

Response to Questions on the FY 2019 Budget

Request By: Supervisor McKay

Question: What are the standard criteria for ADA compliance for renovations – what is the normal operating procedure? Please provide information for Providence Community Center and Public Safety HQ.

Response:

Based upon guidance from the County Attorney's Office, the design and construction contracts for all capital building projects managed by DPWES Building Design and Construction Division (BDCD) are required to comply with the 28 Code of Federal Regulations Part 35.151, as detailed in the Department of Justice Title II ADA Regulations and the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design. Established BDCD operating procedures provide for design and construction phase quality assurance specifically directed at compliance with this requirement. BDCD Project Managers and Construction Managers are trained in these ADA Standards, and are responsible to review/inspect design and construction work to assure compliance with the ADA Standards. Design plans are specifically reviewed for ADA compliance, and specific excerpts reflecting the most common ADA standards and details are included in the design plans and specifications. Preconstruction meetings are required during the construction phase, and specific recurring ADA inspections are implemented during the construction phase. Prior to completion of construction, a specific ADA inspection is implemented to assure compliance. In addition to trained BDCD staff members, BDCD also regularly utilizes consultant ADA specialists to review plans and inspect construction work to assure compliance with ADA Standards.

BDCD implemented these ADA processes during the design and construction of the Providence Community Center and the Public Safety Headquarters projects that were completed in December 2014 and August 2017, respectively. Final construction for both projects was inspected by a consultant ADA specialist, and all related punch list items were addressed. DPWES is not aware of any specific ADA issues at either of these projects that do not meet the ADA standards.

In the event that any ADA non-compliance related to the original capital construction of a project is brought to the attention of BDCD-DPWES, BDCD's policy is to investigate and resolve the issue, promptly. It should be noted that subsequent to occupancy of a completed, capital construction project, ADA issues may arise as the result of operations, maintenances procedures in the facility in which case remedial action is the responsibility of Facilities Management Division or the operating agency.