

Disability Rights of West Virginia (DRWV) is the federally mandated protection and advocacy system for people with disabilities in West Virginia. One of DRWV's grants is PAVA - Protection and Advocacy for Voting Access. The PAVA program allows DRWV to ensure that individuals with disabilities can access full participation in the election process.

From February 21-22, 2018, DRWV completed exterior accessibility monitoring of all 21 polling sites in Mineral County. The exteriors of most polling sites in your county are accessible or easily made temporarily accessible by propping open the polling site door, designating accessible parking, and hanging appropriate signage. The sites of most concern are Calvary Pentecostal, Camp Minco, Fort Ashby Community Building, and the Antioch Community Building.

Title II of the ADA requires state and local governments (public entities) to ensure that people with disabilities have a full and equal opportunity to vote. The ADA's provisions apply to all aspects of voting, including polling places. People with disabilities must have the opportunity to be full participants in an integrated civic event.

The table on the following pages lists the ADA standards for each area we surveyed, the issues noted at each site, if any, and suggestions for meeting ADA compliance on election days.

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American Legion: Boyce-Houser Post No. 41: 1 Issue	
Issue	No Designated Parking. There are no parking spaces designated for accessibility.
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	<p>502.1 Car and van parking spaces shall comply with 502. Where parking spaces are marked with lines, width measurements of parking spaces and access aisles shall be made from the centerline of the markings.</p> <p>EXCEPTION: Where parking spaces or access aisles are not adjacent to another parking space or access aisle, measurements shall be permitted to include the full width of the line defining the parking space or access aisle.</p> <p>502.2 Vehicle Spaces. Car parking spaces shall be 96 inches (2440 mm) wide minimum and van parking spaces shall be 132 inches (3350 mm) wide minimum, shall be marked to define the width, and shall have an adjacent access aisle complying with 502.3.</p>
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	Use accessible signage to designate a parking space on Election Day. If only one space is designated, it must be a van accessible space with aisle.

Antioch Community Building: 4 Issues

<p>Issue 1</p>	<p>No Designated Parking. There are no parking spaces designated for accessibility.</p>
<p>2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements</p>	<p>502.1 Car and van parking spaces shall comply with 502. Where parking spaces are marked with lines, width measurements of parking spaces and access aisles shall be made from the centerline of the markings.</p> <p>EXCEPTION: Where parking spaces or access aisles are not adjacent to another parking space or access aisle, measurements shall be permitted to include the full width of the line defining the parking space or access aisle.</p> <p>502.2 Vehicle Spaces. Car parking spaces shall be 96 inches (2440 mm) wide minimum and van parking spaces shall be 132 inches (3350 mm) wide minimum, shall be marked to define the width, and shall have an adjacent access aisle complying with 502.3.</p> <p>EXCEPTION: Van parking spaces shall be permitted to be 96 inches (2440 mm) wide minimum where the access aisle is 96 inches (2440 mm) wide minimum.</p> <p>If more than 25 parking spaces are provided to voters, see 208.2 for the number of accessible parking spaces required.</p>
<p>Suggestions for ADA Compliance</p>	<p>Use accessible signage to designate a parking space on Election Day. If only one space is designated, it must be a van accessible space with aisle.</p>

Issue 2	Parking is on unstable surface. Parking area is uneven gravel and grass.
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	302.1 Floor and ground surfaces shall be stable, firm, and slip resistant and shall comply with 302. 502.4 Parking spaces and access aisles serving them shall comply with 302. Access aisles shall be at the same level as the parking spaces they serve. Changes in level are not permitted.
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	A core-gravel system, pavers, or other material could be used to create a stable surface for parking and route to entrance.
Issue 3	Route to voter entry is inaccessible. Route to entrance is uneven and has a slope at its height of 8.7%.
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	402.2 Accessible routes shall consist of one or more following components: walking surfaces with a running slope not steeper than 1:20 (5%), doorways, ramps, curb ramps, excluding flared sides, elevators, and platform lifts. All components of an accessible route shall comply with the applicable requirements of Chapter 4.
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	It may be possible to level out the top of the entry route which leads from parking area to door; possibilities include installing pavers, rubber outdoor tiles, etc. to create a stable route to entrance.

