

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 Disability 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 August 21-22, 2018, DRWV completed exterior accessibility monitoring of all 15 polling sites in Barbour County. The exteriors of 7 of these sites are easily made temporarily accessible on Election Day by modifying the polling site entrance or route, designating accessible parking, and/or hanging appropriate signage. There are 2 other sites that would require more extensive modifications to be made accessible and moving these precincts to a different location may be the easier option:

- **Bushy Fork Community Building**
- **Century-UMWA Building**

The tables on the following pages list the ADA standards, if applicable, for each area we monitored, the issues noted at each site, if any, and suggestions for meeting ADA compliance on election days.

Table of Contents

Arden Community Center:..... 6

Barbour County Courthouse: 6

Barbour County Fairgrounds:..... 6

Issue 1 6

- 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements 7
- Suggestions for ADA Compliance 7
- Issue 2 8
- 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements 8
- Suggestions for ADA Compliance 8
- Belington Elementary: 8
- Belington Fire Department: 8
- Issue 9
- 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements 9
- Suggestions for ADA Compliance 9
- Brushy Fork Community Building: 10
- Issue 1 10
- 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements 10
- Suggestions for ADA Compliance 10
- Issue 2 10
- 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements 10
- Suggestions for ADA Compliance 10
- Issue 3 11
- 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements 11
- Suggestions for ADA Compliance 11
- Issue 4 11
- 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements 11
- Suggestions for ADA Compliance 11
- Issue 5 12
- 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements 12
- Suggestions for ADA Compliance 12
- Century UMWA Building: 12
- Issue 1 13

2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	13
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	13
Issue 3	14
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	14
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	14
Issue 4	14
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	14
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	14
Issue 5	15
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	15
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	15
Galloway Senior Center:	15
Issue 1	16
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	16
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	16
Issue 2	17
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	17
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	17
Issue 3	17
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	17
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	17
Issue 4	18
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	18
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	18
Issue 5	19
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	19
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	19
Junior Elementary:	19

Kasson Elementary:	19
Philippi Barbour High School:	19
Issue 1	20
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	20
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	20
Issue 2	21
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	21
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	21
Philippi Elementary:.....	21
Issue	22
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	22
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	22
Philippi Middle:	23
Tacy Community Building:	23
Issue	23
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	23
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	23
Union Community Building:.....	23
Issue 1	24
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	24
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	24
Issue 2	25
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	25
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	25
Issue 3	25
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	25
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	25
Issue 4	26

2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements 26
Suggestions for ADA Compliance 26

Arden Community Center: No exterior issues. Per Clerk, voters enter main, front doors.

Barbour County Courthouse: No exterior issues. Per Clerk, voters enter main, front doors or side door.

Barbour County Fairgrounds: 2 issues. Per Clerk, voters enter the front door of the metal building.

Issue 1

No designated parking.

There are no parking spaces designated for accessibility.

<p>2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements</p>	<p>502.1 Car and van parking spaces shall comply with 502. Where parking spaces are marked with lines, width measurements of parking spaces and access aisles shall be made from the centerline of the markings.</p> <p>EXCEPTION: Where parking spaces or access aisles are not adjacent to another parking space or access aisle, measurements shall be permitted to include the full width of the line defining the parking space or access aisle.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>If more than 25 parking spaces are provided to voters, see 208.2 for the number of accessible parking spaces required.</p>
<p>Suggestions for ADA Compliance</p>	<p>Use accessible signage to designate a parking space on Election Day. If only one space is designated, it must be a van accessible space with aisle.</p>

Issue 2	Door hardware is inaccessible. Front door is inaccessible due to knob handle that requires twisting of the wrist.
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	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. 404.2.7 Handles, pulls, latches, locks, and other operable parts on doors and gates shall comply with 309.4. Operable parts of such hardware shall be 34 inches (865 mm) minimum and 48 inches (1220 mm) maximum above the finish floor or ground. Where sliding doors are in the fully open position, operating hardware shall be exposed and usable from both sides.
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	Have the door propped open during voting; use a temporary doorbell or ballot call alert system; use a door knob gripper with levers; or have poll worker stationed at the door.

