



City of Bedford ADA Transition Plan, Lawrence County Indiana.

ADA Transition Plan Implemented 2012 and Updated Annually (updated last on January 27, 2021)

The City of Bedford Transition Plan and Responsibilities

This is an overview of the City of Bedford Transition Plan. The plan identifies barriers to program accessibility on properties throughout the City and provides project checklists to track improvements. The plan consists of an Inventory Assessment, implemented requirements, and annual reassessment of goals and improvements.

Accessibility Barrier Removal, Funding, and Project Priorities

The City of Bedford has remodeled or constructed many new facilities throughout the City. We have also made our entire existing city-owned buildings ADA compliant. Many of these buildings were constructed or remodeled pursuant to applicable state and local building codes and meet accessibility requirements, but we have made necessary improvements and upgrades to bring them up to current standards. We have also made improvements in the accessibility of our sidewalks and entrances to all our municipal public structures, so availability is attained.

Projects within the City's ADA Transition Plan are prioritized based on the following:

Projects where the greatest number of individuals will benefit from available accessibility of ADA sidewalks, requests from individuals for improvements for accessible sidewalks, assistance and guidance in new and remodeled structures and requirements under ADA guidelines.

Inventory Assessment

- 1) All government City Building sidewalks and curbs are compliant.
- 2) Inventory of sidewalks throughout city has been completed and mapped on our GIS.
- 3) Improvements in ADA sidewalks are mapped annually.
- 4) The City has strived to make improvements in sidewalks. In 2014/2015 the City spent \$898,560.42 putting in ADA sidewalks along a stretch of John Williams Blvd. measuring 6,237 feet. An ADA Pedestrian Walk Light with APS is currently

being installed. This will be added to our GIS along with other ADA improvements. The City just completed a pocket park in our downtown area. This park, which houses a stage and restrooms, has been constructed meeting all ADA requirements. We also funded new ADA sidewalks for the Stalker Apartment complex that was a renovation undertaken by Hoosier Uplands. The City is also in the process of revitalizing the downtown area, largely due to the Stellar Grant. Within this scope, the downtown area will be a large focus for ADA improvements, which also include a walking trail which will connect to the downtown area. We will also be moving a depot to the downtown area for possible tourist use, which will be made accessible. The city also will be putting in ADA accessible sidewalks in the Plaza Drive project slated to be let in April of 2015. This will connect 16th Street(US 50) to SR 37 through a business area with several apartment complexes being connected. In 2015 we added 95 ADA accessible corners on sidewalks.

In 2016-2017 we have been working on our sidewalks all around the Bedford Square, upgrading to make them all ADA compliant. This work is on-going. We also encourage our citizens to put in sidewalks or improve their sidewalks by paying for all the materials.

In 2017/2018 we continue with our plans to pay for all material to upgrade our sidewalks to make them compliant to any individual who requests and is willing to pay contractor for the installations. We also have increased our policy to include new sidewalks for anyone requesting them, including new subdivision. We have also passed new Complete Streets Policy which includes a Commission overseeing the improvements which will include ADA compliancy. We are currently replacing all the sidewalks on Lincoln Avenue from 18th Street to 9th Street, which includes a round-about which will also have ADA compliant sidewalks in the entire circle.

The City of Bedford will strive and continue our endeavors to bring our current policies and implementation to a standard that parallels the Title VI requirements.

In 2018/2019, we completed the Stellar Projects which included all new ADA sidewalks/trails for the downtown area and on Lincoln Avenue between 10th

Street and 17th Street and a connector to the downtown area with an approved walk light crossing at 14th and L Street. With the Community Crossing Matching Grant, we constructed a Round-About at John Williams Blvd with all ADA approved sidewalks and then connected it south to the 10th and Lincoln trails. We continue to improve our sidewalks throughout the city and encourage people to utilize our cost-free replacement procedure.

We are currently set in motion for more sidewalk replacements at the 1700 block of L Street and Brian Lane Way to bring them to ADA approved standards.

Denise Henderson, our HR, and I continue to address and issues and follow all guidelines that affect the federal mandate.

Requirements

- 1) Planning / Zoning Director Brandon Woodward is the ADA/504 Coordinator for the City of Bedford.
- 2) Public Notice handouts and postings.
- 3) ADA Grievance Policy for employees.
- 4) City of Bedford accepts accessibility standards of PROWAG (Public Right Of Way Accessibility Guidelines).
- 5) Inventory of sidewalks within the city completed and designated on GIS.
- 6) Posted links for ADA information on the City Web Site.
- 7) All ADA complaints and problems. Complaints and dispositions are accomplished through our Code Enforcement at the Planning and Zoning Department and are administered by the Coordinator.
- 8) ADA/504 Coordinator for the City has occasional talks given to Civic Clubs, radio stations and other public forums.

