

Press Release

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City of Goldsboro Releases Draft ADA Transition Plan for Public Comment

GOLDSBORO — The City of Goldsboro today released the City’s draft ADA Transition Plan to collect public input and feedback. The draft plan, focuses on Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), which prohibits discrimination based on disability for state and local government services. A public comment period for the ADA Transition Plan will run April 22 - May 21, 2021. The City is committed to providing accessible programs, services and facilities for people with disabilities.

To ensure access to all City services and programs, the City of Goldsboro first conducted a self-evaluation assessment in 2020. The self-evaluation, completed by Milligan & Company, LLC, was conducted to determine gaps in ADA compliance, including an administrative review of City programs and services, as well as preliminary observations regarding policies and procedures. A physical assessment of 40 City sites and facilities including City Hall, Parks & Recreation locations, and other administrative buildings was completed to identify physical barriers to access. The assessment also included sidewalks and curbs ramps in the public right of way throughout the City. The physical assessment of accessibility during the self-evaluation process was determined based on ADA design standards.

The ADA Transition Plan was developed to guide the removal of barriers to accessibility throughout the City. Access issues generally fall into one of three categories:

- **Physical/architectural barriers to access** such as where a wheelchair ramp is needed or missing Braille signage.
- **Programmatic access** such as when an individual is unable to participate in a program, service or activity due to a City policy or practice that does not provide an equally effective opportunity for people with disabilities.
- **Communication access** such as when there is a need for auxiliary aids and services like a sign language interpreter, or materials in alternative formats in order to provide equal access to information and communication with programs, services or activities from the City government.

The draft plan includes potential corrective actions to remove physical barriers—like installing handrails and ramps, door adjustments, and compliant playground equipment. It also includes recommendations for updating the City’s website and adjusting procedures

if needed to provide more accessibility. The draft ADA Transition Plan is available online for review at: <https://www.goldsboronc.gov/ada/>

Recognizing that the City has limited funds and cannot immediately make all programs and facilities fully accessible, ADA corrective actions were prioritized and categorized as Priority 1-4 (with Priority 1 being the least accessible). In addition to ADA priority, facilities were prioritized by equity based upon location in low-income and minority neighborhoods, as well as by cost.

The assessment, which informed the ADA Transition Plan, was limited to departments under the direct control of the City. It did not include Human Resources (covered under Title I of the ADA), Goldsboro-Wayne Transportation Authority, Goldsboro Housing Authority, Wayne County Public Schools, or Wayne County Public Library.

The City will allow for a 30-day public review and comment period for the self-evaluation and draft ADA Transition Plan. Feedback will be accepted from April 22, 2021 to May 21, 2021. The public can review the draft plan online, then complete an ADA Transition Plan feedback form or leave their comments via voice message at 919-580-4327.

During the public review and comment period, the City will hold one virtual public information meeting on **April 29, 2021 from 6:00-7:30 PM**. Details, including login information, for the virtual public meeting, will be posted to the City of Goldsboro's website.