Belington Elementary: No exterior issues. Per Clerk, voters main, front doors.

Belington Fire Department: 1 issue. Per Clerk, voters enter the door on the left side of the building behind the fire house.

Issue	<p>No designated parking. There are no parking spaces designated for accessibility.</p>
<p>2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements</p>	<p>502.1 Car and van parking spaces shall comply with 502. Where parking spaces are marked with lines, width measurements of parking spaces and access aisles shall be made from the centerline of the markings.</p> <p>EXCEPTION: Where parking spaces or access aisles are not adjacent to another parking space or access aisle, measurements shall be permitted to include the full width of the line defining the parking space or access aisle.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>If more than 25 parking spaces are provided to voters, see 208.2 for the number of accessible parking spaces required.</p>
<p>Suggestions for ADA Compliance</p>	<p>Use accessible signage to designate a parking space on Election Day. If only one space is designated, it must be a van accessible space with aisle.</p>

Brushy Fork Community Building: 5 issues. Per Clerk, voters enter the door at the left-front of the building.	
Issue 1	Parking is on an unstable surface. Parking area is uneven gravel and grass.
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	302.1 Floor and ground surfaces shall be stable, firm, and slip resistant and shall comply with 302. 502.4 Parking spaces and access aisles serving them shall comply with 302. Access aisles shall be at the same level as the parking spaces they serve. Changes in level are not permitted.
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	A core-gravel system, pavers, or other material ½” thick or less could be used to create a stable parking surface.
Issue 2	Route to voter entry is unstable. The route to the voter entry is made of grass and loose gravel.
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	302.1 Floor and ground surfaces shall be stable, firm, and slip resistant and shall comply with 302.
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	Material ½” thick or less, such as plywood or blacktop, could be used to create a stable surface from parking route to ramp.

Issue 3	Route to voter entry is uneven. From the grass/gravel surface to the ramp entrance there is 1" to 2½" rise.
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	303.4 Changes in level greater than ½ inch (13 mm) high shall be ramped and shall comply with 405 or 406.
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	If a stable route surface is created, it could also accommodate this height rise as well. Otherwise, a curb ramp could be used to make this area accessible as long as it is affixed to a stable surface.
Issue 4	Threshold rise is too high. Threshold at voter entry has a 3" rise.
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	404.2.5 Thresholds, if provided at doorways, shall be ½ inch (13 mm) high maximum. Raised thresholds and changes in level at doorways shall comply with 302 and 303.
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	An angled entry mat/threshold mat could be used to make entry accessible.

Issue 5	Door hardware is inaccessible. Door is inaccessible due to a knob handle that requires twisting of the wrist.
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	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. 404.2.7 Handles, pulls, latches, locks, and other operable parts on doors and gates shall comply with 309.4. Operable parts of such hardware shall be 34 inches (865 mm) minimum and 48 inches (1220 mm) maximum above the finish floor or ground. Where sliding doors are in the fully open position, operating hardware shall be exposed and usable from both sides.
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	Have the door propped open during voting; use a temporary doorbell or ballot call alert system; use a door knob gripper with levers; or have poll worker stationed at the door.

Century UMWA Building: 5 issues. Per Clerk, voters enter on the left side of the building. It would be easier to move this precinct to the Volga/Century Community Center.

Issue 1	No designated parking. There are no parking spaces designated for accessibility.
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	<p>502.1 Car and van parking spaces shall comply with 502. Where parking spaces are marked with lines, width measurements of parking spaces and access aisles shall be made from the centerline of the markings.</p> <p>EXCEPTION: Where parking spaces or access aisles are not adjacent to another parking space or access aisle, measurements shall be permitted to include the full width of the line defining the parking space or access aisle.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>If more than 25 parking spaces are provided to voters, see 208.2 for the number of accessible parking spaces required.</p>
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	Use accessible signage to designate a parking space on Election Day. If only one space is designated, it must be a van accessible space with aisle.
Issue 2	Parking is on an unstable surface. Parking area is uneven gravel and grass.