Issue 4	Threshold rise is too high. Threshold at entrance door has 1" lip to cross before entering building.
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	404.2.5 Thresholds, if provided at doorways, shall be ½ inch (13 mm) high maximum. Raised thresholds and changes in level at doorways shall comply with 302 and 303.
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	A threshold plate could be installed, or an angled entry mat/threshold mat could be used to make entry accessible.

Burlington Primary School: 1 Issue	
Issue	Parking is on unstable surface. Designated accessible parking space is loose gravel on an uneven surface.
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	302.1 Floor and ground surfaces shall be stable, firm, and slip resistant and shall comply with 302. 502.4 Parking spaces and access aisles serving them shall comply with 302. Access aisles shall be at the same level as the parking spaces they serve. Changes in level are not permitted.
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	Until the accessible parking space is resurfaced, designate an accessible space along sidewalk that leads to the voting entrance at door 1.

Calvary Pentecostal Church: 5 Issues

Issue 1	<p>No Designated Parking. There are no parking spaces designated for accessibility.</p>
<p>2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements</p>	<p>502.1 Car and van parking spaces shall comply with 502. Where parking spaces are marked with lines, width measurements of parking spaces and access aisles shall be made from the centerline of the markings.</p> <p>EXCEPTION: Where parking spaces or access aisles are not adjacent to another parking space or access aisle, measurements shall be permitted to include the full width of the line defining the parking space or access aisle.</p> <p>502.2 Vehicle Spaces. Car parking spaces shall be 96 inches (2440 mm) wide minimum and van parking spaces shall be 132 inches (3350 mm) wide minimum, shall be marked to define the width, and shall have an adjacent access aisle complying with 502.3.</p> <p>EXCEPTION: Van parking spaces shall be permitted to be 96 inches (2440 mm) wide minimum where the access aisle is 96 inches (2440 mm) wide minimum.</p> <p>If more than 25 parking spaces are provided to voters, see 208.2 for the number of accessible parking spaces required.</p>
<p>Suggestions for ADA Compliance</p>	<p>Use accessible signage to designate a parking space on Election Day. If only one space is designated, it must be a van accessible space with aisle.</p>

Issue 2	Parking is on unstable surface. Parking area is uneven grass and mud.
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	302.1 Floor and ground surfaces shall be stable, firm, and slip resistant and shall comply with 302. 502.4 Parking spaces and access aisles serving them shall comply with 302. Access aisles shall be at the same level as the parking spaces they serve. Changes in level are not permitted.
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	A core-gravel system, pavers, or other material could be used to create a stable surface for parking and route to entrance.
Issue 3	Ramp is too steep. The slope of the entry ramp located to the right of the stoop is 10.1% and it exceeds a 6" rise.
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	405.2 Ramp runs shall have a running slope not steeper than 1:12 (8.3%).
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	Build or purchase a ramp with slope below 8.3% that connects and is level with the stoop. This site is a possible fit for a permanent ramp/handrail system from West Virginia Assistive Technology System (WVATS).

Issue 4	Ramp run leads to inaccessible landing. Ramp to entrance ends at a stoop that has a 2” vertical rise.
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	405.4 Floor or ground surfaces of ramp runs shall comply with 302. Changes in level other than the running slope and cross slope are not permitted on ramp runs.
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	Ramp needs to be rebuilt to meet accessible design requirements.
Issue 5	Door hardware is inaccessible. Door is inaccessible due to knob handle that requires twisting of the wrist.
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	309. 4 Operable parts shall be operable with one hand and shall not require tight grasping, pinching, or twisting of the wrist. The force required to activate operable parts shall be 5 pounds (22.2 N) maximum. 404.2.7 Handles, pulls, latches, locks, and other operable parts on doors and gates shall comply with 309.4. Operable parts of such hardware shall be 34 inches (865 mm) minimum and 48 inches (1220 mm) maximum above the finish floor or ground. Where sliding doors are in the fully open position, operating hardware shall be exposed and usable from both sides.
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	Have the door propped open during polling, use a temporary doorbell, use a doorknob gripper with levers, or have poll worker stationed at the door.

