

Disability Rights of West Virginia (DRWV) is the federally mandated protection and advocacy system for people with disabilities in West Virginia. One of DRWV's grants is Protection and Advocacy for Voting Access (PAVA). The PAVA grant program allows DRWV to ensure that individuals with disabilities can access full participation in the election process.

Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires state and local governments (public entities) to ensure that people with disabilities have a full and equal opportunity to vote. The ADA's provisions apply to all aspects of voting, including polling places. People with disabilities must have the opportunity to be full participants in an integrated civic event.

On February 25, 2021, we completed exterior accessibility monitoring of all precincts in Tyler County. The following ADA codes have been referenced below.

**206.2.1** Site Arrival Points. At least one accessible route shall be provided within the site from accessible parking spaces and accessible passenger loading zones; public streets and sidewalks; and public transportation stops to the accessible building or facility entrance they serve.

**216.6** Where not all entrances comply with 404 (Doors, Doorways, and Gates), entrances complying with 404 shall be identified by the International Symbol of Accessibility complying with 703.7.2.1. Directional signs complying with 703.5 that indicate the location of the nearest entrance complying with 404 shall be provided at entrances that do not comply with 404.

**309.4** Operable parts shall be operable with one hand and shall not require tight grasping, pinching, or twisting of the wrist. The force required to activate operable parts shall be 5 pounds (22.2 N) maximum.

**502.2** Vehicle Spaces. Car parking spaces shall be 96 inches (2440 mm) wide minimum and van parking spaces shall be 132 inches (3350 mm) wide minimum, shall be marked to define the width, and shall have an adjacent access aisle complying with 502.3. EXCEPTION: Van parking spaces shall be permitted to be 96 inches (2440 mm) wide minimum where the access aisle is 96 inches (2440 mm) wide minimum.

**502.6** Identification. Parking space identification signs shall include the International Symbol of Accessibility complying with 703.7.2.1. Signs identifying van parking spaces shall contain the designation "van accessible." Signs shall be 60 inches (1525 mm) minimum above the finish floor or ground surface measured to the bottom of the sign.

The **2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Designs** referenced in this report can be found online at:

[https://www.ada.gov/regs2010/2010ADAStandards/2010ADAStandards\\_prt.pdf](https://www.ada.gov/regs2010/2010ADAStandards/2010ADAStandards_prt.pdf)

Before further review, please take time to browse the Standards to gain a better understanding of the issues addressed. The tables on the following pages list the ADA Standards and ADA Title II regulations, if applicable, for each area we monitored, the issues noted at each site, if any, and suggestions for meeting ADA compliance on election days.

<b>Tyler County Board of Education</b>	
<b>Issue(s)</b>	Large slope off of walkway that needs a handrail.
<b>2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements</b>	<p><b>303.4</b> Changes in level greater than ½ inch (13 mm) high shall be ramped and shall comply with 405 or 406.</p> <p><b>403.3</b> An accessible route has running slope no greater than 1:20 (5%)</p> <p><b>405.8 Handrails.</b> Ramp runs with a rise greater than 6 inches (150 mm) shall have handrails complying with 505.</p>
<b>Suggestions for ADA Compliance</b>	Add ADA compliant handrail.

<b>Boreman School</b>	
<b>Issue(s)</b>	No marked accessible parking or signage.
<b>2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements</b>	<p><b>208.2 Minimum Number.</b> Parking spaces complying with 502 shall be provided in accordance with Table 208.2 except as required by 208.2.1, 208.2.2, and 208.2.3. Where more than one parking facility is provided on a site, the number of accessible spaces provided on the site shall be calculated according to the number of spaces required for each parking facility.</p> <p><b>208.2.4 Van Parking Spaces.</b> For every six or fraction of six parking spaces required by 208.2 to comply with 502, at least one shall be a van parking space complying with 502.</p> <p><b>502.6 Identification.</b> Parking space identification signs shall include the International Symbol of Accessibility complying with 703.7.2.1. Signs identifying van parking spaces shall contain the designation “van accessible.” Signs shall be 60 inches minimum above the finish floor or ground surface measured to the bottom of the sign.</p>
<b>Suggestions for ADA Compliance</b>	Install accessible parking signage to the required height that complies with the ADA regulation.

<b>Friendly Community Building</b>	
<b>Issue(s)</b>	Parking lot is not paved. Door hardware is not accessible.

