ADA Audio Conference Series
August 25, 2015
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  2. By Email webinars@ada-audio.org; or
  3. Call 877-232-1990 (V/TTY)

Planning Accessible Temporary Events

August 25, 2015
2:00 – 3:30 PM EST
Today’s Presenters:

Jennifer Lin Perry  Rob Gilkerson
Access Specialist   Architectural Information Specialist
Northeast ADA Center Rocky Mountain ADA Center

Moderator: Peter Berg, Technical Assistance Coordinator
Great Lakes ADA Center

Today’s Agenda

- Disability Awareness and Nondiscrimination
- Planning for Accessibility at Temporary Events
- Getting to the Event Site
- Participating in the Event
- Service and Support Facilities
- Resources

Where can I learn more about this topic?

- A Planning Guide for Making Temporary Events Accessible to People With Disabilities

- Available at: www.adata.org or you can contact your local ADA Center by calling 1-800-949-4232 (Toll Free Voice or TTY)
Disability Awareness and Nondiscrimination

- The ADA is a federal civil rights law that prohibits discrimination against people with disabilities in the areas of employment, transportation, access to private and state and local government sites and telecommunications.
- It is estimated that more than 21 percent of Americans aged 15 and over, and 50 percent of Americans 65 years and older, presently have some type of disability (Census, 2010).
- At some point in their lifetime, 70 percent of all Americans will have either a temporary or permanent disability.

Definition of Disability under the ADA

The ADA defines a person with a disability as:

- A person who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities,
- A person with a record of an impairment (even if he or she does not currently have a disability) and,
- A person who does not have a disability, but is regarded by others as having a disability.

Disability Awareness and Nondiscrimination

- The ADA states that people with disabilities must be able to obtain or enjoy "the same goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations" that are provided to other members of the public. As such, there are some general requirements in place to ensure equal opportunity for people with disabilities. Under the ADA, entities may not:
  - Discriminate on the basis of disability in areas of programs, services, or activities.
  - Ask unnecessary questions about a person's disability.
  - Deny benefits or services to people with disabilities.
  - Impose eligibility requirements that exclude or segregate individuals with disabilities.
  - Impose extra charges for people with disabilities to cover costs that are necessary to ensure nondiscriminatory treatment, such as removing barriers or providing qualified interpreters.
Other Accessibility Laws and Codes

• The Architectural Barriers Act (1968) - This Act stipulates that most buildings, other than privately-owned residential facilities, constructed by, on behalf of, or leased by the United States, or buildings financed in whole or in part by the United States, must be physically accessible for people with disabilities.

• Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act (1973) - Under this Section, no qualified individual with a disability may be discriminated against in any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.

• State and Local Codes - Many states have developed their own building codes for accessibility. Organizers need to know about both federal law and state/local codes that may apply to their events.

Types of Disabilities

Mobility Disabilities

• Wheelchair Users - Some people with severe mobility disabilities use power-driven or manually operated wheelchairs or a three- and four-wheeled cart or scooter to maneuver through their environment.

• Ambulatory Mobility Disabilities - This category includes people who walk with difficulty or who have a disability that affects gait or balance. People who use crutches, canes, walkers, braces, or artificial limbs to assist them in walking are also included in this category.

Visual Disabilities

• This category includes people with partial vision or total vision loss. Some people with a visual disability can distinguish between light and dark, sharply contrasting colors, or large print, but may not be able to read small print, negotiate dimly lit spaces, or tolerate high glare. Many people who are blind generally depend upon their other senses to perceive their environment and communicate with others, though this does not mean their other senses are much more acute. Many use a cane or have a guide animal to facilitate moving about.
Types of Disabilities

Hearing Disabilities

• People in this category use a variety of methods to compensate for their inability to hear sound. Those with partial hearing may depend on hearing aids or lip reading. Some people who are totally deaf also use speech-reading but must be able to clearly see the face of the individual speaking. Others use a standard means of communication called American Sign Language. People can learn sign language to become qualified interpreters. Some people with hearing disabilities may use service animals to alert them to sounds.

Types of Disabilities

Cognitive Disabilities and Other Hidden Disabilities

• There are many other disabling conditions which are not apparent from an individual’s outward appearance. These usually involve cognitive and/or learning abilities and may affect understanding, communication, or behavior.

• Seizure Disorders; Multiple Chemical Sensitivity, etc.

Types of Temporary Events

• Street Festivals
• Craft Fairs
• Music Events
• Sporting Events
• Home Shows
• Community Events

AT THE FAIR
Planning
At a temporary event, participants with disabilities must be able to:

• Obtain information and directions prior to the event.
• Arrive at the site in the same ways as others can (e.g. via private automobile, taxi, public transportation, event shuttles).
• Find and use accessible parking.
• Get from accessible parking to entrances.
• Obtain additional information and directions on site.

