entry

**ID** 131-106

**Issues**

**Existing**

Designation sign non-compliant or not provided

**Comments**

61" to center of sign.

Code Enforcement  
Department





**Voting Area**

**Voting Area**



Code Enforcement Department

**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 131-103

**Issues**

**Existing**

- AutoMARK table separated from general area / route
- Headphones not attached / provided
- AutoMARK Privacy Hood not attached
- Chair provided at AutoMARK table, but not secure (for example, light folding chairs are not secure b/c they move easilv on contact)

**Comments**

Machine positioned improperly, not set up for use.



Code Enforcement Department

**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 131-104

**Issues**

**Existing**

- Headphones not attached / provided
- AutoMARK table separated from general area / route
- AutoMARK Privacy Hood not attached

**Comments**

AutoMARK placed on short end of table which does not provide knee and to clearance because of table legs underneath.



**Approach & Entrance**

**Parking**



Main South CDC

**Element** Parking

**ID** 131-166

**Issues**

spaces +/- or aisles not level > 2.08%

**Existing**

**Comments**

maintenance needed within path of travel between designated accessible parking and entrance.



Main South CDC

**Element** Parking

**ID** 131-165

**Issues**

van-accessible space + aisle= inadequate dimensions  
spaces +/- or aisles not level > 2.08%  
access aisle does not connect to accessible route  
# designated accessible \_\_\_\_

**Existing**

1

**Comments**

no van-accessible space provided, access aisle <60, car space <8 feet

**Sidewalks + Walkways**



Main South CDC

**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 131-164

**Issues**

no accessible route provided from parking to entrance

**Existing**

**Comments**

parking on a slope near at-grade entrance, markings not highly visible.



**Interior Circulation Access**

**interior route**



**Element** interior route

**ID** 131-099

**Issues**

**Existing**

- Accessible voting area provided in separate location
- Hallways cluttered
- Hallways too narrow < 36"

**Comments**

Main South CDC

cluttered top, no circulation, segregated.



**Voting Area**

**Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK**



Main South CDC

**Element** Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK **ID** 131-101

**Issues** **Existing**

Accessible voting station Toe clearance < 9"

**Comments**

27" bottom, 30" top. Toe clearance obstructed at lower table due to stored box under table. Chair not provided.

**Voting Area**



Main South CDC

**Element** Voting Area **ID** 131-102

**Issues** **Existing**

AutoMARK Privacy Hood not attached  
AutoMARK table separated from general area / route  
Chair provided at AutoMARK table, but not secure (for example, light folding chairs are not secure b/c they move easily on contact)

**Comments**

AutoMARK located next to police officer, no maneuvering clearance provided to table.



Main South CDC

**Element** Voting Area **ID** 131-100

**Issues** **Existing**

AutoMARK Privacy Hood not attached  
AutoMARK table separated from general area / route  
Sip / puff accessories not readily available / provided  
Stylus not readily available/ provided  
Headphones not attached / provided

**Comments**

interior circulation to accessible feature does not provide adequate width, maneuvering clearance. CLUTTER on table further restricts privacy, independence, ease of use.



**Approach & Entrance**

**Parking**



**Element** Parking

**ID** 131-161

**Issues**

**Existing**

# designated accessible \_\_\_\_  
access aisle does not connect to accessible route  
spaces not on shortest route to entrance

0

**Comments**

not on level grade, access aisle not wide enough if that is what it is

Saint Peter's Church,  
hall



**Element** Parking

**ID** 131-160

**Issues**

**Existing**

spaces +/- or aisles not level > 2.08%

9.1

**Comments**

9.1, exit from parking lot

Saint Peter's Church,  
hall

**Sidewalks + Walkways**



**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 131-159

**Issues**

**Existing**

no accessible route provided from sidewalks to entrance

**Comments**

Slopes excessive and level changes between sidewalk and entrance walkway.

Saint Peter's Church,  
hall



**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 131-163

**Issues**

**Existing**

no accessible route provided from sidewalks to entrance

**Comments**

8.8 % at entrance

Saint Peter's Church,  
hall



**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 131-162

**Issues**

**Existing**

no accessible route provided from sidewalks to entrance  
no accessible route provided from parking to entrance  
Sidewalks poorly maintained and unusable

**Comments**

lip at bottom of curbcut over 1/2 inch level change

Saint Peter's Church,  
hall



**Interior Circulation Access**



Saint Peter's Church,  
hall

**Element**  
**Issues**

**ID** 131-098

**Existing**

**Comments**

restroom inaccessible .



