



Punta Gorda

**CITY OF PUNTA GORDA
ADA TRANSITION PLAN FINAL REPORT
Hounds on Henry Dog Park**

October 4, 2017

Prepared For:
City of Punta Gorda
326 West Marion Avenue
Punta Gorda, Florida, 33950



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1.0 LOCATION MAP



Figure 1-1 - Location Map

1.1 FACILITY DESCRIPTION

The Hounds on Henry Dog Park is located at 800 West Henry Street. The park is approximately 1.5 acres and contains a paved trail, picnic tables, and fenced in dog areas, among other amenities.

General public access to the facility is allowed. Dedicated parking for the facility is provided at the west end of the park, accessed from West Henry Street.



2.0 PROCESS OVERVIEW

2.1 PUBLISHED STANDARDS

As indicated in our project proposal, the findings for each facility assessed under the project will be provided in the form of an Accessibility Assessment Report, or AAR. This AAR conforms to ASTM E2018-01 - Standard Guide for Property Assessments: Baseline Property Condition Assessment Process standards.

The AAR is intended to identify defects or deficiencies in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG) and Florida Accessibility Code (FAC) and to recommend necessary improvements that could improve accessibility of the assessed facilities by individuals with disabilities. Our assessment is based on spaces, areas, elements, or features that can or could be accessed by the general public. Attention to equipment or work spaces not allocated for use by individuals with disabilities has not been evaluated. Nevertheless, where work areas that may allow individuals with disabilities to be employed are identified by the facility member interviewed during the introductory stage of the assessment are identified, these areas have been assessed and any deficiencies noted are reported herein.

The date the facility was constructed or renovated is important to determine so that applicable standards can be applied during the assessment process. ADAAG became enforceable in January 1992 with a revision becoming enforceable in 2012. The FAC has had various revisions over the years. This AAR reports deficiencies according to ADAAG and FAC standards as appropriate to the condition assessed.

3.0 ASSESSMENT PROCESS

A facility walk-thru and assessment of site and building elements for compliance with applicable accessibility standards was conducted on June 14, 2016. The assessment was conducted by Tindale Oliver staff, certified as Accessibility Inspectors.

The facility survey addressed each accessible element and space within and external to the facility and included applicable elements such as path-of-travel (accessible route), parking, curb ramps, entrances/exits, signage, drinking fountains, ramps, gates, hardware, recreational facilities and all other occupiable spaces and elements covered by the ADAAG.

The survey included physical measurements and counts for components or systems. Survey findings were collected and recorded on Tindale Oliver's custom made, Android based, ADA compliance checklist application. Photographs were taken with the tablet of each area of the facility for familiarization and later reference to illustrate deficiency findings. The digital data and photographs were then uploaded to a database on our



secure servers for backup. Where appropriate, photographs have been included in this AAR to illustrate issues or deficiencies where necessary.

The facility survey consisted of non-intrusive visual observations, which allowed for a readily accessible and easily visible components and systems assessment of the facility which included measurements of space and clearance dimensions, slope, walkway widths, reach ranges, maneuverability measurements, etc.

4.0 FINDINGS AND DEFICIENCIES

4.1 GENERAL

The use and occupancy of Hounds on Henry Dog Park dictates egress requirements and accessible route requirements consistent with the ADAAG regulations. Because the general public does access the facility, and in the interest of establishing an accessibility compliance baseline condition report of the facility, a full accessibility assessment was conducted. Where deficiencies in compliance with ADAAG or FAC exist, descriptions of the deficiency, regulatory requirement(s) pertinent to the deficiency, a photograph or sketch illustrating the deficient element, and recommendations for remediation of the deficiency are listed below.

4.2 PARKING

Assessments

Parking spaces are provided for use by patrons of the Hounds on Henry dog park. The surface parking lot is located on the west side of the park, and is accessed via a driveway from West Henry Street.

One (1) accessible parking space is provided among the 49 total parking spaces. As such, several deficiencies exist in terms of requirements for accessible parking.

ADA 208.2 states that, for between 26 to 50 total parking spaces, a minimum of 2 are required to be an accessible parking space.

ADAAG 208.2.4 states that, “For every six or fraction of six (accessible) parking spaces required... at least one shall be a van parking.”

ADAAG 502.6 states that, parking space identification shall include the International Symbol of Accessibility. Signs identifying van parking spaces shall contain the designation “van accessible”. The sign must also have the caption “Parking by Disabled Permit Only” and include the penalty for illegal use.

Recommendations

It is recommended to re-stripe a non-accessible parking space to create an additional accessible parking space with an adjacent aisle. The parking space and aisle must be marked and have appropriate signage to be in full compliance with the ADA and FAC.



