

Department: Community Services

Program Contact: Jon Henrichsen

Program Offer Type: Capital

Program Offer Stage: Proposed

Related Programs: 90013, 90018A, 90018B

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

In addition to the legal obligation to comply with federal requirements of the ADA, the County has an ethical obligation to ensure equitable access and outcomes for Multnomah County residents. Curb ramps that do not meet ADA pose a significant safety risk and barrier 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.

The cost to bring all of the County curb ramps into compliance is estimated at \$62M in today’s dollars. Today, 524 County-owned curb ramps are out of compliance, 116 are in compliance, and more data is needed for the remaining 318 ramps. Curb ramps are prioritized for replacement based on the condition of the ramp (does it meet the legal requirements, include the presence of truncated domes) and its proximity to higher concentrations of people with disabilities and critical designations such as medical care, transit, government services, shopping, significant sources of employment, etc.

The curb ramps selected for this phase of replacement are located in marginalized communities with a high percentage of residents with disabilities and a significantly higher percentage of Latinx residents, veterans, and children than the County as a whole. The ramps are located along busy streets including Halsey, Stark, Glisan, and Buxton that provide access to TriMet bus lines and other critical destinations. 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.

Performance Measures

| Measure Type | Performance Measure | FY23 Actual | FY24 Budgeted | FY24 Estimate | FY25 Target |
|--------------|--|-------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|
| Outcome | ADA project ramps designed to 90% | 85 | 90 | 90 | 100 |
| Outcome | ADA ramps designed 100% | n/a | 84 | 85 | 60 |
| Outcome | ADA ramps constructed | n/a | n/a | n/a | 50 |
| Output | Percent of ADA ramps designed or constructed in USDOT Justice 40 Transportation Disadvantaged Census | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |

Performance Measures Descriptions

Measures include ramps designed and constructed. Measure also includes percent within areas with higher equity needs.

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 and/or require significant investment from the County general fund.

Revenue/Expense Detail

| | Adopted General Fund | Adopted Other Funds | Proposed General Fund | Proposed Other Funds |
|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Program Expenses | 2024 | 2024 | 2025 | 2025 |
| Contractual Services | \$1,735,000 | \$0 | \$2,908,102 | \$91,898 |
| Total GF/non-GF | \$1,735,000 | \$0 | \$2,908,102 | \$91,898 |
| Program Total: | \$1,735,000 | | \$3,000,000 | |
| 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.

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2024: 90018B Tier 2 ADA Ramps

This is the third year of the program replacing non-compliant ramps. In FY 2020, DCS received \$500,000 in County General Fund to design the first 52 Tier 1 ramps. In FY 2023, DCS received \$1.5M to design 84 Tier 1 ramps and complete the construction of 3 ramps along Glisan from 223rd to 238th. In FY24, DCS received \$1.735M to complete the design and begin the right of way, and utility coordination of Tier 1 ramps and begin design on Tier 2 ramps.