<p><b>2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements</b></p>	<p><b>206.2.2 Within a Site.</b> At least one accessible route shall connect accessible buildings, accessible facilities, accessible elements, and accessible spaces that are on the same site.</p> <p><b>208.2 Minimum Number.</b> Parking spaces complying with 502 shall be provided in accordance with Table 208.2 except as required by 208.2.1, 208.2.2, and 208.2.3. Where more than one parking facility is provided on a site, the number of accessible spaces provided on the site shall be calculated according to the number of spaces required for each parking facility.</p> <p><b>208.2.4 Van Parking Spaces.</b> For every six or fraction of six parking spaces required by 208.2 to comply with 502, at least one shall be a van parking space complying with 502.</p> <p><b>302.1</b> Floor and ground surfaces shall be stable, firm, and slip resistant and shall comply with 302.</p>
<p><b>Suggestions for ADA Compliance</b></p>	<p>Replace the inaccessible knob with lever, loop, or push hardware. Pave the parking lot.</p>

<p><b>Middlebourne Fire Hall</b></p>	
<p><b>Issue(s)</b></p>	<p>Door hardware is not accessible.</p>
<p><b>2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements</b></p>	<p><b>404.2.7</b> Door hardware is operable with one hand and does not require tight grasping, pinching, or twisting of the wrist.</p>
<p><b>Suggestions for ADA Compliance</b></p>	<p>Replace the inaccessible knob with lever, loop, or push hardware.</p>

<p><b>Paden City Health Department</b></p>	
<p><b>Issue(s)</b></p>	<p>Handrail extension needed. Ramp is too steep.</p>
<p><b>2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements</b></p>	<p><b>206.2.2 Within a Site.</b> At least one accessible route shall connect accessible buildings, accessible facilities, accessible elements, and accessible spaces that are on the same site.</p> <p><b>403.3</b> An accessible route has running slope no greater than 1:20 (5%)</p> <p><b>505.10.1</b> Top and Bottom Extension at Ramps. Ramp handrails shall extend horizontally above the landing for 12 inches (305 mm) minimum beyond the top and bottom of ramp runs. Extensions shall return to a wall, guard, or the landing surface, or shall be continuous to the handrail of an adjacent ramp run.</p>

	<b>502.6 Identification.</b> Parking space identification signs shall include the International Symbol of Accessibility complying with 703.7.2.1. Signs identifying van parking spaces shall contain the designation “van accessible.” Signs shall be 60 inches minimum above the finish floor or ground surface measured to the bottom of the sign.
<b>Suggestions for ADA Compliance</b>	Regrade ramp to enter the building. Install handrail extensions. Remount existing signage to the required height that complies with the ADA regulation.

<b>Sistersville Church of Christ</b>	
<b>Issue(s)</b>	No ramp extensions. Door hardware is not accessible. No marked accessible parking places.
<b>2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements</b>	<p><b>208.2 Minimum Number.</b> Parking spaces complying with 502 shall be provided in accordance with Table 208.2 except as required by 208.2.1, 208.2.2, and 208.2.3. Where more than one parking facility is provided on a site, the number of accessible spaces provided on the site shall be calculated according to the number of spaces required for each parking facility.</p> <p><b>208.2.4 Van Parking Spaces.</b> For every six or fraction of six parking spaces required by 208.2 to comply with 502, at least one shall be a van parking space complying with 502.</p> <p><b>502.6 Identification.</b> Parking space identification signs shall include the International Symbol of Accessibility complying with 703.7.2.1. Signs identifying van parking spaces shall contain the designation “van accessible.” Signs shall be 60 inches minimum above the finish floor or ground surface measured to the bottom of the sign.</p> <p><b>505.10.1 Top and Bottom Extension at Ramps.</b> Ramp handrails shall extend horizontally above the landing for 12 inches (305 mm) minimum beyond the top and bottom of ramp runs. Extensions shall return to a wall, guard, or the landing surface, or shall be continuous to the handrail of an adjacent ramp run.</p> <p><b>309.4 Operable parts</b> shall be operable with one hand and shall not require tight grasping, pinching, or twisting of the wrist. The force required to activate operable parts shall be 5 pounds (22.2 N) maximum.</p>
<b>Suggestions for ADA Compliance</b>	Replace the inaccessible knob with lever, loop, or push hardware. Add handrail extensions.

<b>Sistersville Methodist Church</b>	
<b>Issue(s)</b>	Curb has a lip to get onto the sidewalk.

<b>2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements</b>	<p><b>303.4</b> Changes in level greater than ½ inch (13 mm) high shall be ramped and shall comply with 405 or 406.</p> <p><b>302.1</b> Floor and ground surfaces shall be stable, firm, and slip resistant and shall comply with 302.</p>
<b>Suggestions for ADA Compliance</b>	Add curb cutout ramp or use ADA accessible mat.

