VILLAGE OF ELIDA Americans with Disabilities Act Transition Plan: Pedestrian Facilities in the Public Rights-of-Way

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INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this Plan is to ensure that the Village of Elida creates reasonable, accessible paths of travel in the public rights-of-way for everyone, including people with disabilities. The Village of Elida has established a plan to



update the pedestrian facilities located in the public rights-of-way. Although a sidewalk network is already in place for most of the Village, improvements are required in order to bring the Village into compliance. The ADA Transition Plan identifies shortcomings and recommends corrective measures in order to achieve widespread accessibility. Improvements have been prioritized so that deficiencies with the greatest impact will be addressed before those with a lesser footprint.

LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The federal legislation known as the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), enacted on July 26, 1990, provides comprehensive civil rights protections to persons with disabilities in the areas of employment, state and local government services, and access to public accommodations, transportation, and telecommunications.

Title II specifically applies to "public entities" (state and local governments) and the programs, services, and activities they deliver. Title II, Article 8, requires public entities to take several steps designed to achieve compliance. Federal mandates require the Transition Plan shall, at a minimum include:

- 1. A list of the physical barriers in a public entity's facilities that limit the accessibility of its programs, activities, or services to individuals with disabilities.
- 2. A detailed outline of the methods to be utilized to remove these barriers and make the facilities accessible.
- 3. The schedule for taking the necessary steps to achieve compliance with Title II.
- 4. The name of the official responsible for the Plan's implementation.

Transition Plans provide a method for public entities to schedule and implement ADA required improvements to existing streets and sidewalks. Before a Transition Plan can be developed, however, an inventory of the current public road rights-of-way including curb ramps and sidewalks must first be developed.

OBSTACLES TO THE PUBLIC RIGHTS-OF-WAY

People have differing abilities: A variety of users need to access the sidewalk system. Their abilities vary in agility, balance, cognition, coordination, endurance, flexibility, hearing, problem solving, strength, vision, and pace. Pedestrians have varying needs, therefore, changing a design to enhance access for one group can create additional barriers for other individuals. The goal should be to make all sidewalks accessible to the largest possible number of universal design.

To improve the pedestrian paths within the public road rights-of-way, the Village of Elida worked with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) and Regional Planning Commission. The Village of Elida, ODOT and the Regional Planning Commission have worked to identify available programmatic federal and state funding to help underwrite the construction of sidewalks. The Planning Commission also worked with the Village to identify barriers within the public rights-of-way including curbs, sidewalks, pedestrian crossings, and parking lots. Village officials were ultimately able to address a prioritized list of improvements based on an inventory of existing land use activities, and publicly owned buildings. Field surveys/inspections and the use of GIS mapping were employed prior to the public planning to expedite informed decision making. Of critical importance were the public rights-of-way serving government offices, downtown core areas, parks, public and quasi-public buildings and residential areas. Such data constitutes the foundation of the Transition Plan.

As a result of the inventory and the public planning process, the Village of Elida has identified and assessed obstacles in the public rights-of-way. The Village adopted a proactive approach to removing barriers in the public, predicated upon public comment/complaints, and ensuring that all future construction/repair within the road rights-of-way, regardless of funding source, will in a build-out scenario, ensure compliance with ADA design standards within Village rights-of-way.

GENERAL POLICIES:

Roadway Intersections

The Village of Elida will work in good faith to have curb ramps or blended intersections constructed or upgraded to achieve ADA compliance within all capital improvement projects at roadway intersections. There may be limitations which make it technically infeasible for an intersection corner to achieve full accessibility within the scope of a project. If so, those limitations will be noted and those intersections will remain in the Transition Plan. As future projects or opportunities arise, those roadway intersection corners shall be incorporated into future work. Regardless of whether full compliance can be achieved in all cases, each intersection corner shall be made as compliant as possible in accordance with the purpose of the ADA Transition Plan.