**Voting Area**

**Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK**



**Element** Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK

**ID** 131-094

**Issues**

**Existing**

- Accessible voting station Knee clearance < 27"
- Accessible voting station Toe clearance < 9"
- Accessible voting station width < 30"

**Comments**

Clutter near booth is hazard. Knee and toe clearance obstructed because voting booth not centered where at least 30" unobstructed forward clearance provided.

Saint Peter's Church, hall

**Voting Area**



**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 131-096

**Issues**

**Existing**

- AutoMARK Privacy Hood not attached
- AutoMARK table separated from general area / route
- Chair not provided at AutoMARK table

**Comments**

Despite ample space, AutoMARK machine separated from general area, positioned where no privacy is possible, near ballot box.

Saint Peter's Church, hall



**Approach & Entrance**

**Entrance Door**



Webster Square Towers, community room

**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 131-155

**Issues**

**Existing**

Doorway at-grade but transition > 1/2"

**Comments**

Threshold over 3/4".



Webster Square Towers, community room

**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 131-156

**Issues**

**Existing**

Doorway at-grade but transition > 1/2"

**Comments**

Threshold is in 2 steps, each about 3/4", plus there is a width gap over 1/2 inch perpendicular to path of travel.



**Public Amenities**

**Entry**



**Element** Entry

**ID** 131-089

**Issues**

**Existing**

Designation sign non-compliant or not provided

**Comments**

Public amenities provided. Sign on door 61" to center.

Webster Square Towers, community room

**Overall Access**



**Element** Overall Access

**ID** 131-157

**Issues**

**Existing**

Accessible Accessories not provided

**Comments**

Soap dispenser too high and not clean.

Webster Square Towers, community room

**Toilet**



**Element** Toilet

**ID** 131-092

**Issues**

**Existing**

Flush valve too high or not properly located  
Non-compliant toilet cover dispenser

**Comments**

Flush valve on wall side instead of open side. TP not 7 - 9 inches in front of water closet.

Webster Square Towers, community room



**Toilet Compartment**



**Element** Toilet Compartment

**ID** 131-158

**Issues**

**Existing**

- Non-compliant side grab bar
- Non-compliant toilet paper dispenser

**Comments**

Webster Square  
Towers, community  
room

**Urinal**



**Element** Urinal

**ID** 131-091

**Issues**

**Existing**

- Rim > 17" height

24

**Comments**

urinal inaccessible- 24" high.

Webster Square  
Towers, community  
room



**Voting Area**

**Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK**



**Element** Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK

**ID** 131-087

**Issues**

Accessible voting station Knee clearance < 27"

**Existing**

26"

**Comments**

No knee clearance because 26" to bottom.

Webster Square Towers, community room



**Element** Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK

**ID** 131-086

**Issues**

Accessible voting station Toe clearance < 9"

AutoMARK screen not positioned for privacy

**Existing**

**Comments**

Chair not provided (although many in room if needed). Unsecured mat, privacy not provided.

Webster Square Towers, community room

**Voting Area**



**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 131-088

**Issues**

Accessible voting table separated from general area / route

**Existing**

**Comments**

Ballot informational signage not located adjacent to clear viewing space. Lower table located at less-wide area within general path of travel- seating restricts accessible route width.

Webster Square Towers, community room



**Approach & Entrance**

**Entrance Door**



**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 131-152

**Issues**

**Existing**

Accessible door locked

**Comments**

This might be considered the accessible entrance. No signage, no accessible route, no level threshold provided.

S Worcester Neighborhood Ctr., Harry Sherry FH



**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 131-150

**Issues**

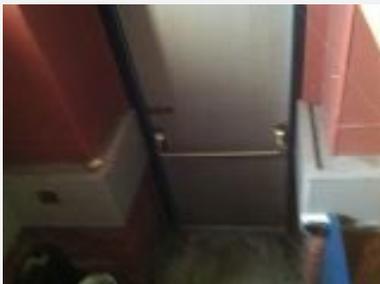
**Existing**

No sign at inaccessible door to accessible entrance

**Comments**

There is no accessible entrance to this polling location.

S Worcester Neighborhood Ctr., Harry Sherry FH



**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 131-153

**Issues**

**Existing**

No sign at inaccessible door to accessible entrance

**Comments**

wholly inaccessible exit, and no signage

S Worcester Neighborhood Ctr., Harry Sherry FH



**Sidewalks + Walkways**



**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 131-151

**Issues**

**Existing**

- no accessible route provided from sidewalks to entrance
- no accessible route provided from parking to entrance

**Comments**

this completely inaccessible walkway leads towards the only ramped entrance, which was locked , has inaccessible handrails and is unsafe.