2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	<p>302.1 Floor and ground surfaces shall be stable, firm, and slip resistant and shall comply with 302.</p> <p>502.4 Parking spaces and access aisles serving them shall comply with 302. Access aisles shall be at the same level as the parking spaces they serve. Changes in level are not permitted.</p>
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	A core-gravel system, pavers, or other material ½” thick or less could be used to create a stable surface from parking to entry.
Issue 3	<p>Route to voter entry is unstable.</p> <p>The route is made of uneven grass and gravel from the parking area to the ramp entrance.</p>
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	<p>302.1 Floor and ground surfaces shall be stable, firm, and slip resistant and shall comply with 302.</p>
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	A core-gravel system, pavers, or other material ½” thick or less could be used to create a stable surface from route to entrance.
Issue 4	<p>Ramp is too steep.</p> <p>The slope of the ramp that leads to the voter entry has a grade of 10.3% to 11.9%.</p>
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	<p>405.2 Ramp runs shall have a running slope not steeper than 1:12 (8.3%).</p>
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	Build or purchase a ramp with slope below 8.3% that connects and is level with the stoop.

Issue 5	Door hardware is inaccessible. Voter door is inaccessible due to a knob handle that requires twisting of the wrist.
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	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. 404.2.7 Handles, pulls, latches, locks, and other operable parts on doors and gates shall comply with 309.4. Operable parts of such hardware shall be 34 inches (865 mm) minimum and 48 inches (1220 mm) maximum above the finish floor or ground. Where sliding doors are in the fully open position, operating hardware shall be exposed and usable from both sides.
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	Have the door propped open during voting; use a temporary doorbell or ballot call alert system; use a door knob gripper with levers; or have poll worker stationed at the door.

Galloway Senior Center: 5 issues. Per Clerk, voters enter the back door.

Issue 1	<p>No designated parking. There are no parking spaces designated for accessibility.</p>
<p>2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements</p>	<p>502.1 Car and van parking spaces shall comply with 502. Where parking spaces are marked with lines, width measurements of parking spaces and access aisles shall be made from the centerline of the markings.</p> <p>EXCEPTION: Where parking spaces or access aisles are not adjacent to another parking space or access aisle, measurements shall be permitted to include the full width of the line defining the parking space or access aisle.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>If more than 25 parking spaces are provided to voters, see 208.2 for the number of accessible parking spaces required.</p>
<p>Suggestions for ADA Compliance</p>	<p>Use accessible signage to designate a parking space on Election Day. If only one space is designated, it must be a van accessible space with aisle.</p>

Issue 2	Parking is on an unstable surface. Parking area is uneven gravel and grass.
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	302.1 Floor and ground surfaces shall be stable, firm, and slip resistant and shall comply with 302. 502.4 Parking spaces and access aisles serving them shall comply with 302. Access aisles shall be at the same level as the parking spaces they serve. Changes in level are not permitted.
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	A core-gravel system, pavers, or other material ½” thick or less could be used to create a stable surface from route to entrance.
Issue 3	Route to voter entry is unstable. From the parking area to the ramp landing, the route is made of grass and gravel.
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	302.1 Floor and ground surfaces shall be stable, firm, and slip resistant and shall comply with 302.
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	A core-gravel system, pavers, or other material ½” thick or less could be used to create a stable surface from route to entrance.

Issue 4	Ramp is too steep. The ramp leading to the voter door has a slope of 10.1%.
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	405.2 Ramp runs shall have a running slope not steeper than 1:12 (8.3%).
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	Build or purchase a ramp with a slope below 8.3%.