Deficient Sidewalks

The Village of Elida will work in good faith to have sidewalks constructed or upgraded to achieve ADA compliance within all capital improvement projects. There may be limitations which make it technically infeasible for segments of sidewalks to achieve full accessibility within the scope of a project. If so, those limitations will be noted and those segments will remain in the Transition Plan. As future projects or opportunities arise, those segments shall continue to be incorporated into future work. Regardless of whether full compliance can be achieved in all cases, each sidewalk or trail shall be made as compliant as possible in accordance with the purpose of t he ADA Transition Plan.

BARRIER REMOVAL PRIORITIES

The Village of Elida based barrier removal priorities on three (3) factors: use, location, and relative accessibility within the public road rights-of-way. The Village identified Plan priorities as follows:

- 1. Rights-of-way serving government and public facilities
- 2. Rights-of-way serving commercial services and employment centers
- 3. Rights-of-way serving other land uses

Accessibility Condition

The Village worked to identify the relative accessibility of the public rights-of-way during the inventory phase, survey phase and public comment period.

Priority Ranking

In order to determine the overall priority of specific improvements to enhance accessibility within the public rights-of-way, the following matrix was used.

PRIORITY OF CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS NEEDED			
Land Use Type	Locations Serving Government Facilities	Commercial Services & Employment Centers	Other Land Uses
	1	2	3

The priority of improvements is based on identifying which of the public rights-of-ways serve a particular area/site within the Village, and the accessibility of the rights-of-way with respect to barriers. Appendix A identifies a prioritized list of projects by obstacle, location and 2019 estimated costs.

Public Comment/Complaint Process

The public comment/complaint process is fundamental and an integral part of the Transition Plan. Public complaints or requests help drive the prioritization of improvements. To file a complaint or a request regarding accessibility of a sidewalk or curb ramp, interested parties are urged to contact the ADA Coordinator in writing and describe the issue in detail, including the location. The ADA Coordinator will inspect and document the need for further possible action. The ADA Coordinator will record the formal response and reply to the complainant/requestor. All complaints or requests will be kept on file and will include the response. Appendix B contains the Village of Elida Public Comment/Complaint Form for Pedestrian Facilities in the Public Rights-of-Way.

New Construction & Alterations

In order to ensure the correct design of curb ramps, sidewalks, and crosswalks in new construction and alterations within the public rights-of-way, the Village of Elida will follow the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) design specifications (see Appendix C). Moreover, whenever there is an alteration, intersection, roadway improvement project or new construction project, any affected curb ramp, sidewalk, and/or crosswalks within the affected area will be rebuilt to such ADA design guidelines. In order to improve accessibility the Village may choose to integrate PROWAG design standards into certain

projects where feasible and reasonable. The Village will require minimum 5' sidewalk widths whenever federal MPO/ODOT/DOT monies are used in financing such improvements.

SCHEDULE

As opportunity allows, the Village of Elida will make efforts to improve the ADA Accessibility of pedestrian facilities in the public rights-of-way. At this time, the Village of Elida has budgeted \$10,000 annually for sidewalk improvements. There is a 20-year plan for streets to be scheduled for ADA compliance to include: Stonecrest PI, Buttercup Dr, Larkspur Dr, Morning Glory Dr., Spruce Dr., Sycamore St., Amaryllis St., Hummingbird St., Whippoorwill Ave, Aster St, Meadow Glen Dr, Clover Ridge Dr, Greenlawn Ave, Kiracofe Ave, Main St, Weger Ave, Beechwood Pl, Henry St, Roger St, Howard St, Baxter St, Sunnydale St, Hillcrest Dr, North St, Plum St, Johns Ave, Cherry Blossom Ct, Orchard Dr, Plum Cir, Oriole Trail, Crites PI, Wildwood Ave, Greenlawn Ave, Piquad Rd. Note that this schedule is flexible, as changes may occur such as additional funding, storms, improvements due to power and electric companies, etc. There will be times when is it technically infeasible to provide technical compliance: for examples, if clear space at the top of the ramp is obstructed by a building, or the slope the approach is so extreme as to prevent a reasonable slope for a ramp in both directions. The inventory process may not account for such situations and could show a high-priority rating when all feasible actions have been taken.

