

Town of Blackstone



ADA Self-Evaluation & Transition Plan

Emmanuel Andrade, Associate Principal

KMA | ARCHITECTURE + ACCESSIBILITY

November 19, 2025

KMA is a design and consulting practice



singularly engaged in the work of accessibility compliance and inclusive design.



Project Team



Josh Safdie, AIA, NCARB
Managing Principal

Role: Principal-In-Charge



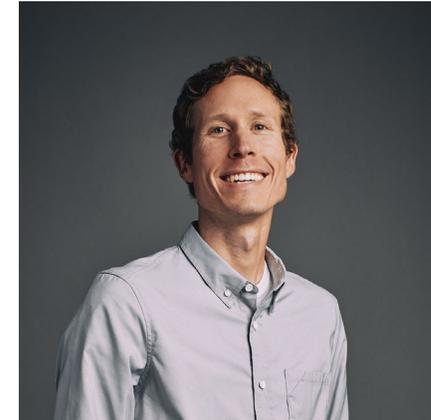
Emmanuel Andrade, RA
Associate Principal

*Role: Point of Contact,
Project Manager*



Katie Denis
Senior Associate

*Role: Support for
Evaluation of
Programs*



Mark Simonin
Access Planner

*Role: Support for
Evaluation of
Facilities*

ADA Title II

- ❑ **Title II of the ADA** applies to all buildings owned or leased by state and local **government entities**.
- ❑ The ADA does not require that all Town's facilities are fully accessible.
- ❑ Instead, it requires that **all programs, services, and activities**, “when viewed in their entirety,” be accessible:
Program Accessibility.



ADA's "Program Access" for Municipalities

Methods of providing **program access**:

- ❑ **Reassignment of services** to accessible buildings.
- ❑ Delivery of services at **alternate accessible sites**.
- ❑ **Alteration** of existing facilities and **construction** of new facilities.
- ❑ **Any other methods** that result in making its programs, services, or activities readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities.



ADA's Administrative Actions

To ensure this, the ADA requires municipalities to take **five administrative actions**:

- ✓ Designate an **employee responsible** for carrying out compliance activities.
- ✓ Provide **notice to the public** of its rights and protections under the ADA and how the entity complies with those obligations.
- ✓ Establish a **grievance procedure**.
- ✓ Conduct a **Self-evaluation**, including a review of policies and procedures.
- ✓ Develop an **ADA Transition Plan**.



ADA SETP Activities Completed

- ✓ Bi-monthly project meetings.
- ✓ Review of surveys:
 - ✓ **Administrative** – *ADA Coordinator.*
 - ✓ **Departments** – *9 responses.*
 - ✓ **Public** – *34 responses (as of today).*
- ✓ Review of policies/procedures and website.
- ✓ Facility audits.
- ✓ Public input meeting.



ADA SETP Activities Completed

Buildings:

- Municipal Building, 15 Saint Paul Street
- Public Library, 86 Main Street
- Historical Museum, 23 Main Street
- Corrosion Control Facility, 53 Elm Street
- Fire Station 2, 666 Rathbun Street

Outdoor Facilities:

- Roosevelt Park, 15 St. Paul Street
- Goulet Park, 157 Lincoln Street
- Turbesi Park, 667 Rathbun Street
- Valati Park, 8 Summer Street
- Town Common, Main and Butler Streets
- Elm Street Park, 132 Elm Street

Public Survey Responses

News

Posted on: October 23, 2025

Town of Blackstone Launches ADA Public Survey

The Town of Blackstone is updating its Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan, originally developed to identify and remove barriers to accessibility within Town programs, services, and facilities. This update will ensure that Blackstone continues to meet federal accessibility standards and supports a more inclusive community for all residents and visitors.

As part of this process, the Town invites the public to participate in a short online survey to share feedback about accessibility in Blackstone — including buildings, sidewalks, parks, programs, and communications. Your input will help guide the Town's priorities and shape future improvements.

The survey will be open for three weeks and is available in both English and Spanish:

- Public Survey (English): <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GPSLFGW>
- Encuesta Pública (Español): <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GQKX7XR>

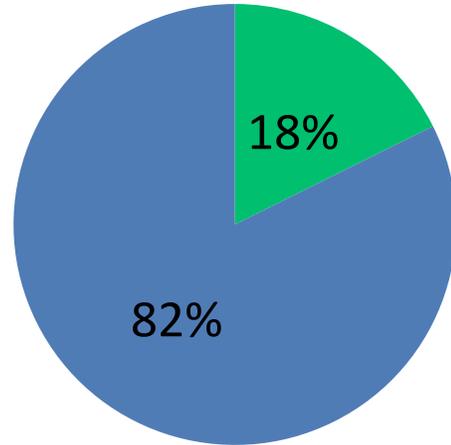
Residents, business owners, and visitors are encouraged to complete the survey and share it widely. Every response helps ensure that the Town's updated ADA Plan reflects the needs and experiences of our community.



