

Possible future initiative: “Supporting building code and zoning ordinance compliance with ADA Title III”

The issue: Building codes and zoning ordinances have a huge impact on both how infrastructure in the county complies with Title III of the ADA, as well as how homeowners and residents are able to navigate their own needs within the county’s rules. Not all of the currently enforced building codes and zoning ordinances are compliant which presents challenges to residence, and potentially opens the door to county liability.

Path forward: Reviewing county zoning, ordinances, and building codes to determine ADA compliance is clearly out of scope for the DSB, but working with land development services, etc. to seek an accounting of which ordinances and codes are currently certified as being ADA Title III compliant by the DOJ seems feasible.

The program the DOJ has in place to support code compliance certification is detailed at <https://www.ada.gov/reachingout/codecert.html>.

The goal, of course, would be to eventually bring all codes into compliance. And the DOJ code certification process seems to be a way to ensure this happens. That said, the first step is to identify deficiencies, and any codes that are not presently certified, have the potential to be deficient.