Planning (Continued)

• Move around the site as needed.
• Attend performances, participate in activities, and enter exhibits.
• Experience and enjoy activities, even if the participant's disability affects their ability to communicate.
• Select and purchase items at concessions.
• Use public toilet rooms, telephones, water fountains, shelters, first aid stations, and other common amenities.

Site Selection

http://accessibility.org/checklist.html
Modifications to a Site & Removing Barriers

- Install ramps.
- Make curb cuts in sidewalks and at entrances.
- Reposition shelves.
- Rearrange tables, chairs, vending machines, display racks, and other furniture.
- Add raised markings on elevator control buttons.
- Install flashing alarm lights.
- Widen doors; install offset hinges to widen doorways.
- Eliminate a turnstile or provide an alternative accessible path.
- Install accessible door hardware.
- Install grab bars in toilet stalls.
- Rearrange toilet partitions to increase maneuvering space.
- Insulate lavatory pipes under sinks to prevent burns.
- Install a raised toilet seat.
- Install a full-length bathroom mirror.
- Reposition the paper towel dispenser in a bathroom.
- Create designated accessible parking spaces.
- Install an accessible paper cup dispenser at an existing inaccessible water fountain.
- Remove carpeting that makes maneuvering wheelchairs difficult (i.e., high pile, low density carpeting).
- Install accessible door hardware.
- Install grab bars in toilet stalls.
- Rearrange toilet partitions to increase maneuvering space.
- Insulate lavatory pipes under sinks to prevent burns.
- Install a raised toilet seat.
- Install a full-length bathroom mirror.
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- Install an accessible paper cup dispenser at an existing inaccessible water fountain.
- Remove carpeting that makes maneuvering wheelchairs difficult (i.e., high pile, low density carpeting).

Temporary vs. Permanent Modifications

Consideration Points:

- Entities must make permanent architectural modifications to ensure program access unless this would cause an “undue burden,” i.e., if the modifications would be excessively difficult or expensive.
  - After identifying barriers, organizers can negotiate with the owners/managers of the facility to encourage them to improve access.
  - When permanent changes to a site cannot be made and the entire event or specific activities of the event cannot be relocated, organizers should consider temporary modifications.
  - Modifying Policies and Procedures

Temporary and Permanent Structures

- 201.3 Temporary and Permanent Structures. These requirements shall apply to temporary and permanent buildings and facilities.
  - Advisory 201.3 Temporary and Permanent Structures. Temporary buildings or facilities covered by these requirements include, but are not limited to, reviewing stands, temporary classrooms, bleacher areas, stages, platforms and daises, fixed furniture systems, wall systems, and exhibit areas; temporary banking facilities; and temporary health screening facilities. Structures and equipment directly associated with the actual processes of construction are not required to be accessible as permitted in 203.2.
- Source: 2010 ADA Standards
Getting to the Event Site

- Are site arrival points accessible?
- Car, Van, & Pickup Parking?
- Passenger Loading Areas?
  - Taxi?
- Public Bus Stops?
- Public Sidewalks?

Signage

- Direction or Location of:
  - Accessible parking spaces
  - Passenger drop-off points
  - Transit stops
  - Accessible entrances and gates.
- Signs should include the international symbol of accessibility.
- FYI: I wouldn't use "ADA"

Sidewalks/Accessible Routes?

- At least 36 inches wide.
- With at least 80 inches of head room (vertical clearance).
- Watch for:
  - Tripping hazards more than ¼ of an inch.
  - Heaved sidewalks, due to tree roots.
  - Transitions between loose and hard surfaces.
  - Blocked or obstructed pathways.
  - Overhead limbs or signs.
Sidewalks/Accessible Routes?

Curb Ramps

- No steeper than 1 in 12 (1 inch of rise for every 12 inches of run). 1:12 or 8.33 percent.

Temporary Curb Ramps
Barricades

- Watch for:
  - An opening at 32 inches wide through the barricade.

Parking

Watch for:
- Level parking area?
- Access aisles for each space?
- Van accessible spaces?

Level Parking Spaces?
Access aisles for each space?

Van Accessible Spaces
Wider Parking Space or Access Aisle

Warning: Van Accessible Spaces
Parking Garages – Van Parking

- Watch for:
  - 98 inch vertical clearance.
  - Vehicular route to the van accessible spaces.
  - Van accessible space.
  - Note: Van spaces can be clustered.

Parking Signage

- International Symbol of Accessibility
- Van accessible spaces: “Van Accessible.”
- 60 inches from ground to of the bottom of sign.