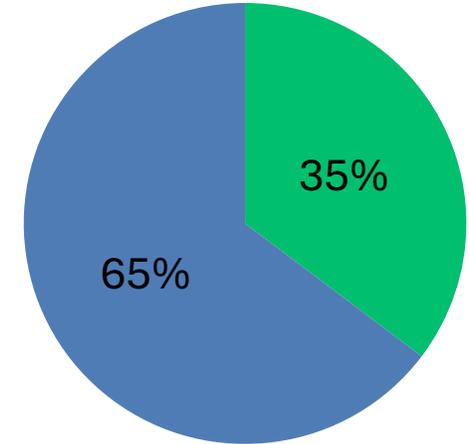
Public Survey Responses

Yes 
No 

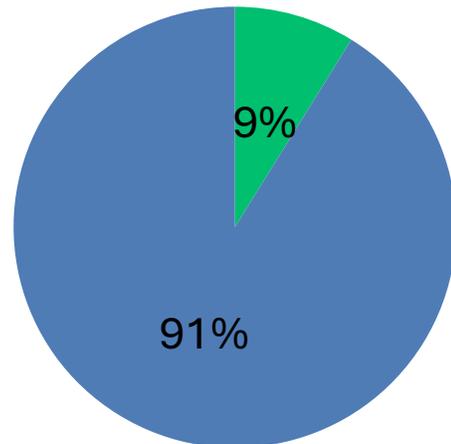
Q1: Are there Town buildings/facilities (building structures, parks, playgrounds, trails, docks, recycling centers, etc.) that you have had difficulty using?



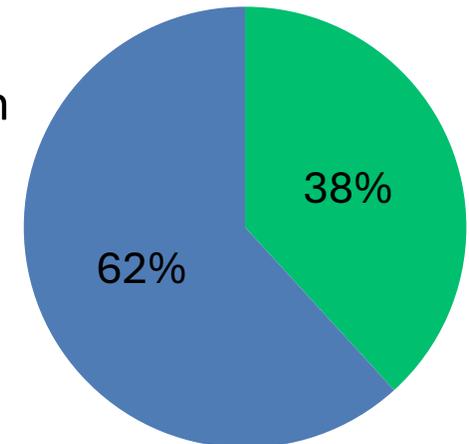
Q3: Do you know how to request Town materials in alternate formats (for example, large print or Braille).



Q2: Have you ever had difficulty getting information about a Town program, service or event?



Q4: Do you know how to request an accommodation (for example, ASL interpreters or assistive listening systems) for Town services and events?



Major Findings

- ❑ Mostly accessible website with dedicated webpage consolidating accessibility-related information.
- ❑ Surcharges are not imposed.
- ❑ Formalized role of ADA Coordinator; contact information can be better integrated on distributed materials.
- ❑ Public notice and grievance procedure; policies for distribution can be enhanced.
- ❑ Access improvements at facilities.



Programmatic Recommendations

All Departments:

- ❑ Establish procedures to ensure all Town events are hosted in accessible facilities; develop protocols about accessible events: planning, hosting and advertising.
- ❑ Ensure application process reviews provide equal access to people with disabilities.
- ❑ Develop service animal policy.
- ❑ Provide auxiliary aids and services as well as alternative formats in a timely manner.



Programmatic Recommendations

Town Clerk Department:

- ❑ Coordinate mitigation of barriers found in polling places until they are fully accessible.
- ❑ Develop policy and disseminate information with Town staff and public.

Recreation Department:

- ❑ Until all recreational facilities are fully accessible, prioritize mitigation of barriers in facilities with the highest use.



Programmatic Recommendations

Recycling Center Department:

- ❑ Coordinate training for Facility Attendant at DPW Recycling Center so people with disabilities is assisted with trash disposal.

Animal Control Department:

- ❑ Coordinate training for Animal Control Office at Animal Control so people with disabilities is assisted during in-person services.