- 9) Review will be accomplished on policies set forth by Coordinator, staff and the Mayor.
- 10) In cases of Limited English Proficiency individuals, the city will provide interpreters or assisting personnel for special LEP needs.
- 11) To ensure compliance with Environmental Justice requirements, the City of Bedford hires consultants to fulfill all EPA or IDEM requirements.

Transition Plan

- 1) We have a sidewalk replacement plan which includes a program of encouraging citizens to replace their sidewalks wherein we will pay for the removal and concrete replacement, if they hire a contractor to do the replacement work. During the replacement, we will mandate ADA compliancy. We also have increased our policy to include new sidewalks for anyone requesting them, including new subdivision.
- 2) The City also wants to target areas of complaints and heavily used areas for replacement and possibly new ADA sidewalks.
- 3) The City requires all new structures to comply with all state and federal Laws. We also require ADA compliancy when remodeling pre-existing areas of accessibility.



NOTICE UNDER THE AMERICANS

WITH DISABILITIES ACT

In accordance with the requirements of title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ("ADA"), the City of Bedford will not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities on the basis of disability in its services, programs, or activities.

Employment: The City of Bedford does not discriminate on the basis of disability in its hiring or employment practices and complies with all regulations promulgated by the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission under title I of the ADA.

Effective Communication: The City of Bedford will generally, upon request, provide appropriate aids and services leading to effective communication for qualified persons with disabilities so they can participate equally in The City of Bedford programs, services, and activities, including qualified sign language interpreters, documents in Braille, and other ways of making information and communications accessible to people who have speech, hearing, or vision impairments.

Modifications to Policies and Procedures: The City of Bedford will make all reasonable modifications to policies and programs to ensure that people with disabilities have an equal opportunity to enjoy all of its programs, services, and activities. For example, individuals with service animals are welcomed in The City of Bedford offices, even where pets are generally prohibited.

Anyone who requires an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication, or a modification of policies or procedures to participate in a program, service, or

activity of The City of Bedford, should contact the Office of Brandon Woodward, Planning / Zoning Director and ADA Coordinator at bwoodward@bedford.in.us or TX#812-275-1631 as soon as possible but no later than 48 hours before the scheduled event. The ADA does not require the City of Bedford to take any action that would fundamentally alter the nature of its programs or services, or impose an undue financial or administrative burden.

Complaints that a program, service, or activity of City of Bedford is not accessible to persons with disabilities should be directed to Brandon Woodward, Planning / Zoning Director and ADA Coordinator at bwoodward@bedford.in.us or TX#812-275-1631.

City of Bedford will not place a surcharge on a particular individual with a disability or any group of individuals with disabilities to cover the cost of providing auxiliary aids/services or reasonable modifications of policy, such as retrieving items from locations that are open to the public but are not accessible to persons who use wheelchairs.

City Of Bedford

Grievance Procedure under

The Americans with Disabilities Act

This Grievance Procedure is established to meet the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ("ADA"). It may be used by anyone who wishes to file a complaint alleging discrimination on the basis of disability in the provision of services, activities, programs, or benefits by the City of Bedford. The City's Personnel Policy governs employment-related complaints of disability discrimination.

The complaint should be in writing and contain information about the alleged discrimination such as name, address, phone number of complainant and location, date, and description of the problem. Alternative means of filing complaints, such as personal interviews or a tape recording of the complaint will be made available for persons with disabilities upon request.

The complaint should be submitted by the grievant and/or his/her designee as soon as possible but no later than 60 calendar days after the alleged violation to:

Brandon Woodward

ADA Coordinator and Street Commissioner

1102 16th street Bedford In 47421

Within 15 calendar days after receipt of the complaint, Brandon Woodward or his designee will meet with the complainant to discuss the complaint and the possible resolutions. Within 15 calendar days of the meeting, Brandon Woodward or his designee will respond in writing, and where appropriate, in a format accessible to the complainant, such as large print, Braille, or audio tape. The response will explain the position of the City of Bedford and offer options for substantive resolution of the complaint.

If the response by Brandon Woodward or his designee does not satisfactorily resolve the issue, the complainant and/or his/her designee may appeal the decision within 15 calendar days after receipt of the response to the Mayor or her designee.

Within 15 calendar days after receipt of the appeal, the Mayor or her designee will meet with the complainant to discuss the complaint and possible resolutions. Within 15 calendar days after the meeting, the Mayor or her designee will respond in writing, and, where appropriate, in a format accessible to the complainant, with a final resolution of the complaint.

All written complaints received by Brandon Woodward or his designee, appeals to the Mayor or her designee, and responses from these two offices will be retained by the City of Bedford for at least three years.

The City of Bedford Transition Policy By:

Brandon Woodward

Planning and Zoning Director

City Of Bedford

1102 16th street

Bedford In 47421

812-275-1632

FAX 812-275-1659

E-Mail bwoodward@bedford.in.us

Mayor Samuel J. Craig

Date