

ADA Program Projects

Modification to the Mobility Review Process

Background

Association of Oregon Centers for Independent Living brought a lawsuit regarding the deficiency of ramps and audible pedestrian signals brought against ODOT in 2017. ODOT and AOCIL reached a settlement agreement wherein ODOT agreed to remediate approximately 26,000 curb ramps within 15 years. ODOT agreed to complete remediation on 75% of the total number of ramps by December 31, 2027.

Purpose

The ADA Program requested and was granted an expedited mobility review process as well as a partial exemption to the required documents as needed due to tight turn-around deadlines. Expediting the review process and waiving certain requirements helps ensure the ADA Program meet the settlement requirements. This document describes the review processes and mitigations made to expedite projects.

ADA Program Project Review Guidance & Exceptions

The [Mobility Services Team](#) (MST) will expedite the review process for ADA Program projects that have permanent and/or temporary impacts by doing the following:

1. Support/encourage early consultation with MST to identify potential issues, concerns, and potential solutions.
2. Move ADA Program projects to the top of the project tracker review queue to ensure timely feedback.
3. Allow an exception for non-ORS 366.215 high impact projects (not subject to ORS 366.215), per the [MAC Charter- Appendix C](#) to be shared via email instead of a Mobility Advisory Committee meeting.
4. Suspend the requirement to submit a Work Zone Decision Tree (WZDT) and Transportation Management Plan for Mobility Review, as needed, to meet scheduling deadlines. Documents are still required per the TRA 10-16 (Work Zone Guiding Principal Directive) and will be made available to all interested parties no later than PS&E.
5. Coordinate work sessions for projects subject to [ORS 366.215](#) that need Stakeholder Forum Support so the project team can garner support and move forward prior to the scheduled Mobility Advisory Committee (MAC) meeting. Although formal support will still be needed at the MAC, this will allow the team to move forward without delay.
6. Waive the requirement for high impact temporary Work Zone projects to seek checklist sign-off support at a MAC meeting per the MAC Charter Criteria (Appendix-C) recommendation, and instead share through email.
7. Allow ADA Program consent calendar projects to be shared through email prior to MAC meeting to garner early support. Final support will need to be documented at the next available MAC meeting.

ADA Program Projects Mobility Review Processes

As stated in the [Mobility Advisory Committee Charter](#), the purpose of the Committee is to review and provide feedback on agency projects through the lens of mobility and work zone safety as it

applies to both temporary and permanent reductions/restrictions. The following mobility review processes have been updated to include the specific guidance and exceptions described above.

ADA Program Project Review Process– Permanent Restrictions Subject to ORS 366.215

Projects that propose construction of new curb extensions or work at existing curb ramps that extend into the roadway and reduce the existing overall horizontal width of the roadway on an [ORS 366.215 Reduction Review Route \(RRR\)](#) are required to follow the Oregon Administrative Rule review process outlined in the [ORS 366.215 Implementation Guidance](#) document. *Note, where Department Staff is used this refers to ADA Program Manager (PM) or the Region Project Team staff.*

1. Department staff are responsible for identifying if the proposed action has the potential to reduce capacity of the roadway, involving MST staff and others as appropriate to make the determination.

Note: Improvements to existing curb ramps that maintain the same sized footprint of the existing ramp and do not result in a reduction of the overall horizontal clearance of the roadway would not be a Reduction in Vehicle Carrying-Capacity (RVC).

2. If Department staff determine there is a potential RVC, the ADA PM will need to use one of the following options to garner support for the Reduction in Vehicle Carrying-Capacity:

Option 1: Attend a Mobility Advisory Committee Meeting

Per OAR [731-012-0060](#), if Department staff identify that the Proposed Action has the potential for a Reduction of Vehicle-Carrying Capacity, a Stakeholder Forum must be convened to garner support for the reduction. Please see page 5 of the *ORS 366.215 guidance document* for information required for stakeholder forum review. This information is needed at a minimum and is included in the required [PowerPoint template](#) located on the [Mobility website](#). Use this [form](#) to request to get on the agenda, and contact the MST with any questions.

Option 2: Attend a Work Session

If time is short the MST can help coordinate a work session prior to a MAC meeting to garner support so the project can continue to move forward without delay.

Option 3: Use the Consent Calendar

Projects that meet the low-impact criteria described in Appendix C of the MAC charter may qualify for the Consent Calendar for consideration by the Stakeholder Forum. Regions will need to submit their project information to the MST at least three weeks prior to the meeting, using a [Consent Calendar request form](#). The form is necessary to ensure the Mobility Services Team receives all the information required by administrative rule for an ORS 366.215 review and will need to be posted to the website at least one-week in advance of the meeting. Work with the MST if you have multiple ramp locations to see if we can minimize the number of forms needed.

If needed, Mobility may share the consent calendar form via email prior to MAC meeting to garner early support. Final support will need to be documented at the next available MAC meeting.

Curb ramp extension criteria is included in [Appendix C](#) of the MAC charter.

ADA Program Project Review Process- Permanent Restrictions NOT subject to ORS 366.215

When work potentially results in a permanent reduction on a non-ORS 366.215 route, the Oregon Administrative Rule review process per [731-012-0010](#) is not required. However, the mobility stakeholder engagement policies and protocols still apply, meaning these projects are also reviewed and shared. The MAC charter specifies how the MST should share these [projects](#) depending on their impacts (low and moderate impacts shared via email, and high impacts at a meeting).

- The Mobility Services Team (MST) will make an exception and share high impact projects via email instead of attending a MAC meeting.
- Department staff should contact the MST via email stating they have an ADA Program Project that needs an expedited project review and request feedback to be solicited from the MAC via email instead of a meeting. Please use the diagrams from the ORS 366.215 [presentation template](#) (slide 9) to show the existing and proposed cross-sections when sharing the information with the team.
- To avoid extra time spent on Q & A between Department staff and MST staff and expedite the process, the ADA Project Manager (PM) must ensure the Mobility Considerations Checklist is complete and accurate. If help is needed the ADA PM may contact the MST or reference the [Mobility Considerations Checklist Guide](#) for assistance.

ADA Program Project Review Process- Temporary Work Zone Restrictions

Projects that have been determined not to have a permanent reduction by department staff do not have to go through the processes described above. If there will be temporary mobility impacts during construction the expedited review process is as follows:

- The ADA PM staff should contact the [MST](#) via email letting them know there is an ADA program project that needs to be reviewed ASAP. Please provide information about the project scope and purpose in the email request.
- Provide as many details as possible to help the MST determine the level of impacts e.g., available width for traffic, duration days/hours, etc.). Due to timelines, the TMP and WZDT may be suspended (see no.4 under ADA Program Project Review Guidance & Exceptions above), however, the [Mobility Considerations Checklist](#) must be submitted at a minimum.
- The MST will ensure ADA program projects are moved to the top of the queue and may or may not share with the MAC depending on the impacts (low, moderate, high) per the criteria established in the MAC Charter Appendix-C.
- The MST will give an exception, due to tight timelines, for high impact projects and share via email (like moderate impact projects) instead of a MAC meeting.
- Projects with low impacts do not need to be shared with the MAC and the MST will recommend the program manager sign off once they have verified the impacts.