

Department:	Community Services	Program Contact:	Jon Henrichsen
Program Offer Type:	New	Program Offer Stage:	Adopted
Related Programs:	90013, 90015, 90018A		
Program Characteristics:	One-Time-Only Request		

Executive Summary

The Multnomah County Transportation Division in the Department of Community Services (DCS) developed an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant Transition Plan (the Plan) for the County Maintained Road System that identifies barriers to pedestrian accessibility within the County right-of-way, recommends mitigation measures, estimates funding for proposed mitigation, and proposes a schedule to implement improvements. Mitigation is currently focused on curb ramps.

Program Description

The County has both a legal obligation to comply with requirements of the ADA and an ethical obligation to ensure equitable access and outcomes for Multnomah County residents. Curb ramps that do not meet ADA pose significant safety risks and barriers to people living with disabilities and mobility restrictions. The consequences of failing to act include serious negative impacts on the quality of people's lives when they cannot get to where they need or want to go.

In addition, the County's Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH) recent Transportation Crash and Safety Report finds that "any barrier to safe transportation influences risk factors for chronic disease and can inhibit healthy lifestyles" and reveals unacceptable inequities in transportation safety outcomes for Black residents, particularly in East Multnomah County.

The cost to bring all of the County curb ramps into compliance is estimated at \$38M in today's dollars. Today, 530 County-owned curb ramps plus 395 privately-owned driveway ramps in County ROW are out of compliance, 116 are in compliance, and a further 17 need additional analysis. Curb ramps are prioritized for replacement based on the condition of the ramp (does it physically meet the legal requirements, including the presence of truncated domes) and its proximity to higher concentrations of people with disabilities and critical destinations such as medical care, transit, government services, shopping, significant sources of employment, etc.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY22 Actual	FY23 Budgeted	FY23 Estimate	FY24 Offer
Output	Number of ramps designed for Phase 2 (renamed Phase 1 in FY24)	N/A	40	0	-
Outcome	Number of ramps requiring ROW purchases Phase 1b: Complete design (90% to 100%) and acquire ROW	N/A	50	88	-
Output	Number of ramps designed for Phase 2	New	New	New	84
Outcome	Complete ROW purchase for Phase 1 ramps	New	New	New	42

Performance Measures Descriptions

Phase 2 of the ADA Project includes design of all Tier 2 ramps and acquisition of all ROW needs for the Tier 1 ramps designed in FY23. With the successful completion of Phase 2 in FY24, Transportation will be ready to construct Tier 1 ramps in FY 25 should funding be available.

Legal / Contractual Obligation

Compliance with the ADA is required by federal law. Failure to make significant, sustained efforts to comply with ADA through the replacement of deficient curb ramps puts the County at significant risk of lawsuits which could force short timelines and mandate levels of expenditure that would require all other transportation work to be suspended or require significant short term investment from the County general fund.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds
Program Expenses	2023	2023	2024	2024
Contractual Services	\$0	\$0	\$623,190	\$1,111,810
Total GF/non-GF	\$0	\$0	\$623,190	\$1,111,810
Program Total:	\$0		\$1,735,000	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Program Revenues				
Total Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Explanation of Revenues

This program is supported by County general funds and Video Lottery Funds one-time-only.

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2023: 90018B Construction of Tier 1 ADA Ramps

This is the second year of the program to replace non-compliant ADA ramps. One-time-only funds for FY23 were awarded to construct 12 - Tier 1 ramps, acquire ROW for 40 - Tier 1 ramps, and design a further 50 - Tier 2 ramps. In Fall 2022, the project team discovered that approximately 395 of the 994 ramps in our Plan were driveway ramps. County attorney's office determined driveway ramps are the responsibility of the adjacent property owner, not Multnomah County. Consequently, no construction or ROW acquisition will take place in FY23. Instead, Transportation will complete design of all Tier 1 ADA ramps by the end of FY23 with the one-time only funds approved in program #90018B. This program was supported by one-time-only County General Funds in FY2023.