

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) TRANSITION PLAN Phase I Engagement Summary

Our engagement efforts

Phase I of Engagement for the Public Works ADA Transition Plan occurred between June and October of 2024. During this phase, two strategies were used to introduce the project to the community: gather input on current issues and needs, and understand how accessibility and the infrastructure system is working for the community. This document summarizes the engagement and feedback received throughout Phase I.



Events and participants

- 5 community events and pop ups
 - Safe Summer Nights, West Minnehaha Recreation Center
 - Rice and Larpenteur Summer Block Party
 - West Side Farmers Market

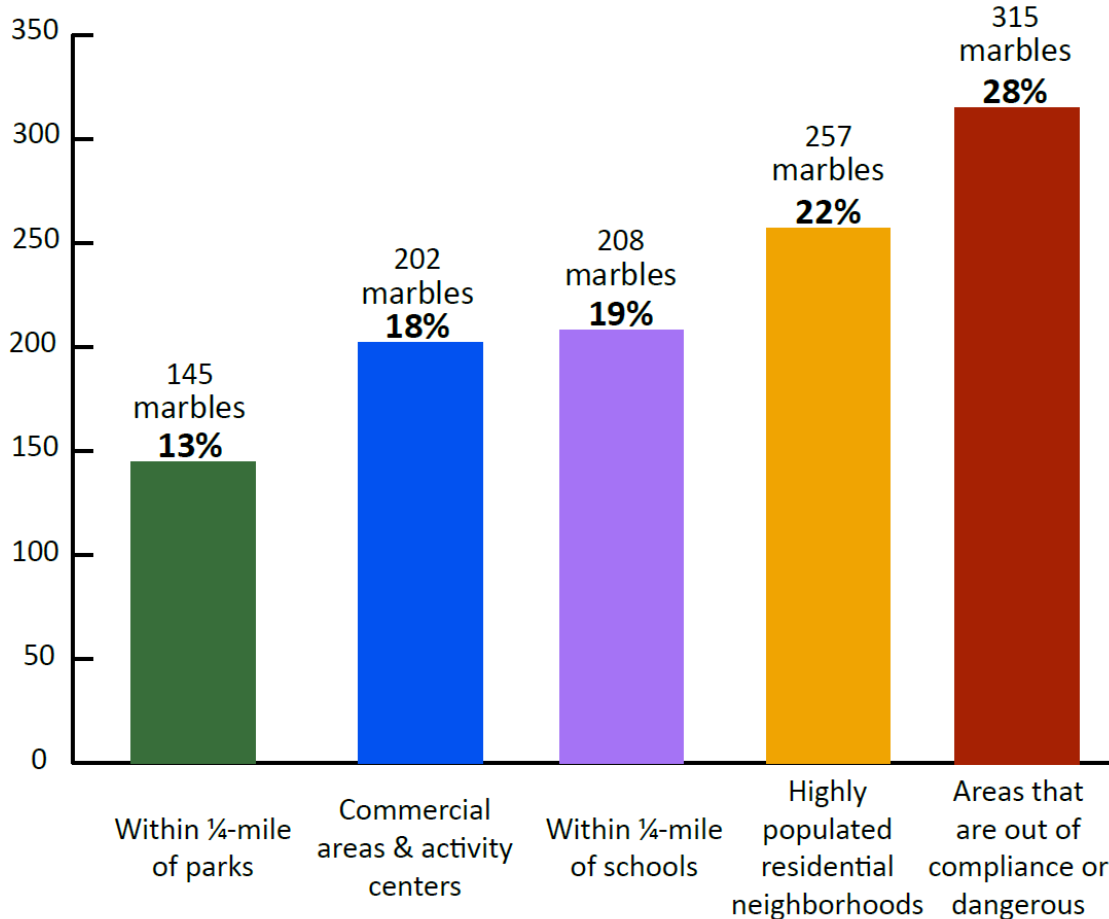
- Marydale Festival
 - Open House at the Rondo Community Library
- 290 online survey responses
- 7 presentations to District Councils and City Committees
 - Mayors Advisory Committee for People with Disabilities (MACPD)
 - City of Saint Paul Transportation Committee
 - North End Neighborhood Organization
 - CapitolRiver Council
 - Highland District Council Transportation Committee
 - The ARC
 - City of Saint Paul Advosory Council on Aging (ACOA)
- 26 public open house participants
- 43 community focus group participants
 - MSS MN Focus Group

Results of engagement

To understand where accessibility investments ranked for community members, participants at in-person engagement events were asked to prioritize accessibility investments. Using marbles, each participant was asked to “spend” marbles in areas they would prioritize for ADA improvements. Priority area options included prioritizing investments:

- Within a quarter mile of parks
- Commercial areas & activity centers
- Within a quarter mile of schools
- Highly populated residential neighborhoods
- Areas that are out of compliance or dangerous

Where should the City prioritize investments?