Additionally, given a program as broad and comprehensive as the Village's pedestrian network, the Village will follow the concept of "program access" under Title II of the ADA. Program access does not necessarily require an entity to make every approach of each of its existing facilities accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities, as long as the program as whole is accessible. Under this concept, the Village may choose not to install a sidewalk at some locations (or to install them as a lower priority later), as long as a reasonable path of travel is available even without a compliant sidewalk.

RESPONSIBLE INDIVIDUAL

The official responsible for the implementation of the Village of Elida's ADA Transition Plan for the pedestrian facilities in the public rights-of-way is:

Mr. Dave Metzger

Village Administrator & ADA Coordinator

Phone Number: 419-339-2811

Email Address: villageofelida@voelida.com

PUBLIC INPUT

On March 12, 2019, the Mayor of the Village of Elida presented a summary of the transition Plan in the first of two public meetings. Appendix D is the text of the Mayor's presentation with reference to public policy.

The Village of Elida provided opportunities for individuals to comment on this Transition Plan, which included:

- DRAFT and FINAL Document (Transition Plan) made available at Town Hall.
- Public Meetings held the second and last Tuesday of every month at 7:30 pm.
- Open house and presentation at a public meeting scheduled for March 26, 2019.

The Village of Elida posted information in public entities within the Village to residents of public meetings held March 12th and March 26th in 2019. The general public was encouraged to attend either of the special sessions to provide valuable input for the ADA Transition Plan. (See Appendix E) The legal notice announced the availability of the Draft ADA Transition Plan at the Town Hall with easy public access. Hardcopies of the finalized plan have been made available at the Town Hall. The Village also made the ADA Transition Plan available at the Elida Public Library and Fire Department during normal business hours. Public comments were accepted for no less than 30 days and continue to be accepted today. The form for public comments/concerns is attached as Appendix B.

Formal adoption of the ADA Transition Plan is currently scheduled to take place on April 9, 2019. Thereafter, the Transition Plan will be available at the Town Hall and by written formal request to the ADA Coordinator.

APPENDIX A: PUBLIC RIGHTS-OF-WAY INVENTORY

The sidewalk network within Village of Elida is fairly comprehensive north of State Route 309. The caveat is Orchard Acres which has intermittent sidewalks due to the number of vacant lots. Once the subdivision is fleshed out, Orchard Acres should reach ADA compliance as homeowners are required to install their piece of the sidewalk system.

The region of the Village around the Field House lacks a proper sidewalk network. There are intermittent sidewalks on North Street and Sunnydale that should be improved as the nearby school facilities have potential to draw a relatively high number of pedestrians. Hillcrest, Baxter, Howard and Beechwood are either wholly or partially located in Village limits and none of those roadways are coupled with sidewalk accessibility.

Kiracofe Avenue does not have sidewalks on either side. Sidewalk installation on both sides of the road in addition to adequate crosswalks would allow pedestrians to move safely through the area of the Village with the highest volume of motorized traffic as well as create pathways for north and south pedestrian travel within the Village.

South of Kiracofe Avenue, the Laurel Oaks Neighborhood Association has been on record as being resistant to the implementation of sidewalks in their neighborhood. Sidewalks are not required therefore Laurel Oaks has been omitted from the sidewalk network. Baty Road and Greenlawn Avenue are the only roadways south of Kiracofe identified for public rights-of-way upgrades.

The following Table highlights the proposed improvements needed to bring the Village into Federal compliance. The projects have been prioritized based on their likelihood to serve the most residents at critical locations in the Village. The improvement table is not intended to be a static list. It should progress over time as capital improvements are made and the needs of the Village evolve.