Camp Minco: 5 Issues

Issue 1	<p>No Designated Parking. There are no parking spaces designated for accessibility.</p>
<p>2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements</p>	<p>502.1 Car and van parking spaces shall comply with 502. Where parking spaces are marked with lines, width measurements of parking spaces and access aisles shall be made from the centerline of the markings.</p> <p>EXCEPTION: Where parking spaces or access aisles are not adjacent to another parking space or access aisle, measurements shall be permitted to include the full width of the line defining the parking space or access aisle.</p> <p>502.2 Vehicle Spaces. Car parking spaces shall be 96 inches (2440 mm) wide minimum and van parking spaces shall be 132 inches (3350 mm) wide minimum, shall be marked to define the width, and shall have an adjacent access aisle complying with 502.3.</p> <p>EXCEPTION: Van parking spaces shall be permitted to be 96 inches (2440 mm) wide minimum where the access aisle is 96 inches (2440 mm) wide minimum.</p> <p>If more than 25 parking spaces are provided to voters, see 208.2 for the number of accessible parking spaces required.</p>
<p>Suggestions for ADA Compliance</p>	<p>Use accessible signage to designate a parking space on Election Day. If only one space is designated, it must be a van accessible space with aisle.</p>

Issue 2	Parking and voter entry route is on unstable surface. Parking area is uneven gravel and grass.
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	302.1 Floor and ground surfaces shall be stable, firm, and slip resistant and shall comply with 302. 502.4 Parking spaces and access aisles serving them shall comply with 302. Access aisles shall be at the same level as the parking spaces they serve. Changes in level are not permitted.
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	A core-gravel system, pavers, or other material could be used to create a stable surface for parking and route to entrance.
Issue 3	Ramp run leads to inaccessible landing. Ramp to chapel entrance ends at a stoop that has a 7" vertical rise.
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	405.4 Floor or ground surfaces of ramp runs shall comply with 302. Changes in level other than the running slope and cross slope are not permitted on ramp runs.
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	Ramp needs to be rebuilt to meet accessible design requirements.

Issue 4	Threshold rise is too high. Threshold at cafeteria screen doors has a 4" rise, and the inner threshold has two lips creating another 4" rise.
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	404.2.5 Thresholds, if provided at doorways, shall be ½ inch (13 mm) high maximum. Raised thresholds and changes in level at doorways shall comply with 302 and 303.
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	If the Board of Education does not pour a concrete ramp at this entrance, a portable ramp or angled entry mat/threshold mat could be used to make the entry accessible.

Issue 5	Door hardware is inaccessible. Door is inaccessible due to pinching and simultaneous pull required at the same time to open door.
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	309.4 Operable parts shall be operable with one hand and shall not require tight grasping, pinching, or twisting of the wrist. The force required to activate operable parts shall be 5 pounds (22.2 N) maximum. 404.2.7 Handles, pulls, latches, locks, and other operable parts on doors and gates shall comply with 309.4. Operable parts of such hardware shall be 34 inches (865 mm) minimum and 48 inches (1220 mm) maximum above the finish floor or ground. Where sliding doors are in the fully open position, operating hardware shall be exposed and usable from both sides.
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	Have the door propped open during polling, use a temporary doorbell, or have poll worker stationed at the door.

Elk Garden Elementary: 2 Issues
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Issue 1	<p>Accessible parking is not on the shortest route to voter entry. Parking for current polling entrance at doors 1 and 2 is across a street and down a lengthy driveway.</p>
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	<p>208.3.1 Parking spaces complying with 502 that serve a particular building or facility shall be located on the shortest accessible route from parking to an entrance complying with 206.4.</p>
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	<p>Switch voter entrance to different area of school that has both an accessible entrance and adjacent accessible parking.</p> <p>Accessible entrances and parking can be found by doors 4 and 5 to the library or door 10 leading to the cafeteria.</p>
Issue 2	<p>Ramp is too steep. There is a ramp once voters enter door 1 and its slope is too steep, measuring 10.4%.</p>
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	<p>405.2 Ramp runs shall have a running slope not steeper than 1:12 (8.3%).</p>
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	<p>A new ramp could be built that is ADA compliant, or an easy solution would be to move the voter entry to doors 4 and 5, or door 10.</p>

Fort Ashby Community Building: 4 Issues
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Issue 1	Parking and voter entry route are on unstable surface. Parking area is uneven, loose gravel.
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	302.1 Floor and ground surfaces shall be stable, firm, and slip resistant and shall comply with 302. 502.4 Parking spaces and access aisles serving them shall comply with 302. Access aisles shall be at the same level as the parking spaces they serve. Changes in level are not permitted.
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	A core-gravel system, pavers, or other material could be used to create a stable surface for parking and route to entrance.
Issue 2	Clear width of entry route is too narrow. The voter entrance ramp has a column on the landing that blocks the entry path. Between the base of the column and the handrail on the building, the path narrows to 31”.
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	403.5.1 The clear width of walking surfaces shall be 36” (915mm) minimum.
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	Since the column is necessary part of the building structure and cannot be moved, a different entry route is needed for accessibility.