The parking space and level must have a slope no greater than 2% in any direction. At least one of the two accessible parking spaces shall have a sign designating it as being van accessible. Both accessible parking spaces must have signage indicating the penalty for illegal use.



Figure 4-1 – Accessible Parking Space





Figure 4-2 - Parking Area

4.3 ACCESSIBLE ROUTE

Assessments

The access aisle, adjacent to the existing accessible parking space, shown in Figure 4-3, ends and does not connect to the accessible route leading to the park's entrance. In addition, a portion of the asphalt adjacent to the park's gate, shown in Figure 4-4, is a tripping hazard.

FAC 502.3 states that, "Accessible routes must connect parking spaces to accessible entrances. In parking facilities where the accessible route must cross vehicular traffic, marked crossing enhance pedestrian safety."

ADAAG 303.2 states that, "Changes in level of ¼" high maximum shall be permitted to be vertical."

ADAAG 303.3 states that, "Changes in level of ¼" high minimum and ½" high maximum shall be beveled with a slope not steeper than 1:2."





Figure 4-3 – Access aisle and accessible route





Figure 4-4 - Entrance gate

Recommendations

It is recommended that the existing access aisle as well as the access aisle for the additional proposed accessible parking space be striped in such a way as to have them connect to the park's entrance. In addition, the access aisle should be striped so it does not compel users to walk or wheel behind parked vehicles that are not their own. The section of pavement adjacent to the park's gate shall be resurfaced or beveled to remove the non-compliant changes in level.

4.4 DRINKING FOUNTAIN

Assessments

In two instances within the park, only one drinking fountain was provided. In addition, the existing drinking fountains are extremely rusted.

ADAAG 211.2 states that, no fewer than two drinking fountains shall be provided at each location.

ADAAG 602.4 states that, one drinking fountain shall have a spout height of 36" maximum above the finished floor.

ADAAG 602.7 states that, one drinking fountain shall have a spout height of 38" minimum and 43" maximum above the finished floor.





Figure 4-5 – Drinking Fountains.

Recommendations

Install additional drinking fountains of appropriate height adjacent to the existing drinking fountains. In addition, consider replacing/refurbishing the existing, rusted drinking fountains.

4.5 PROTRUDING OBEJECTS

Assessments

The tree's branches act as protruding objects.

ADAAG 307.2 states that, "Objects with leading edges more than 27" and not more than 80" above the finish floor or ground surface shall protrude 4" maximum horizontally into the circulation path."



Figure 4-6 – Drinking Fountains.

Recommendations

Trim and maintain the tree's branches so that they do not protrude more than 4" into the circulation path. This will prevent visitors with visual impairments from not being able to detect and then make contact with the hazardous object.

4.6 PICNIC TABLES

Assessments

In the large dog park section, there is 1 picnic table with accessible features, which is located in an area exposed to the elements. There are 3 non accessible tables located under small pavilions.



Figure 4-7 – Picnic Tables.

Recommendations

Make sure at least one pavilion contains a picnic table with accessible elements so that visitors using the accessible tables have the option to use a sheltered table as well.



5.0 IMPLEMENTATION AND FINANCIAL PLAN

In the previous sections, the improvements that are required to improve accessibility conditions at the facility were identified. The next step in the process is the development of an Implementation and Financial Plan for improvements. This was undertaken through the following efforts:

- preparing cost estimates for the required improvements;
- identifying funding that is available for the improvements; and
- reviewing the specific improvements in more detail and categorizing them into two separate groups. These include:
 - quick fix improvements; and
 - improvements that require more time, effort, and/or funding.

5.1 DEVELOPMENT OF IMPROVEMENT COSTS

In order to develop the Implementation and Financial Plan, unit costs for each type of improvement were developed. These unit costs were based on recent experiences with other agencies and, when available, standard industry costs when local data was not available. **It is important to note that the unit costs include across-the-board assumptions that will need to be reviewed prior to the actual improvement being completed.**

Table 5-1 includes the unit costs for each type of improvement that were used to estimate the improvement costs. In addition, this table includes an estimate for the total number of items needing each type of improvement, as well as the total estimate of probable cost by improvement type.

Note that the costs included in the table below are planning level estimates, once the projects progress through design, the actual construction opinions of cost will become more refined. Also, the City does not have the funding to go out and make all of these improvements at one time, which would offer the most economy of scale. Therefore, cost estimates are reflective of multiple smaller phases that will be more conducive to the funding available.

Again, it should be noted that the estimates are intended to reflect the order-of-magnitude costs for the City's overall facility improvement needs over the timeframe of the plan; for specific projects nearing implementation, it may be necessary for the City to conduct a more detailed cost assessment.