S Worcester  
Neighborhood Ctr.,  
Harry Sherry FH



**Interior Circulation Access**

**interior route**



**Element** interior route

**ID** 131-080

**Issues**

**Existing**

Accessible voting area provided in separate location  
Protruding objects along circulation route < 27" > 80"

**Comments**

Despite ample room, accessible features separated from general polling booths and have clutter on top of and underneath tables.

S Worcester Neighborhood Ctr., Harry Sherry FH



**Element** interior route

**ID** 131-083

**Issues**

**Existing**

Directional Signs to accessible room entrance not provided  
Hallways cluttered

**Comments**

door to lift includes hardware that is only operable with key. Control to lift is obstructed by folding screen.

S Worcester Neighborhood Ctr., Harry Sherry FH



**Element** interior route

**ID** 131-084

**Issues**

**Existing**

Temporary ramp provided and not secured

**Comments**

entrance to lift unsafe

S Worcester Neighborhood Ctr., Harry Sherry FH



**Element** interior route

**ID** 131-154

**Issues**

**Existing**

Temporary ramp provided and not secured

**Comments**

vintage lift key operated, no two-way communication system, controls at 51" Lighting too dark.

S Worcester  
Neighborhood Ctr.,  
Harry Sherry FH



**Voting Area**

**Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK**



**Element** Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK

**ID** 131-079

**Issues**

**Existing**

- Accessible voting station Knee clearance < 27"
- Accessible voting station Toe clearance < 9"
- Accessible voting station width < 30"
- AutoMARK not readily available for use
- AutoMARK screen not positioned for privacy
- Protruding objects within circulation route

**Comments**

table legs protrude into circulation route (exit) at door. Other voting table a barrier to clear circulation to door. Clutter on table a barrier not found at other voting booths.

S Worcester Neighborhood Ctr., Harry Sherry FH

**Voting Area**



**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 131-078

**Issues**

**Existing**

- AutoMARK Privacy Hood not attached
- Chair not provided at AutoMARK table
- Headphones not attached / provided

**Comments**

no knee toe clearance, no table clearance. Placed in restricted location with no accessible room.

S Worcester Neighborhood Ctr., Harry Sherry FH



**Approach & Entrance**

**Parking**



**Element** Parking

**ID** 131-117

**Issues**

**Existing**

**Comments**

Temple Emanuel, hall

very uneven parking lot surface which serves as access route

**Parking - Signage**



**Element** Parking - Signage

**ID** 131-116

**Issues**

**Existing**

if more than 4 spaces, signage missing \_\_\_\_# signs

5

**Comments**

Temple Emanuel, hall

Parking area not smooth or level.

**Sidewalks + Walkways**



**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 131-119

**Issues**

**Existing**

**Comments**

Temple Emanuel, hall

curb ramp has 11.5% run slope.



Temple Emanuel, hall

**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 131-118

**Issues**

**Existing**

Sidewalks poorly maintained and unusable

**Comments**

cross slopes excessive between parking and entrance. 5.4% in photo.



Temple Emanuel, hall

**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 131-120

**Issues**

**Existing**

Sidewalks poorly maintained and unusable  
no accessible route provided from sidewalks to entrance

**Comments**

3.6 cross slope within walkway to entrance.



**Public Amenities**

**Entry**



**Element** Entry

**ID** 131-029

**Issues**

**Existing**

Designation sign non-compliant or not provided

**Comments**

84" to bottom of bathroom sign

Temple Emanuel, hall

**Overall Access**



**Element** Overall Access

**ID** 131-031

**Issues**

**Existing**

- Turning space not provided
- Accessible plumbing fixtures or stalls not provided
- Accessible Accessories not provided
- Clear Floor Space not Provided

**Comments**

Not accessible toilet room. Pipes not covered under sink. No low urinal.

Temple Emanuel, hall



**Voting Area**

**Voting Area**



**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 131-022

**Issues**

**Existing**

AutoMARK Privacy Hood not attached

**Comments**

Temple Emanuel, hall



**Approach & Entrance**

**Entrance Door**



**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 131-125

**Issues**

**Existing**

Door too heavy

**Comments**

Entryway with level changes, narrow landing, needs maintenance

Worcester Seventh-Day Adventist Church



**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 131-122

**Issues**

**Existing**

Door too heavy

Doorway at-grade but transition > 1/2"

**Comments**

route to entrance not level, clear. Entry area includes narrow width, restricted by poles and signage.