<b>Tyler County Courthouse</b>	
<b>Issue(s)</b>	Large patch of broken pavement on accessible entrance route. No curb cutout around accessible parking.
<b>2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements</b>	<p><b>206.2.1 Site Arrival Points.</b> At least one accessible route shall be provided within the site from accessible parking spaces and accessible passenger loading zones; public streets and sidewalks; and public transportation stops to the accessible building or facility entrance they serve.</p> <p><b>302.1</b> Floor and ground surfaces shall be stable, firm, and slip resistant and shall comply with 302.</p> <p><b>208.3.1 General.</b> Parking spaces complying with 502 that serve a particular building or facility shall be located on the shortest accessible route from parking to an entrance complying with 206.4. Where parking serves more than one accessible entrance, parking spaces complying with 502 shall be dispersed and located on the shortest accessible route to the accessible entrances. In parking facilities that do not serve a particular building or facility, parking spaces complying with 502 shall be located on the shortest accessible route to an accessible pedestrian entrance of the parking facility.</p>
<b>Suggestions for ADA Compliance</b>	Patch broken pavement on sidewalk. Parking area needs to be moved to the shortest accessible entrance.

<b>Tyler County Consolidated High School</b>	
<b>Issue(s)</b>	Curb cutout ramp is too steep.
<b>2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements</b>	<p><b>206.2.2 Within a Site.</b> At least one accessible route shall connect accessible buildings, accessible facilities, accessible elements, and accessible spaces that are on the same site.</p> <p><b>403.3</b> An accessible route has running slope no greater than 1:20 (5%)</p>

<b>Suggestions for ADA Compliance</b>	Regrade curb ramp.
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<b>Wick Precinct</b>	
<b>Issue(s)</b>	No paved parking area or sidewalk. No marked accessible parking or signage. Entrance ramp is too steep.
<b>2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements</b>	<p><b>206.2.2 Within a Site.</b> At least one accessible route shall connect accessible buildings, accessible facilities, accessible elements, and accessible spaces that are on the same site.</p> <p><b>206.2.1 Site Arrival Points.</b> At least one accessible route shall be provided within the site from accessible parking spaces and accessible passenger loading zones; public streets and sidewalks; and public transportation stops to the accessible building or facility entrance they serve.</p> <p><b>208.2 Minimum Number.</b> Parking spaces complying with 502 shall be provided in accordance with Table 208.2 except as required by 208.2.1, 208.2.2, and 208.2.3. Where more than one parking facility is provided on a site, the number of accessible spaces provided on the site shall be calculated according to the number of spaces required for each parking facility.</p> <p><b>502.6 Identification.</b> Parking space identification signs shall include the International Symbol of Accessibility complying with 703.7.2.1. Signs identifying van parking spaces shall contain the designation “van accessible.” Signs shall be 60 inches minimum above the finish floor or ground surface measured to the bottom of the sign.</p> <p><b>208.2.4 Van Parking Spaces.</b> For every six or fraction of six parking spaces required by 208.2 to comply with 502, at least one shall be a van parking space complying with 502.</p> <p><b>403.3</b> An accessible route has running slope no greater than 1:20 (5%)</p>
<b>Suggestions for ADA Compliance</b>	Pave parking lot and add a sidewalk to access ramp. Add appropriate number of accessible parking spots as well as van parking spaces. Regrade the ramp to access entrance.

Several temporary solutions have been offered for making polling sites in Tyler County accessible, and many of these solutions can easily be found online or at your local hardware store. An additional resource is West Virginia University’s Center for Excellence in Disabilities WVATS (West Virginia Assistive Technology System) program. This program has portable ramps to loan for free, although pick-up and drop-off of the ramps are required. Enclosed is a brochure with information for contacting WVATS.

The **2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Designs** referenced in this report can be found online at:

[https://www.ada.gov/regs2010/2010ADASTandards/2010ADASTandards\\_prt.pdf](https://www.ada.gov/regs2010/2010ADASTandards/2010ADASTandards_prt.pdf)

Four other valuable resources have been included for your reference:

- ADA Checklist for Polling Places <https://www.ada.gov/votingck.htm>
- The Americans with Disabilities Act and Other Federal Laws Protecting the Rights of Voters with Disabilities  
[https://www.ada.gov/ada\\_voting/ada\\_voting\\_ta.htm](https://www.ada.gov/ada_voting/ada_voting_ta.htm)
- Solutions for Five Common ADA Access Problems at Polling Places  
[https://www.ada.gov/ada\\_voting/voting\\_solutions\\_ta/polling\\_place\\_solutions.htm](https://www.ada.gov/ada_voting/voting_solutions_ta/polling_place_solutions.htm)
- ADA Quick Tips Tax Incentives <https://adata.org/factsheet/quicktips-tax>

The ADA requires that public entities ensure that people with disabilities can access and use all voting facilities. Because a mix of public and private facilities are used as polling places, public entities may ensure Election Day accessibility of a polling place by using low-cost, temporary measures, such as portable ramps or door stops, rather than making permanent modifications to a building. If temporary measures will not fix a barrier, and public entities are unable to make a permanent modification to fix the barrier, then the public entity must look for an alternative, accessible polling place.