

# An Overview of the DeIDOT ADA Design Guide and Process

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# ADA Design Guide and Process

- Ongoing effort since 2007
- Guidance from:
  - Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990
  - ADA Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG) approved by Access Board in 2004, amended in 2005
  - 2010 Standards for Accessible Design (DOJ Regulations)
  - Public Right of Way Accessibility Guidelines (PROWAG), revised in 2011
  - DeIDOT's own Existing Standards and ADA assessment criteria

# ADA Design Guide and Process

- Why do we need this?
  - It's the law
  - We have fallen short addressing ADA compliance in the past
  - Efforts will help minimize Paratransit in the future and move riders to fixed routes
  - Statewide policy allows each section to work from the same standards

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- DeIDOT Desired Accessibility Standards
  - Generally above and beyond ADA minimum
  - Try to achieve these standards for pedestrian facilities as much as possible statewide

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- DeIDOT Minimum PAR Standards

PAR = Pedestrian Access Route

- Reflect current minimum acceptable facilities required by ADA
- Designing/building facilities to these standards requires justification from PM II overseeing project (project memo with explanation of decision)

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- Practical Exception Request (PER)
  - Required if facility does not meet Minimum PAR Standards
  - Similar to Design Exception
  - Request for PER should include explanation of how facility will be built ADA-compliant “to the maximum extent feasible”
  - Requires approval of Chief Engineer

# ADA Design Guide and Process

- Scoping for each individual project is critical
  - Walk project site
  - Use ADA Inventory data
  - Eye toward safety, connectivity, logical limits
  - Put yourself in shoes of those who rely on the network
  - Each site is unique; be careful about treating one solution as a precedent
  - Flexibility to use engineering judgment to “do what makes sense”

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- Use all tools/methods available to fix deficiencies in the system
  - Pave & Rehab Projects
  - Capital Projects
  - CTF Projects
  - Maintenance
  - Transportation Alternatives Program
  - Developer agreements
  - ADA requirements for Railroad projects also being standardized

# ADA Design Guide and Process

- Writing the Guide has been an iterative process
- Official implementation: mid-March 2015
- Ironclad Guarantee\*
- Document will be live—make revisions as we go
- Training will be provided

\*not a guarantee

# ADA Design Guide and Process

- For questions please contact:

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