Issue 3	<p>Ramps are too steep. The ramp to the voter entry at the front of the building is too steep with a slope of 9.4%. The back door entrance ramp is also too steep with a slope of 10.7%.</p>
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	<p>405.2 Ramp runs shall have a running slope not steeper than 1:12 (8.3%).</p>
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	<p>The back-entrance ramp could be rebuilt to meet slope requirements. The top landing would need to be at least 60" x 60" and the concrete pad at the base of the ramp would need to be level with entry route from parking lot.</p> <p>Another solution could be to use the nearby fire station as a polling place.</p>

Issue 4	<p>Door hardware is inaccessible. Front door is inaccessible due to pinching and simultaneous pull required at the same time to open door. Back door is inaccessible due to knob handle that requires twisting of the wrist.</p>
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	<p>309. 4 Operable parts shall be operable with one hand and shall not require tight grasping, pinching, or twisting of the wrist. The force required to activate operable parts shall be 5 pounds (22.2 N) maximum.</p> <p>404.2.7 Handles, pulls, latches, locks, and other operable parts on doors and gates shall comply with 309.4. Operable parts of such hardware shall be 34 inches (865 mm) minimum and 48 inches (1220 mm) maximum above the finish floor or ground. Where sliding doors are in the fully open position, operating hardware shall be exposed and usable from both sides.</p>
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	<p>Have the door propped open during polling, use a temporary doorbell, or have poll worker stationed at the door. Another option would be to use a doorknob gripper with levers.</p>

Fort Ashby Primary: 1 Issue

Issue	Threshold rise is too high. Threshold at entrance door 4 has a 6" vertical rise to cross before entering building.
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	404.2.5 Thresholds, if provided at doorways, shall be ½ inch (13 mm) high maximum. Raised thresholds and changes in level at doorways shall comply with 302 and 303.
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	A portable ramp could be used for door 4, or voter entry could be moved to door 5 which is already accessible.

Fountain United Methodist Church: 1 Issue

Issue	Door hardware is inaccessible. Door is inaccessible due to pinching and simultaneous pull required at the same time to open door.
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	<p>309. 4 Operable parts shall be operable with one hand and shall not require tight grasping, pinching, or twisting of the wrist. The force required to activate operable parts shall be 5 pounds (22.2 N) maximum.</p> <p>404.2.7 Handles, pulls, latches, locks, and other operable parts on doors and gates shall comply with 309.4. Operable parts of such hardware shall be 34 inches (865 mm) minimum and 48 inches (1220 mm) maximum above the finish floor or ground. Where sliding doors are in the fully open position, operating hardware shall be exposed and usable from both sides.</p>
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	Have the door propped open during polling, use a temporary doorbell, or have poll worker stationed at the door.

Frankfort High School: No Exterior Issues

Holy Cross United Methodist Church: No Exterior Issues

Keyser Presbyterian Church: 1 Issue

Issue	Door hardware is inaccessible. Doors are inaccessible due to knob handles that require twisting of the wrist.
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	<p>309. 4 Operable parts shall be operable with one hand and shall not require tight grasping, pinching, or twisting of the wrist. The force required to activate operable parts shall be 5 pounds (22.2 N) maximum.</p> <p>404.2.7 Handles, pulls, latches, locks, and other operable parts on doors and gates shall comply with 309.4. Operable parts of such hardware shall be 34 inches (865 mm) minimum and 48 inches (1220 mm) maximum above the finish floor or ground. Where sliding doors are in the fully open position, operating hardware shall be exposed and usable from both sides.</p>
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	Have the door propped open during polling, use a temporary doorbell, or have poll worker stationed at the door.