Worcester Seventh-Day Adventist Church

**Parking**



**Element** Parking

**ID** 131-124

**Issues**

**Existing**

**Comments**

no marked accessible spaces in this large parking lot.

Worcester Seventh-Day Adventist Church



**Element** Parking

**ID** 131-121

**Issues**

**Existing**

spaces +/- or aisles not level > 2.08%

**Comments**

6.2% cross slope within parking route.

Worcester Seventh-Day Adventist Church

**Sidewalks + Walkways**



**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 131-123

**Issues**

**Existing**

no accessible route provided from parking to entrance  
no accessible route provided from sidewalks to entrance  
Sidewalks poorly maintained and unusable

**Comments**

16.8% run slope of path from parking lot

Worcester Seventh-Day Adventist Church



**Voting Area**

**Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK**



**Element** Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK

**ID** 131-034

**Issues**

**Existing**

- Accessible voting station Knee clearance < 27"
- Accessible voting station width < 30"

**Comments**

26.5 to bottom, not at least 30" clear width provided for writing

Worcester Seventh-Day Adventist Church



**Approach & Entrance**

**Entrance Door**



**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 131-128

**Issues**

**Existing**

Doorway at-grade but transition > 1/2"

**Comments**

First Congregational Church in Worcester



**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 131-045

**Issues**

**Existing**

No sign at inaccessible door to accessible entrance

**Comments**

First Congregational Church in Worcester

by handicapped parking.  
NO directional signage provided



**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 131-126

**Issues**

**Existing**

No sign at inaccessible door to accessible entrance

**Comments**

First Congregational Church in Worcester



**Parking**



First Congregational Church in Worcester

**Element** Parking

**ID** 131-127

**Issues**

- no access aisle (if not parallel space)
- no van-accessible space (if parking lot provided)
- spaces +/- or aisles not level > 2.08%
- # designated accessible \_\_\_\_

**Existing**

2

**Comments**

2 spaces next to accessible entrance



**Interior Circulation Access**

**interior route**



First Congregational Church in Worcester

**Element** interior route

**ID** 131-129

**Issues**

**Existing**

**Comments**

inside accessible entrance, no directional sign for voting  
ELEVATOR ISSUE: Clear space at controls not provided



First Congregational Church in Worcester

**Element** interior route

**ID** 131-040

**Issues**

**Existing**

Directional Signs to accessible room entrance not provided

**Comments**

elevator to sanctuary.



First Congregational Church in Worcester

**Element** interior route

**ID** 131-041

**Issues**

**Existing**

Directional Signs to accessible room entrance not provided

**Comments**

informational signage (stickers above controls) not accessible



First Congregational Church in Worcester

**Element** interior route

**ID** 131-036

**Issues**

**Existing**

Hallways cluttered

**Comments**

circulation provided between tables is adequate. However, a Best Practices Note: Chair legs not optimal for ppl using canes for navigation.



First Congregational Church in Worcester

**Element** interior route

**ID** 131-039

**Issues**

**Existing**

Hallways cluttered

**Comments**

path from elevator to voting area.  
Trash can located within circ route- tripping hazard. Chairs also navigational hazard.



First Congregational Church in Worcester

**Element** interior route

**ID** 131-046

**Issues**

**Existing**

Hallways cluttered

-

Directional Signs to accessible room entrance not provided

-

**Comments**

no sign to voting or to accessible bathroom.  
Maneuvering clearance at elevator impeded by bench placement.



**Public Amenities**

**Entry**



First Congregational Church in Worcester

**Element** Entry

**ID** 131-037

**Issues**

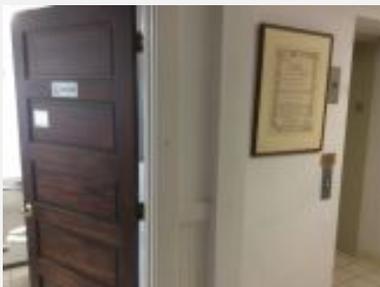
**Existing**

Designation sign non-compliant or not provided

**Comments**

note sign on door that says take elevator to sanctuary level.

Directional sign not provided.



First Congregational Church in Worcester

**Element** Entry

**ID** 131-042

**Issues**

**Existing**

Designation sign non-compliant or not provided

**Comments**

sanctuary restroom sign on door. near elevator but no sign to voting area.