The top priorities for investment identified by the public are areas that are out of compliance or dangerous and highly populated residential neighborhoods.

What we heard from the public

Winter maintenance like snow clearing is critical for sidewalk accessibility.

Navigating construction that impacts the street or sidewalks is very difficult due to obstructions.

Most residents shared experiences with **cars not stopping or yielding for people in crosswalks**.

Parked scooters and shared bikes are a significant issue when navigating the sidewalk.

Widespread support for **system-wide improvements for people with disabilities**.

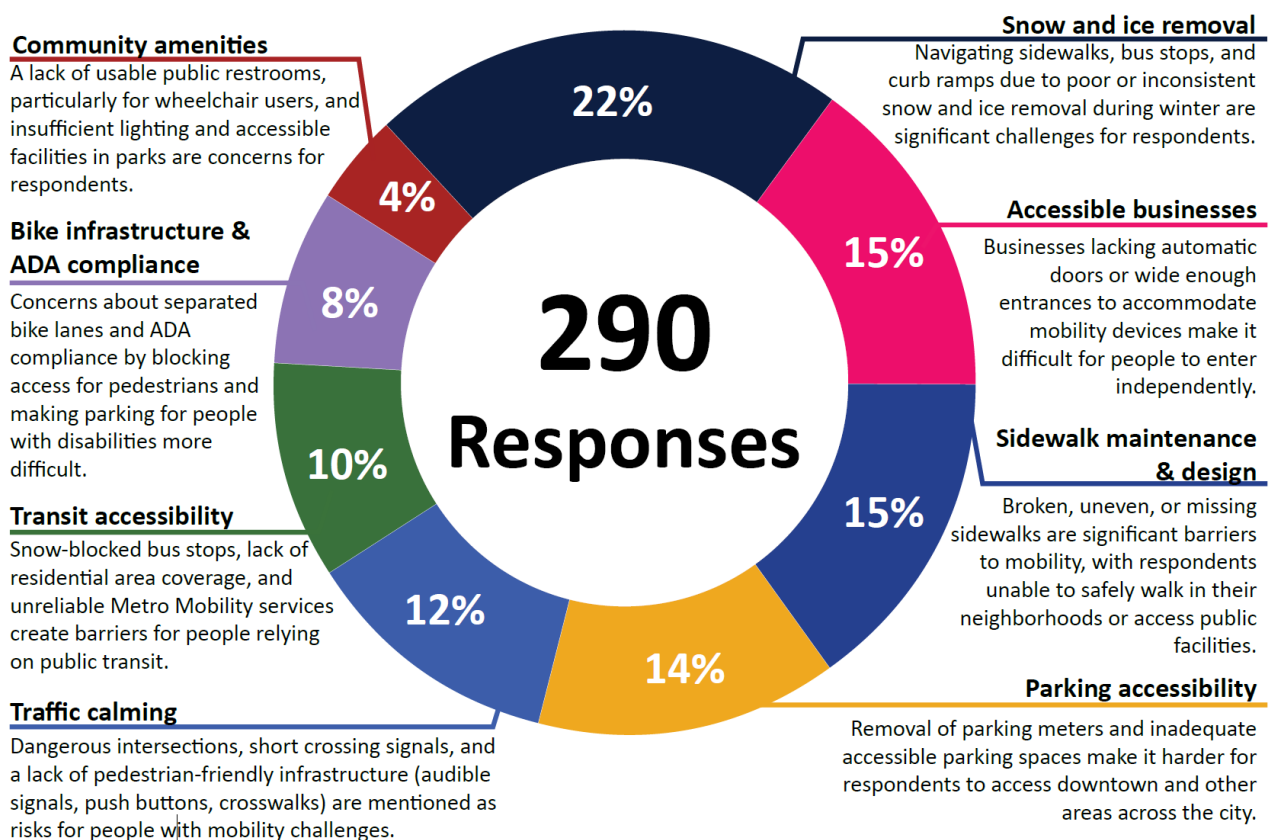
Uneven or broken sidewalks prevent residents using mobility devices from being able to move freely.

Consider the needs of **multiple types of disabilities when evaluating accessibility.**

The ADA Transition Plan should consider best practices, not just legal compliance.

Online survey results

An online survey was shared to collect feedback from residents in the community. Surveys were distributed via direct outreach at in-person engagement events and shared online through GovDelivery email outreach, and shared on agency and partners social media channels. The survey focused on understanding people’s experiences navigating the city, perceptions about the quality of the public realm and amenities offered, and aspirations for future accessibility improvements.



How this feedback will be used

The project team is incorporating community input received in Phase I outreach to inform the priorities outlined in the ADA Transition Plan.