Creating Temporary Accessible Parking Spaces – Letter of the Law

- “201.3 Temporary and Permanent Structures. These requirements shall apply to temporary and permanent buildings and facilities.”
Creating Temporary Accessible Parking Spaces – Reality

Maintenance

Drop-off Areas
- Bus Stops
- Passenger drop-off points:
  - Taxi
  - Private vehicles
  - Shuttles
Passenger Loading Zones

- Watch For:
  - 114 inches of vertical clearance.
  - 20 feet long.
  - 60 inch wide unloading area (at the same level as the parking space).
  - Connected to an accessible route.

Bus/Transit Stops

- Watch for:
  - Accessible Route of Travel to Your Event.
- No Path?
  - Have the City create one.
  - Or provide one on, or next to your site.

Temporary Passenger Loading Zones

- Create your own:
  - 114 inches of vertical clearance.
  - 20 feet long.
  - 60 inch wide unloading area (at the same level as the parking space).
  - Connected to an accessible route.
Accessible Routes

Getting Around the Site

• Space Requirements for People who use Wheelchairs
Consideration Points:

- **Temporay Ramps**
  - Max. 3° of rise without intermediate landing
  - 3'-0" min. clear headroom
  - Slope 1" in 12" max.
  - Slope must be same from start to finish

- **Elevators**
  - Even if cab size is adequate, other details should be considered to increase accessibility.
  - If necessary, add stick-on raised numbers on elevator jambs at each floor level and raised numbers and/or Braille at control panels that lack tactile numbering to aid people with visual disabilities.

- **Accessible Doors**
  - Clear Width (32" min.)
  - Closing Speed
  - Opening Force (5 lbf max interior)
  - Vision/Side Lights
  - Compliant Hardware
  - Smooth Surface (bottom, push side)
  - Thresholds (1/2" max)
  - Maneuvering Clearance (both sides unless usable in 1 direction only)
Publicizing the Event

- Print materials are generally usable for the person who can see and read, but some people must rely on hearing, touch, pictograms and images, or other methods of getting information.
- Use a variety of publicity formats, methods, and media options to ensure that information reaches the widest possible audience.
- Local disability groups and organizations can help with publicity.

Publicity Modes & Tips for Accessibility

- **Broadcast Media** - Television can be an ideal way to publicize events since it has both audio and visual features. Television announcements that can be heard should be accompanied by on-screen text or captions that can be seen.
- **Internet-Based Communication** - Websites and social media (Facebook, Twitter, etc.) care should be taken to ensure that images or audible information is accompanied by text to make it accessible to individuals with hearing or vision disabilities.
- **Print Media** - Flyers, brochures, and newspaper or magazine advertisements should be presented in typefaces that are large, high contrast, and easy to read. This increases legibility for people with limited vision and makes it easier for everyone.

Responding to Accessibility Inquiries

- The capacity to communicate over the telephone with people who have hearing or speech disabilities is very important.
- Many people with these types of disabilities use telecommunication devices or methods, including texting, TTYs (small “teletypewriters” that connect to standard telephones and facilitate text-based communication), or Telecommunications Relay Service (TRS), which may be text-based or sign language based (Video Relay Service, or VRS).
Preparing Staff and Volunteers

Advise staff of the following:

- View an individual in terms of the whole person and not just the disability.
- Avoid being anxious or overly protective; people will let you know what they need.
- Some people will need extra time to move, speak, perform a task, or participate in an activity.
- Make sure that staff and volunteers know the location or availability of accessible features, such as accessible toilet rooms, TTYs, or ramps.

Participating in the Event

- Generally, Think INCLUSION!

Taking Part in the Event

Displays & Exhibits

- Locate display tables, cases, shelves, or panels next to an accessible route and have adequate space for a person using a wheelchair or scooter to pass behind other participants who have stopped to examine an object.
- People with visual disabilities can understand much about objects on display if they have the opportunity to touch and handle the object in a way that allows them to perceive its weight, texture, shape, etc.
- People with hearing disabilities must have access to the content of audiovisual presentations, such as slide shows and videos. Use captioning, subtitles of audio component, written script, etc...
Information and Ticketing

- If resources permit, some brochures, maps, or schedules should be available in large print for people with limited or low vision. Such literature can be enlarged on copy machines. Staff should be prepared to read literature aloud if requested by participants with visual disabilities.

Accessible Signage

- Where only some routes are accessible, include the International Symbol of Accessibility on signs for accessible routes, parking spaces, passenger loading zones, entrances, and toilet and bathing facilities.

- Display the appropriate sign at text telephones and telephones with volume controls. Use the symbol of access for hearing loss in assembly areas with assistive listening devices.