PRIORITY OF CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS NEEDED			
Land Use Type	Locations Serving Government Facilities	Commercial Services & Employment Centers	Other Land Uses
	1	2	3

RECOMMENDED IMPROVEMENTS				
Location	Deficiency	Improvement	Cost Estimate	Priority Tier
Kiracofe Ave	Kiracofe supports a traffic count of 12,124 AADT and is not integrated within the sidewalk network.	Install sidewalks on both sides of Kiracofe from Main to Pioneer. Install sidewalk on south side from Pioneer to Baty.	\$440,000	1
Pioneer Rd	There is no sidewalk west of the Elida Elementary School.	Install sidewalk on west side of Pioneer from sidewalk terminus north to Sunnydale.	\$49,500	1
Greenlawn Ave south of CF&E	There is no sidewalk on east side of Greenlawn. Sidewalk on west side is largely noncompliant and needs replaced.	Remove old sidewalk on west side and replace. Install sidewalk on east side from Aster to Kiracofe.	\$115,000	2
Hillcrest Dr	Hillcrest does not have sidewalks on either side.	Install sidewalks on both sides of Hillcrest to corp limit.	\$60,500	2
Greenlawn Ave north of Orchard	There are no sidewalks on either side of Greenlawn.	Install sidewalks on both sides of Greenlawn north to corp limit.	\$39,500	3
Beechwood Pl	There is no sidewalk on either side of Beechwood.	Install sidewalk around culde-sac.	\$54,500	3
Baxter St	Baxter does not have sidewalks on either side.	Install sidewalks on both sides of Baxter to Sunnydale. Install sidewalk on west side of Baxter to corp limit.	\$67,000	3
Howard St	Howard does not have sidewalks on either side.	Install sidewalks on both sides of Howard.	\$47,500	3
Baty Rd	Baty does not have sidewalks on either side.	Install sidewalks on both sides of Baty from Amaryllis to Elida Rd.	\$56,000	3
Sunnydale St	The north side of Sunnydale has intermittent sidewalks from Crites to Baxter.	Install sidewalks through missing gaps.	\$9,500	3
Intersections	The village is largely void of detectable warning devices outside of the area around Elida Schools.	Install detectable warning devices in appropriate locations of each sidewalk terminus.	\$1,000 per corner	3

APPENDIX B: PUBLIC COMMENT/CONCERN FOR PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES IN THE PUBLIC RIGHTS-OF-WAY

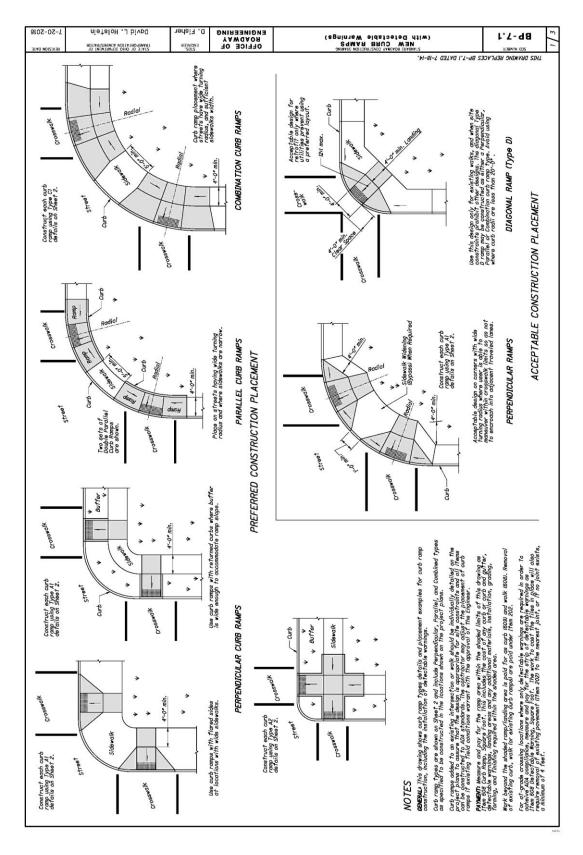
In an attempt to comply with the American with Disabilities Act, Mayor Kim Hardy and Dave Metzger, Coordinator of the Village of Elida ADA Transition Plan, are soliciting public comments and concerns regarding the ADA Transition Plan and pedestrian facilities within the public rights-of-way. Residents are encouraged to participate in the identification of obstacles and the ongoing improvement of public rights-of-ways within the Village of Elida.