<p>Issue 5</p>	<p>Threshold rise is too high. The threshold at the voter door has a 4” rise.</p>																																				
<p>2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements</p>	<p>404.2.5 Thresholds, if provided at doorways, shall be ½ inch (13 mm) high maximum. Raised thresholds and changes in level at doorways shall comply with 302 and 303.</p>																																				
<p>Suggestions for ADA Compliance</p>	<p>An angled entry mat/threshold mat may make this entry accessible, however, it cannot extend too far into the landing space at this door. Maneuvering space specifications are as follows:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2">Type of Use</th> <th colspan="2">Minimum Maneuvering Clearance</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Approach Direction</th> <th>Door or Gate Side</th> <th>Perpendicular to Doorway</th> <th>Parallel to Doorway (beyond latch side unless noted)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>From front</td> <td>Pull</td> <td>60 inches (1525 mm)</td> <td>18 inches (455 mm)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>From front</td> <td>Push</td> <td>48 inches (1220 mm)</td> <td>0 inches (0 mm)¹</td> </tr> <tr> <td>From hinge side</td> <td>Pull</td> <td>60 inches (1525 mm)</td> <td>36 inches (915 mm)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>From hinge side</td> <td>Pull</td> <td>54 inches (1370 mm)</td> <td>42 inches (1065 mm)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>From hinge side</td> <td>Push</td> <td>42 inches (1065 mm)²</td> <td>22 inches (560 mm)³</td> </tr> <tr> <td>From latch side</td> <td>Pull</td> <td>48 inches (1220 mm)⁴</td> <td>24 inches (610 mm)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>From latch side</td> <td>Push</td> <td>42 inches (1065 mm)⁴</td> <td>24 inches (610 mm)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>1. Add 12 inches (305 mm) if closer and latch are provided. 2. Add 6 inches (150 mm) if closer and latch are provided. 3. Beyond hinge side. 4. Add 6 inches (150 mm) if closer is provided.</p>	Type of Use		Minimum Maneuvering Clearance		Approach Direction	Door or Gate Side	Perpendicular to Doorway	Parallel to Doorway (beyond latch side unless noted)	From front	Pull	60 inches (1525 mm)	18 inches (455 mm)	From front	Push	48 inches (1220 mm)	0 inches (0 mm) ¹	From hinge side	Pull	60 inches (1525 mm)	36 inches (915 mm)	From hinge side	Pull	54 inches (1370 mm)	42 inches (1065 mm)	From hinge side	Push	42 inches (1065 mm) ²	22 inches (560 mm) ³	From latch side	Pull	48 inches (1220 mm) ⁴	24 inches (610 mm)	From latch side	Push	42 inches (1065 mm) ⁴	24 inches (610 mm)
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Junior Elementary: No exterior issues. Per secretary, voters enter the main, front door.

Kasson Elementary: No exterior issues. Per secretary, voters enter the main, front door.

Philippi Barbour High School: 3 issues. Per Clerk, voters enter door 2 on the right side of the building.

Issue 1	<p>Route to voter entry is unstable. Between the accessible parking area and the curb there is a landscaped island with a cut-through. The cut-through is covered with loose gravel.</p>
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	<p>302.1 Floor and ground surfaces shall be stable, firm, and slip resistant and shall comply with 302. Advisory 302.1 General. A stable surface is one that remains unchanged by contaminants or applied force, so that when the contaminant or force is removed, the surface returns to its original condition. A firm surface resists deformation by either indentations or particles moving on its surface. A slip-resistant surface provides sufficient frictional counterforce to the forces exerted in walking to permit safe ambulation.</p>
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	<p>Be sure that all loose gravel is swept off the pathway.</p>

<p>Issue 2</p>	<p>Route to voter entry is uneven and inaccessible. At the base of the curb ramp there is a pothole that is approximately 3 'x 22" and 1/2" deep. There are also substantial cracks, 5"-6" wide, on the route from the curb to the voter doors.</p>
<p>2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements</p>	<p>302.1 General. Floor and ground surfaces shall be stable, firm, and slip resistant and shall comply with 302.</p> <p>Advisory 302.1 General. A stable surface is one that remains unchanged by contaminants or applied force, so that when the contaminant or force is removed, the surface returns to its original condition. A firm surface resists deformation by either indentations or particles moving on its surface. A slip-resistant surface provides sufficient frictional counterforce to the forces exerted in walking to permit safe ambulation.</p> <p>303.4 Changes in level greater than 1/2 inch (13 mm) high shall be ramped and shall comply with 405 or 406.</p>
<p>Suggestions for ADA Compliance</p>	<p>Pothole and cracks need to be repaired with the surface being made stable, smooth, and even with surrounding surfaces.</p> <p>As a temporary fix, stable material 1/2" thick or less could be used to cover the pothole and cracks could be covered with 1/2" or less thick, stable mats.</p>

Philippi Elementary: 1 issue. Per secretary, voters enter the main, front door.