New Creek Elementary: No Exterior Issues

Piedmont Housing Authority Hi-Rise: No Exterior Issues

Potomac Heights Apartments Community Room: No Exterior Issues

Second Baptist Church: 1 Issue

Issue	Door hardware is inaccessible. Door handles are turn knobs.
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	<p>309. 4 Operable parts shall be operable with one hand and shall not require tight grasping, pinching, or twisting of the wrist. The force required to activate operable parts shall be 5 pounds (22.2 N) maximum.</p> <p>404.2.7 Handles, pulls, latches, locks, and other operable parts on doors and gates shall comply with 309.4. Operable parts of such hardware shall be 34 inches (865 mm) minimum and 48 inches (1220 mm) maximum above the finish floor or ground. Where sliding doors are in the fully open position, operating hardware shall be exposed and usable from both sides.</p>
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	Have the door propped open during polling, use a temporary doorbell, or have poll worker stationed at the door. Another option would be to use a doorknob gripper with levers.

Short Gap Fire Hall: 1 Issue

Issue	Door hardware is inaccessible. There are no handles on the doors typically used for polling entrance, and entrance has an Exit Only sign on it.
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	309. 4 Operable parts shall be operable with one hand and shall not require tight grasping, pinching, or twisting of the wrist. The force required to activate operable parts shall be 5 pounds (22.2 N) maximum. 404.2.7 Handles, pulls, latches, locks, and other operable parts on doors and gates shall comply with 309.4. Operable parts of such hardware shall be 34 inches (865 mm) minimum and 48 inches (1220 mm) maximum above the finish floor or ground. Where sliding doors are in the fully open position, operating hardware shall be exposed and usable from both sides.
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	Have the door propped open during polling, use a temporary doorbell, or have poll worker stationed at the door. Cover the Exit Only sign.

St. Anthony's Roman Catholic Church: 1 Issue

Issue	<p>No Designated Parking. There are no parking spaces designated for accessibility.</p>
<p>2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements</p>	<p>502.1 Car and van parking spaces shall comply with 502. Where parking spaces are marked with lines, width measurements of parking spaces and access aisles shall be made from the centerline of the markings.</p> <p>502.2 Vehicle Spaces. Car parking spaces shall be 96 inches (2440 mm) wide minimum and van parking spaces shall be 132 inches (3350 mm) wide minimum, shall be marked to define the width, and shall have an adjacent access aisle complying with 502.3.</p> <p>If more than 25 parking spaces are provided to voters, see 208.2 for the number of accessible parking spaces required.</p>
<p>Suggestions for ADA Compliance</p>	<p>Use accessible signage to designate a parking space on Election Day. If only one space is designated, it must be a van accessible space with aisle.</p>

St. Mary's Catholic Church: No Exterior Issues

Vo-tech Center: No Exterior Issues

Wiley Ford Primary School: 1 Issue

Issue	Route to voter entry is uneven and inaccessible. The main entrance to the school, which is typically used for polling, has three steps—one 4” high, the second 5” high, and the third 6” high.
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	303.4 Changes in level greater than ½ inch (13 mm) high shall be ramped, and shall comply with 405 or 406.
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	Switch entrances to the right end of the building and if the Board of Education does not pour a concrete ramp at that entrance, use a temporary ramp at that door.

Several temporary solutions have been offered for making polling sites across Mineral County accessible, and many of these solutions can easily be found online or at your local hardware store. An additional resource is West Virginia University’s Center for Excellence in Disabilities WVATS (West Virginia Assistive Technology System) program. This program has portable ramps to loan for free, although pickup and drop off of the ramps are required. Enclosed is a brochure with information for contacting WVATS.

The **2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Designs** referenced in this report can be found online at:

https://www.ada.gov/regs2010/2010ADASTandards/2010ADAStandards_prt.pdf

The following valuable resources have been included for your reference:

- ADA Checklist for Polling Places
- The Americans with Disabilities Act and Other Federal Laws Protecting the Rights of Voters with Disabilities

- Solutions for Five Common ADA Access Problems at Polling Places
- ADA Quick Tips Tax Incentives

The ADA requires that public entities ensure that people with disabilities can access and use all voting facilities. Because a mix of public and private facilities are used as polling places, public entities may ensure Election Day accessibility of a polling place by using low-cost, temporary measures, such as portable ramps or door stops, rather than making permanent modifications to a building. If temporary measures will not fix a barrier, and public entities are unable to make a permanent modification to fix the barrier, then the public entity must look for an alternative, accessible polling place.