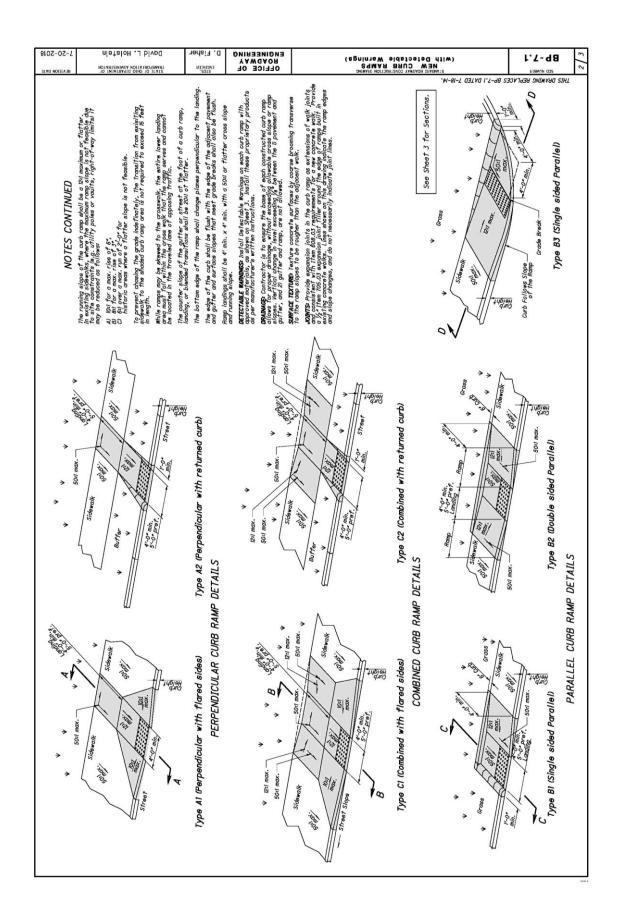
Dave Metzger can be reached for comment by telephone at 419-339-2811 or email at villageofelida@voelida.com. Grievance procedures will require the filing of this form available at the Elida Town Hall, 406 E. Main Street, Elida, Ohio 45807.

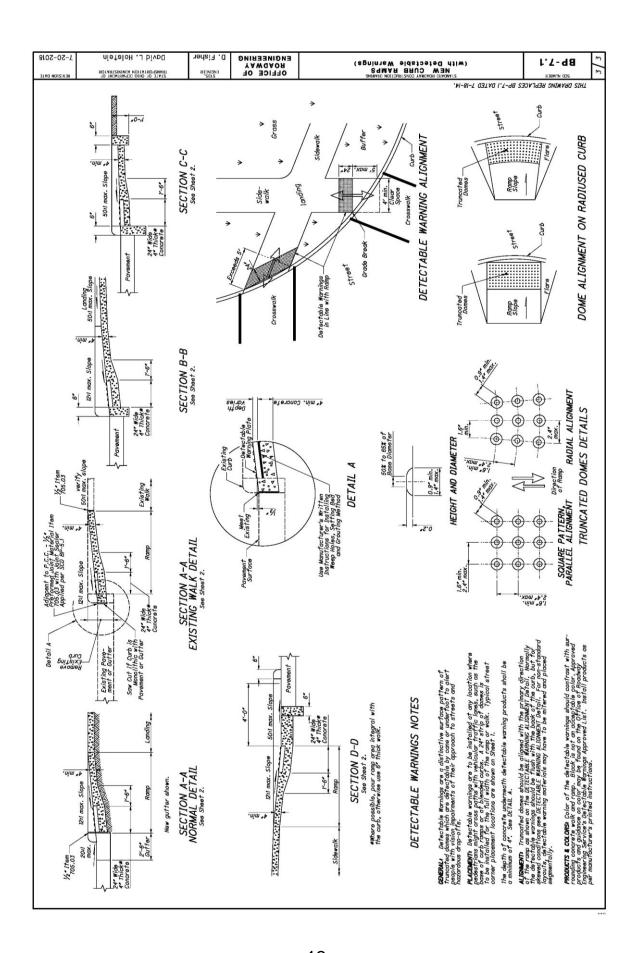
PUBLIC COMMENT/CONCERN & RESPONSE FORM (Please provide specific locations and or pictures of obstacles)

