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ADA Self Evaluation & Transition Plan Adoption & Public Hearing

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Recap: What is an ADA Self-Evaluation & Transition Plan?

A document that outlines how a jurisdiction transitions toward compliance with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA). The Plan is based on guidance from the Department of Justice.

The plan will assist the Port in identifying barriers to accessibility and to develop barrier removal prioritization solutions that will facilitate the opportunity of access to all individuals within the Port's transportation network, selected recreational facilities and identified policies and procedures.

Recap: Why do we need it?

The ADA Title II Self-Evaluation & Transition Plan is mandatory to partially fulfill the requirements set forth in Title II of the ADA. The ADA states that:

“A public entity must reasonably modify its policies, practices, or procedures to avoid discrimination against people with disabilities.”

- Ensures that we address citizen concerns and meet the needs of the disabled community
- Ensures that we are in compliance with the ADA
- Ensures that we meet Washington DOT requirements for grant recipients

Recap: Parts of the Plan

Identify an ADA Coordinator

If a public entity has 50 or more employees (total employees = the Port), it is required to designate at least one responsible employee to coordinate ADA compliance.

Notice of ADA Provisions

This notice declares the Port's commitment to non-discrimination on the basis of disability and addresses the agency's associated policies regarding employment, effective communication, modifications to policies and procedures, provision of auxiliary aids, scope of the ADA, complaints, and provision of aid/services at no additional cost. The intent is to reach anyone who may potentially interact with the Port and must be accessible to all.

Grievance Procedures and Complaint Records

Establishes a system for resolving complaints of disability discrimination in a prompt and fair manner.

Work Status

Public Outreach

- New webpage (launched 1/31)
- On-line survey requesting input from the public (1/22 to 2/22)
- Outreach in Port publications and social media (completed across multiple dates)
- Virtual Public Workshop (held 2/18)
- Draft Plan available for Public Comment (5/12 to 5/26 online)
- Port Commission meeting opportunities to comment (6/8 and 6/15)

Work Status (cont'd.)

Prepare Draft Plan

Port's Draft Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan was prepared and made available for public review and comment.

Perform Self-Evaluation

The Port must evaluate its existing facilities and programs to identify any barriers to accessibility.

Phase 1 (December 2020 to June 2021) included evaluation of the Port's destination waterfront between 10th and 18th Streets, west of West Marine View Drive, specifically:

- Transportation Network (crosswalks, curb ramps, driveway interfaces, etc.)
- Recreational Facilities (sidewalks, parking, trails, etc.)
- Certain Administrative Policies & Procedures (grievance filing, identifying responsible staff, etc.)

Schedule

Upcoming Milestones

- 6/8: Open Public Hearing for Public Comments on Draft Transition Plan
- By 6/10: Staff incorporates documentation of comments into FINAL Plan for Port Commission review.
- 6/10: Port staff provides Port Commission with draft FINAL ADA Transition Plan inclusive of public comment feedback
- 6/15: Close Public Hearing; Port Commission formally adopts FINAL ADA Transition Plan

Next Steps

Prioritize Physical Barrier Corrections

- Based on feedback from the public, severity of the barrier, cost, and other factors.
- Evaluation factors include intensity of use by the public, cost estimating, location, etc. and opportunities to “bundle” corrections with other ADA corrections and Port planned CIP or maintenance projects.

Continue Self-Evaluation of Facilities

Future phases will address evaluation of barriers in:

- Public buildings (marina restrooms, laundry, public meeting spaces, etc.)
- In-water Port facilities (docks, gangways, etc.)
- Administrative services (e.g. upon request - braille translation of documents, sign language interpretation of meetings, etc.)
- Activities (e.g. tours, programs, events, etc.)

Next Steps

- The ADA Transition Plan will be managed as a living document to track, evaluate, document and implement corrections on an ongoing basis.
- As tasks are completed, additional self-evaluations are performed, and new tasks are identified, the Port will update prioritization of corrections.
- The Transition Plan will be formally updated every 5 years.



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**Questions?
Thank you!**



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