Improvement	Cost		Approx. Amount	Approx. Cost	Priority	Quick Fix
4.2 - Parking						
Restripe portion of lot to add accessible space	\$10,000	spaces	1	\$10,000	High	No
Add signage	\$500	each	1	\$500	High	No
4.3 - Accessible Route						
Resurface and restripe accessible route	\$5,000	each	1	\$5,000	Medium	No
4.4 - Drinking Fountain						
Add new high & low drinking fountains	\$3,000	each	2	\$6,000	Low	No
4.5 - Protruding Objects						
Trim & maintain tree branches	\$200	each	1	\$200	Medium	Yes
4.6 - Picnic Tables						
Add an accessible pavilion	\$4,000	each	1	\$4,000	Low	No
Sub-Total Estimate				\$25,700		
<i>Mobilization</i>	\$10,000			\$10,000		
<i>Signed & Sealed Plans</i>	\$2,500			\$2,500		
<i>Survey/Design</i>	20%			\$5,200		
<i>Inspection</i>	10%			\$2,600		
<i>Miscellaneous</i>	15%			\$3,900		
Total Order of Magnitude Cost Estimates				\$49,900		

Table 5-1 Cost and Prioritization Table



5.2 DEVELOPMENT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION AND FINANCIAL PLAN

The Implementation and Financial Plan was developed to identify when the improvements should occur, based on the relative priority of the improvements and anticipated level of funding that will be available to address the improvements.

Due to the nature of the quick fix improvements, it is assumed that the majority of the identified quick fix improvements will be completed within the confines of the five-year plan, listed in the following section.

It would be ideal if Punta Gorda could take advantage of “piggy backing” needed improvements with other planned facility improvement and renovation projects. Under ideal circumstances, this would permit the City to benefit either because the project directly addresses some or all of the needed improvements, or the project allows the City to reduce its improvement costs due to the concurrent construction activities. It is not known at this time the amount of implementation costs that could potentially be saved by completing the improvements concurrent with planned projects. Therefore, potential cost savings through fund leveraging are not included in the Implementation and Financial Plan at this time. In the future, should the desire and ability to estimate the amount of costs that could be reduced through fund leveraging, the cost of the improvements for those impacted improvements may be adjusted.

To develop the plan, the prioritized list of improvements were incorporated into the Implementation and Financial Plan based on the amount of anticipated funding available each year for the improvements.

It should be stressed that the Implementation and Financial Plan will serve as a general guide for the planning of improvements and that several factors will influence the timing for implementation of specific improvements and the overall cost of the program, including:

- Opportunities for partnering with other jurisdictions or organizations on implementing improvements.
- Specific site conditions at individual locations, including landscaping, utilities, drainage, which can have a significant impact on the type of improvements required and the associated cost.
- Contracting opportunities, including awarding a unit-price contract for the implementation of improvements at multiple locations.
- Additional opportunities to relocate or consolidate individual amenities.

On an annual basis, the list of needed improvements will be reviewed against the funding that is available that year to develop a specific work program. As previously mentioned, this will involve development of more detailed cost estimates based on a review of site conditions at individual locations.



5.3 FUNDING PLAN FOR NEEDED IMPROVEMENTS

Table 5-1 presents an example of a phased implementation plan by listing the improvements with a proposed priority and their associated costs. It should be noted that the costs are estimates of probable cost, with the ultimate costs dependent upon how the work is undertaken, site conditions at individual locations, material and labor prices in future years, and potential right-of-way costs. The number of items that are consolidated, modified, relocated, or removed will also be an important variable, as well as the amount of work that will be the responsibility of other entities.

Due to the unknown level of funding currently available for accessibility improvements, current renovation schedule, and the completion of the quick-fix improvement list, the items recommended for improvement each year of the program do not necessarily have to be the highest ranking items on the priority list. However, as the improvement program progresses, high ranking items that were not initially improved should be included in future years.

It should be noted that the phased implementation plan is just a guide. The number of items improved each year and the specific locations chosen for improvement may vary due to such factors as the actual costs of the improvement. As such, the improvements will need to be reviewed and a work program developed specifying the improvements that will be undertaken on an annual basis. The improvements would be undertaken through task orders. It is envisioned that the effort could focus on implementation of improvements within specific sections of the facility or would occur with groups of similar improvements throughout the City, both of which could enable improvements to be implemented more quickly.

It should be stressed that this plan is presented as an overall guide to the implementation of improvements. City staff will need to review the needed improvements and the available funding on an annual basis to develop the annual improvement program.