Date of Comments:	
Name of Person:	
Comments:	
Response:	

APPENDIX C: THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (ODOT) DESIGN SPECIFICATIONS







APPENDIX D:

VILLAGE OF ELIDA POLICY STATEMENT GOVERNING THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT TRANSITION PLAN & PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES IN THE PUBLIC RIGHTS-OF-WAY

Introduction:

The purpose of this Plan is to ensure that the Village of Elida creates reasonable accessible paths of travel in the public rights-of-way for everyone, including people with disabilities. The Village of Elida is making a significant and long-term commitment to improving the accessibility of pedestrian facilities. The Transition Plan will identify physical barriers and prioritize improvements that should be made throughout the Village of Elida. This Transition Plan will describe the existing policies and programs to enhance the overall pedestrian accessibility.

Legal Requirements:

The Federal legislation known as the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) enacted on July 26, 1990 provides comprehensive civil rights protections to persons with disabilities in the area of employment, state and local government services, and access to public accommodations, transportation and telecommunications.

Title II specifically applies to "public entities" (state and local governments) and the programs, services and activities they deliver. Title II, Article 8, requires public entities to take several steps designed to achieve compliance. The Village Transition Plan will, at a minimum include:

- A list of physical barriers in a public entity's facilities that limit accessibility of its programs, activities, or services to individuals with disabilities.
- A detailed outline of the methods to be utilized to remove these barriers and make the facilities accessible.
- The schedule for taking the necessary steps to achieve compliance with Title II.
- The name of the official responsible for the plan's implementation.

The Village is in an ongoing process of identifying and assessing obstacles in the public rights-of-way through the use of an Inventory Tool. Barrier removal priorities based on location land use and accessibility conditions are integrated within the inventory process. It is very important that the public be aware that their involvement in this Plan is a valuable component to Village efforts toward establishing a workable plan of compliance.

Public Complaint:

Public complaints, suggestions and comments are an integral part of the Transition Plan. Public comments may often drive the prioritization of improvements. To file a comment, concern or request, please mail the Village of Elida at 406 E. Main St, Elida, Ohio 45807 or by telephone at 419-339-2811, by email at villageofelida@voelida.com.

Public Input:

Public Comment & Response Forms are available at the Town Hall. The Village of Elida welcomes your participation and unique outlook as to how the Village can meet ADA requirements. Public involvement in the Village ADA Transition Plan is a valuable component to the Village in compiling workable plan of compliance. We continue to solicit your additions to the ADA Transition Plan.

Summation:

An inventory of the Village of Elida streets is included with this Transition Plan. The inventory reflects a prioritized list of projects necessary to complete ADA requirements. An annual appropriation to bring sidewalks into ADA compliance will work to eliminate barriers and complete the requirements. The Village will annually reassess priorities to better serve the mobility limited and work to ensure reasonable access and ADA compliance within the community.

Kim Hardy, Mayor

APPENDIX E: PUBLIC NOTICE

Please take notice that the Village of Elida is in the process of compiling an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Transition Plan. The Village of Elida invites the public to become involved in this process through written comments or attendance at Village Council meetings, held the second and last Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM at the Town Hall, located at 406 E. Main Street, Elida, Ohio 45807.

The Mayor has appointed Village Administrator, Dave Metzger, as Coordinator of the Village of Elida ADA Transition Plan for pedestrian facilities in the public rights-of-way. To file a complaint, request, or offer suggestions regarding accessibility of a sidewalk or curb ramp please contact the ADA Coordinator who will inspect and document the concern and possible action. The Coordinator will subsequently respond to the complainant/requestor within 30 days. Mr. Metzger can be reached at the by telephone at 419-339-2811, by email at villageofelida@voelida.com.