First Congregational Church in Worcester

**Element** Entry

**ID** 131-038

**Issues**

**Existing**

Entry door with non-compliant hardware

-

Designation sign non-compliant or not provided

-

**Comments**

first door to voting area restroom does not direct to accessible bathroom in sanctuary.



**Lavatory**

**Element** Lavatory

**ID** 131-043

**Issues**

**Existing**

- Toe or knee clearances not provided
- Clear floor space not provided at lavatory
- Exposed plumbing underneath

**Comments**

Unusable because sink in accessible restroom blocked.



First Congregational  
Church in Worcester



**Voting Area**

**Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK**



**Element** Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK

**ID** 131-035

**Issues**

**Existing**

- Accessible voting station Toe clearance < 9"
- Accessible voting station Knee clearance < 27"
- Accessible voting station Height > 34"
- AutoMARK screen not positioned for privacy

**Comments**

Not positioned for privacy, no knee and toe clearance for anyone.  
Chair not provided.

First Congregational  
Church in Worcester



**Approach & Entrance**

**Entrance Door**



**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 6-199

**Issues**

**Existing**

Doorway at-grade but transition > 1/2"

**Comments**

Entrance: 1" gap and 3/4" slope

Elm Park Tower,  
community room

**Parking**



**Element** Parking

**ID** 6-201

**Issues**

**Existing**

no van-accessible space (if parking lot provided)  
van-accessible space + aisle= inadequate dimensions

**Comments**

2 access aisle 40" wide  
25 spaces

Elm Park Tower,  
community room



**Element** Parking

**ID** 6-205

**Issues**

**Existing**

van-accessible space + aisle= inadequate dimensions

**Comments**

Space 90" wide

Elm Park Tower,  
community room



**Parking - Signage**



Elm Park Tower,  
community room

**Element** Parking - Signage

**ID** 6-203

**Issues**

**Existing**

**Comments**

Context photo



Elm Park Tower,  
community room

**Element** Parking - Signage

**ID** 6-202

**Issues**

signage < 48" > 60"

**Existing**

**Comments**

Signage should be at least 60" aff- this is 53"

**Sidewalks + Walkways**



Elm Park Tower,  
community room

**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 6-200

**Issues**

Sidewalks poorly maintained and unusable

**Existing**

**Comments**



**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 6-206

**Issues**

**Existing**

Sidewalks poorly maintained and unusable

**Comments**

Elm Park Tower,  
community room



**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 6-204

**Issues**

**Existing**

Sidewalks poorly maintained and unusable  
no accessible route provided from sidewalks to entrance

**Comments**

Elm Park Tower,  
community room



**Interior Circulation Access**

**interior route**



**Element** interior route

**ID** 6-198

**Issues**

**Existing**

Hallways cluttered

**Comments**

Elm Park Tower,  
community room



**Voting Area**

**Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK**



**Element** Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK

**ID** 6-197

**Issues**

**Existing**

Elm Park Tower,  
community room

**Comments**

Table with information does not provide knee clearance for forward review of info: 26.5" to bottom



**Element** Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK

**ID** 6-196

**Issues**

**Existing**

Elm Park Tower,  
community room

Accessible voting station Height > 34"

**Comments**

36.5" to top

**Voting Area**



**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 6-220

**Issues**

**Existing**

Elm Park Tower,  
community room

Accessible voting table separated from general area / route  
AutoMARK Privacy Hood not attached  
Chair not provided at AutoMARK table

**Comments**

to bottom 26.5" and 29" to top



**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 6-195

**Issues**

**Existing**

- Accessible voting table separated from general area / route
- AutoMARK table separated from general area / route
- Chair not provided at AutoMARK table

**Comments**

28" to bottom 31.5"

