City of Fort Wayne

ADA Transition Plan – 2025 Update

Greenways & Trails Chapter

Description

The City of Fort Wayne maintains 99 miles of multi-use trails and greenways in the Fort Wayne Metropolitan area. These public trails and greenways are maintained by several public agencies: City of Fort Wayne Parks & Recreation Department, City of Fort Wayne Public Works Division and City Utilities.

The City will strive to ensure that all residents and visitors are able to access the Fort Wayne trail system. The Public Works Division ensures that trails are engineered and constructed to meet current ADA and PROWAG Guidelines. The Greenways & Trails Department within the Public Works Division will promptly investigate any formal grievance filed according to the grievance procedures established by the City of Fort Wayne.

Development of Transition Plan

The Greenways & Trails Department has prepared a Transition Plan that outlines the necessary steps to be fully compliant with the requirements of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act. A self-assessment plan was developed for multi-use trails and greenways within the City’s jurisdiction. The self-assessment was completed along the following multi-use trails in 2014:

Rivergreenway

Aboite Trails

Wabash & Erie Canal Towpath Trail

Pufferbelly Trail

Yarnelle Trail

Ardmore Avenue Trail

Southtown Centre Trail

Meijer Drive Trail

Maplecrest Road Trail

Coliseum Boulevard Trail Spur

Renaissance Pointe Trail

Anthony Boulevard Trail

North Anthony Trail Spur

Cook Road Trail

Salomon Farm Loop

Dupont Road Trail

Dwenger Avenue Trail

\*\*\* The multi-use trails along State Road 1 (Dupont Road), State Road 3 (Lima Road) and State Road 14 (Illinois Road) were not included in the self-assessment, because these trails are within the Indiana Department of Transportation’s right of way.

All trails constructed since 2014 have been assessed for ADA/PROWAG compliance in the final walk-through with the contractor. If deficiencies were found, those deficiencies were immediately resolved by the contractor before final acceptance of the project by the Board of Works.

Priorities and Goals (2025 and beyond)

1. Hired a part-time seasonal worker (retired Public Works employee with knowledge of construction, maintenance, asphalt and concrete) in the spring of 2024 to proactively check the trails for maintenance and safety issues, including ADA compliance. Will hire this seasonal worker again in 2025.
2. Remove and replace non-compliant manhole covers along Dupont Road Trail in 2025.
3. Adjust any valve covers or manholes that are not flush with the trail, creating a trip hazard. Complete in 2025.
4. Continue to work with the Right of Way Department and their trip hazard elimination program to remove trip hazards that have appeared over time in the trail network due to shifting of the ground or tree roots.
5. Work with the Parks Department Engineering staff to create a plan to tackle excessive slopes on the Rivergreenway at bridges, if possible. Many of these excessive slopes may not be fixable due to the grade of the river and adjacent roadways.
6. Work with the Right of Way Department to have ramps upgraded in the next two years to include detectable warning.
7. Replace all ADA Ramps with steep cross slopes in the next 4 years.
8. Investigate how to fix ramps and Pedestrian Access Routes (PAR) with sewer grates or manhole cover issues in 2025 and fix in the following two years.
9. Continue to stress accessibility and follow ADA and PROWAG Guidelines while designing trails.
10. Check all trails constructed each year for ADA and PROWAG Compliance. If deficiencies are discovered, have contractor fix the deficiencies before acceptance of the project by the Board of Works.

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