Issue	<p>No designated parking. There are no parking spaces designated for accessibility.</p>
<p>2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements</p>	<p>502.1 Car and van parking spaces shall comply with 502. Where parking spaces are marked with lines, width measurements of parking spaces and access aisles shall be made from the centerline of the markings.</p> <p>EXCEPTION: Where parking spaces or access aisles are not adjacent to another parking space or access aisle, measurements shall be permitted to include the full width of the line defining the parking space or access aisle.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>If more than 25 parking spaces are provided to voters, see 208.2 for the number of accessible parking spaces required.</p>
<p>Suggestions for ADA Compliance</p>	<p>Use accessible signage to designate a parking space on Election Day on the well-paved area near the front of the building; most of the parking lot is in need of repair. If only one space is designated, it must be a van accessible space with aisle.</p>

Philippi Middle: No exterior issues. Per secretary, voters enter the main, front door.

Tacy Community Building: 1 issue. Per Clerk, voters enter the main, front door.	
Issue	Ramp is too steep. The first 42" portion of the ramp is too steep with a slope grade of 12.7%.
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	405.2 Ramp runs shall have a running slope not steeper than 1:12 (8.3%).
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	There is not an easy fix for this concrete ramp. Reconstructing the first half of the ramp could make the ramp ADA compliant. The first 8' of the ramp will need to be removed, and the concrete re-poured to create an incline with a max slope of 8.3%.

Union Community Building: 1 issue. Per Clerk, voters enter double-doors on the front of the building.

Issue 1	<p>No designated parking. There are no parking spaces designated for accessibility.</p>
<p>2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements</p>	<p>502.1 Car and van parking spaces shall comply with 502. Where parking spaces are marked with lines, width measurements of parking spaces and access aisles shall be made from the centerline of the markings.</p> <p>EXCEPTION: Where parking spaces or access aisles are not adjacent to another parking space or access aisle, measurements shall be permitted to include the full width of the line defining the parking space or access aisle.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>If more than 25 parking spaces are provided to voters, see 208.2 for the number of accessible parking spaces required.</p>
<p>Suggestions for ADA Compliance</p>	<p>Use accessible signage to designate a parking space on Election Day. If only one space is designated, it must be a van accessible space with aisle.</p>

Issue 2	Parking is on an unstable surface. Parking area is uneven gravel and grass.
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	302.1 Floor and ground surfaces shall be stable, firm, and slip resistant and shall comply with 302. 502.4 Parking spaces and access aisles serving them shall comply with 302. Access aisles shall be at the same level as the parking spaces they serve. Changes in level are not permitted.
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	A core-gravel system, pavers, or other material ½” thick or less could be used to create a stable surface from route to entrance.
Issue 3	Route to voter entry is unstable. The route from parking to the voter door stoop is made of loose gravel.
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	302.1 Floor and ground surfaces shall be stable, firm, and slip resistant and shall comply with 302. Advisory 302.1 General. A stable surface is one that remains unchanged by contaminants or applied force, so that when the contaminant or force is removed, the surface returns to its original condition. A firm surface resists deformation by either indentations or particles moving on its surface. A slip-resistant surface provides sufficient frictional counterforce to the forces exerted in walking to permit safe ambulation.
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	A temporary solution for Election Day would be to use material ½” thick or less to cover the gravel route from designated accessible parking space to voter door.

Issue 4	Threshold rise is too high. The threshold at the voter door has a 1 ½” rise.
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	404.2.5 Thresholds, if provided at doorways, shall be ½ inch (13 mm) high maximum. Raised thresholds and changes in level at doorways shall comply with 302 and 303.
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	An angled entry mat/threshold mat could be used to make entry accessible.

Several temporary solutions have been offered for making polling sites across Barbour 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 pickup 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

Four other valuable resources have been included for your reference:

- ADA Checklist for Polling Places
- The Americans with Disabilities Act and Other Federal Laws Protecting the Rights of Voters with Disabilities
- Solutions for Five Common ADA Access Problems at Polling Places
- ADA Quick Tips Tax Incentives

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.