Elm Park Tower,  
community room



**Approach & Entrance**

**Sidewalks + Walkways**



**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 6-207

**Issues**

**Existing**

Sidewalks poorly maintained and unusable

**Comments**

Order of AHEPA  
Lodge



**Element** Sidewalks + Walkways

**ID** 6-208

**Issues**

**Existing**

Sidewalks poorly maintained and unusable

**Comments**

Order of AHEPA  
Lodge



**Interior Circulation Access**

**interior route**



**Element** interior route

**ID** 6-216

**Issues**

**Existing**

Hallways cluttered

**Comments**

carpet not attached

Order of AHEPA  
Lodge



**Public Amenities**

**Accessories**



**Element** Accessories

**ID** 6-218

**Issues**

**Existing**

Malfunctioning

**Comments**

protruding 9" from wall in circulation route to door

Order of AHEPA Lodge

**Entry**



**Element** Entry

**ID** 6-212

**Issues**

**Existing**

Designation sign non-compliant or not provided

Door requires > 5 pounds of force to open

Maneuvering clearance(s) not provided

**Comments**

Public toilet entry in recessed area to right of voting area

Order of AHEPA Lodge



**Element** Entry

**ID** 6-215

**Issues**

**Existing**

Maneuvering clearance(s) not provided

**Comments**

35.5" wide stopper prevent door to open 90 degrees

Order of AHEPA Lodge



**Element** Entry

**ID** 6-219

**Issues**

**Existing**

Maneuvering clearance(s) not provided

**Comments**

Order of AHEPA  
Lodge

**Lavatory**



**Element** Lavatory

**ID** 6-214

**Issues**

**Existing**

Dispensers not within reach range  
Exposed plumbing underneath  
Toe or knee clearances not provided

**Comments**

Order of AHEPA  
Lodge

24" knee clearance  
paper dispenser protrude 7"



**Element** Lavatory

**ID** 6-217

**Issues**

**Existing**

Toe or knee clearances not provided  
Clear floor space not provided at lavatory  
Exposed plumbing underneath

**Comments**

Order of AHEPA  
Lodge

clutter under sink prevents clear floor space



**Toilet**



**Element** Toilet

**ID** 6-213

**Issues**

**Existing**

- Non-compliant rear grab bar
- Non-compliant side grab bar

**Comments**

- back gb 47" long
- 64" hook coat
- no self closing

Order of AHEPA  
Lodge



**Voting Area**

**Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK**



**Element** Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK

**ID** 6-209

**Issues**

**Existing**

- Accessible table not along accessible route
- Accessible voting station Knee clearance < 27"
- AutoMARK screen not positioned for privacy

**Comments**

Table: 26.5" to bottom. Privacy hood not attached.

Order of AHEPA Lodge



**Element** Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK

**ID** 6-211

**Issues**

**Existing**

- Accessible voting station Height > 34"

**Comments**

Ballot information on counter that is too high- 42" aff

Order of AHEPA Lodge



**Element** Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK

**ID** 6-210

**Issues**

**Existing**

- Accessible voting station Knee clearance < 27"

**Comments**

Context photo: 7 voting booths plus the lower accessible one

Order of AHEPA Lodge



**Approach & Entrance**

**Entrance Door**



**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 6-190

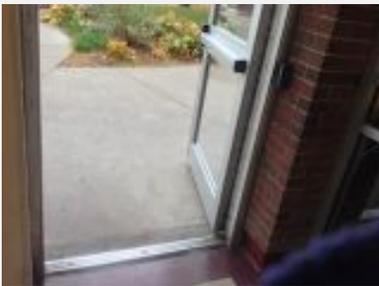
**Issues**

**Existing**

**Comments**

unsecured mat

Murray Avenue  
Apartments,  
community room



**Element** Entrance Door

**ID** 6-191

**Issues**

**Existing**

Doorway at-grade but transition > 1/2"

**Comments**

Threshold strip not beveled on interior side, over 1/4" level change plus there is a width gap perpendicular to path of travel between linoleum and aluminum surfaces.

Murray Avenue  
Apartments,  
community room

**Voting Area**

**Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK**



**Element** Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK

**ID** 6-189

**Issues**

**Existing**

Accessible voting station Knee clearance < 27"

0

Accessible voting station Toe clearance < 9"

0

**Comments**

both machines do not offer toe and knee clearance

Murray Avenue  
Apartments,  
community room



**Element** Election Systems and Software (ES&S) AutoMARK

**ID** 6-192

**Issues**

**Existing**

No accessible voting stations provided

**Comments**

both precincts share one AutoMARK

Murray Avenue  
Apartments,  
community room

**Voting Area**



**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 6-188

**Issues**

**Existing**

Accessible voting table separated from general area / route  
Chair provided at AutoMARK table, but not secure (for example, light folding chairs are not secure b/c they move easily on contact)  
AutoMARK Privacy Hood not attached

**Comments**

Murray Avenue  
Apartments,  
community room



**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 6-194

**Issues**

**Existing**

Chair not provided at AutoMARK table

**Comments**

integrated

Murray Avenue  
Apartments,  
community room



**Voting Area**

**Voting Area**



**Element** Voting Area

**ID** 6-193

**Issues**

**Existing**

- AutoMARK Privacy Hood not attached
- Chair not provided at AutoMARK table

**Comments**

Mayside Apartments,  
community room