Programmatic Recommendations

Building and Inspectional Services, Public Works, Parks & Rec Departments:

- ❑ Develop program for routine inspection of facilities and testing of devices.
- ❑ Ensure maintenance of accessible features is specifically addressed in all contracts for services and construction projects.
- ❑ Create policy for accessible portable toilets.
- ❑ Continue to review accessibility in all capital and deferred maintenance projects.



Built Environment Recommendations

Municipal Building:

- ❑ Regrade and restripe the parking spaces; add a van parking sign.
- ❑ Widen and regrade the walkway to the accessible entrance.
- ❑ Rebuild the ramp to the first-floor entrance and the ramp to the police and fire stations.
- ❑ Reposition several elements in the toilet rooms.
- ❑ Lower counters at each office.



Built Environment Recommendations

Public Library:

- ❑ Regrade and restripe the parking spaces.
- ❑ Restripe the passenger loading zone.
- ❑ Rebuild the curb ramps serving the parking spaces and the passenger loading zone.
- ❑ Reposition several elements in the toilet rooms.



Built Environment Recommendations

Historical Museum:

- ❑ Regrade and restripe the parking space; raise the parking sign.
- ❑ Regrade the bottom of the ramp.
- ❑ Enlarge the interior doors and remove thresholds on the first floor.
- ❑ Renovate the toilet room.
- ❑ *Programmatic Recommendation: Limit access to the public to the first floor only. Alternatively, relocate the museum to an accessible location.*



Built Environment Recommendations

Corrosion Control Facility:

- ❑ Regrade and restripe the parking space; raise the parking sign.
- ❑ Regrade the walkway to the entrance.
- ❑ Lower and widen a portion of the counter in the lobby.
- ❑ Renovate both toilet rooms.



Built Environment Recommendations

Recycling Center & Animal Control:

- ❑ Stripe the parking space and access aisle; add a parking sign.
- ❑ *Refer to Programmatic Recommendations.*



Built Environment Recommendations

Fire Station 2:

- ❑ Regrade and restripe the parking space, including an access aisle.
- ❑ Rebuild the ramp to the entrance.
- ❑ Install an automatic door opener.



Built Environment Recommendations

Roosevelt Park:

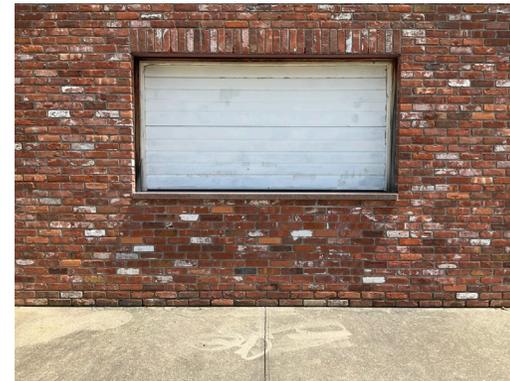
- ❑ Regrade and restripe the parking spaces; add a van parking sign.
- ❑ Provide an accessible path between parking and the basketball court.
- ❑ Regrade the existing path and extend it to both baseball fields (and associated team player and spectator seating) as well as concessions and toilet rooms.
- ❑ Lower the concession counter.
- ❑ Renovate both toilet rooms.



Built Environment Recommendations

Goulet Park:

- ❑ Resurface a portion of the parking lot to add accessible parking spaces.
- ❑ Provide an accessible route between the accessible parking spaces/school driveway and at least one of each of the fields and courts (and associated team player and spectator seating) as well as concessions and toilet rooms.
- ❑ Lower the concession counter.
- ❑ Renovate both toilet rooms.



Built Environment Recommendations

Turbesi Park:

- ❑ Provide an accessible route between the accessible parking spaces and at least one of each of the baseball fields and the basketball courts (and associated team player and spectator seating) as well as the picnic pavilion and the playground.
- ❑ Resurface the area serving at least one bench within the playground.



Built Environment Recommendations

Valati Park:

- ❑ Resurface a portion of the parking lot to add accessible parking spaces.
- ❑ Provide an accessible route between the accessible parking and at least one of each type of site amenity (memorial, picnic tables, benches, and trash receptacles).



Built Environment Recommendations

Town Common/ Gazebo:

- ❑ Provide an accessible route between the site arrival point and the gazebo and historical military memorial.
- ❑ Regrade the memorial plaza.



Built Environment Recommendations

Elm Street Park:

- ❑ Provide an accessible route between Elm Street and the playground and basketball court.



Next Steps. Questions?