Access to Performing Areas

- Stages
- Speakers Platforms
- Microphones
Consider the Seating Layout:
- Classroom Style
- Theater Style
- Open Layout

Vendors & Concessions
Consideration Points:
- Accessible Route
- Clear Floor Space
- Elements located within accessible reach ranges
- Offer Assistance

Communication Access
- **Hearing disabilities** — Qualified interpreters, written materials, assistive listening devices & technology, closed captioning, transcription services, note-takers, video remote interpreting (VRI)

- **Visual disabilities** — Braille, audio descriptions and recordings, large print, CDs/tapes, qualified readers, physical guidance

- **Cognitive disabilities** — Readers, clear and concise language, graphic presentation, communications assistants, repetition
Eliminating Communications Barriers

Consideration Points:
- Assisted Listening Systems
- Sign Language Interpreters
- Text Display
- Availability of Scripts or Text of Performance
- Audio Descriptions
- Seating Options

Access for People with Environmental Sensitivities or Intolerances

A Few Consideration Points:
- A meeting space should be fragrance, smoke, and pesticide-free.
- It should be as free as possible of non-essential electronic and radio frequencies.
- Events should be advertised and posted as fragrance, smoke, and pesticide-free.
- Designated areas should be reserved as fluorescent and cell phone free upon request.
- Promulgate a fragrance-free, accessible meeting policy.
- The venue or conference center must be a nonsmoking, never smoking facility. Smoking should be prohibited in the building and within at least 25 feet of entrances.
- Do not use fresh flowers, including at buffet meals and in dining areas.

Toilet Facilities

- If provided, shall be accessible.
Toilet Room Doors and Vestibules

• Watch for:
  – Doors that don’t provide a 32-inch clear opening.
• Solutions:
  – Remove door, or use off-set hinge.

Toilet Room Doors and Vestibules

• Watch for:
  – Vestibules that don’t trap wheelchair users between doors.
• Solutions:
  – Remove second door, or prop open and provide privacy screen.

Toilet Room Clear Floor Space

• Watch for:
  – 5-foot diameter turning space.
  – Trashcans, interfering with maneuvering space.
Toilet Stalls

- Watch for:
  - 60 inches wide.
  - 56 inches deep (if toilet is floor mounted, then must be 59 inches deep).

36 to 48 Inch Wide Stalls

- Watch for long skinny stalls.

Design Solution

- No truly accessible toilet stalls?
  - Then combine two, to make one accessible toilet stall.
Lavatories (Sinks)

- Watch for:
  - 27 inches of knee clearance.
  - Round faucets?
    - Replace with lever handles.

Dispensers

- Generally the maximum reach range is 48 inches.
- Watch for:
  - Dispensers mounted over a counter — then it’s limited to 44 inches above the floor.

Mirrors

- Bottom Edge:
  - Above counter 40” inches max.
  - Anywhere else — 35” inches max.
**Portable Toilet Units**

- ADA Standards require that at least five percent of portable toilet units must be accessible.

**Portable Toilet Units**

- Watch for:
  - Small/long skinny units that claim to be accessible.
  - Truly accessible units will have a 5 foot turning radius.

**Portable Toilet Units**

- Watch for ramps:
  - as it makes it difficult or impossible for wheelchair users to climb the ramp and pull the stall door open at the same time.
Portable Toilet Units

- Watch for:
  - Inaccessible paths to them.
  - Or the transition between the ground surface and door threshold.

Availability of Drinking Water

- If provided:
  - Shall be accessible
- Best Practice:
  - Provide drinking water.

Drinking Fountain

- Watch for:
  - High/low fountains.
Drinking Fountains

- Fountain to high or low?
  - Provide paper cup dispensers.

Shelter

- Best Practice:
  - Provide shelter.

Resources:

- ADI National Network
  1-800-345-0200
  [Website]

- ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES
  - National Public Website on Assistive Technology
  800-548-6668 (TDD)
  Email: catea@coa.gatech.edu
  [Website]

- AbleData
  800-227-7602 (US/CA)
  703-548-2200 (TDD)
  Email: abledata@neweditions.net
  [Website]
Resources:

• National Disability Rights Network
  900 Second Street, NE, Suite 211
  Washington, DC 20002
  Phone: 202-408-7950
  Fax: 202-408-7951
  http://www.ndrn.org

• National Center for Environmental Health Strategies, Inc.
  (856) 429-3258
  marylamielle@ncehs.org

• ILRU at TIRR Memorial Hermann
  TIRR Memorial Hermann Research Center
  1333 Moursund
  Houston, TX 77030
  713.510.2025 (voice) / 713.510.9933 (TTY)

Questions?

Thank you for attending!

Please visit www.adata.org to view the publication “A Planning Guide for Making Temporary Events Accessible to People With Disabilities” for additional information.
Thank you for participating in today’s ADA-Audio Conference Session

The next scheduled session is:

“Reporting Clearly and Accurately about Disability”
September 15, 2015

Register at: www.ada-audio.org or call 877-232-1990 V/TTY