



If this information is needed in an alternate format, please call the City's Accessibility Coordinator at **(562) 570-6257** or email [jennifer.kumiyama@longbeach.gov](mailto:jennifer.kumiyama@longbeach.gov).

This information is also available in Spanish, Khmer or Tagalog at: [longbeach.gov/citymanager/ada](http://longbeach.gov/citymanager/ada).

# AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) CURB RAMP PROGRAM

An Informational Pamphlet on ADA Curb Ramps in Long Beach

Additional information regarding the City's efforts to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and specifically, the Access Request Program to address pedestrian facilities/public right-of-way complaints and requests originating from a person with a mobility disability or their caretaker, can be found at:

[longbeach.gov/citymanager/ada](http://longbeach.gov/citymanager/ada)

To report areas with accessibility issues in the right-of-way, please contact the City's Accessibility Coordinator at (562) 570-6257.



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CITY OF  
**LONG BEACH**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a civil rights law that prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities in all areas of public life to make sure they have the same rights and opportunities as everyone else.

In 2014, a lawsuit was filed alleging the City of Long Beach provided insufficient physical access to sidewalks, crosswalks, curb ramps, walkways, other pedestrian facilities and rights-of-way for individuals with disabilities. The City of Long Beach has a mandate under the law and an ADA Settlement Agreement to provide accessibility throughout the City to the greatest extent feasible. It is essential that all City stakeholders recognize the importance of these obligations; failure to meet the settlement requirements could lead to further litigation and financial penalties.

As a part of an ADA Settlement Agreement reached in October 2017:

- 1) Construct 4,500 curb ramps at locations where none currently exist
- 2) Retrofit 16,000 curb ramps or spend \$50 million towards existing non-compliant curb ramps
- 3) Spend \$125 million towards other non-compliant pedestrian facilities, other than curb ramps, such as sidewalks and crosswalks

## WHERE ARE CURB RAMPS REQUIRED?

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Generally, curb ramps are needed at intersections and wherever a sidewalk crosses a curb. Curb ramps must be located to ensure a person with a mobility disability can travel from a sidewalk on one side of the street, over or through any curbs, to the sidewalk on the other side of the street. Wherever a curb ramp exists or is installed, another must be present across the street to ensure a person with a mobility disability can travel from one side of the street to the sidewalk on the other side of the street. This means that there needs to be at least 2 at every intersection for any person with a mobility disability to safely travel across a street.

## WHY IS A PARTICULAR LOCATION CHOSEN FOR A CURB RAMP?

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To abide by the requirements under the Americans with Disabilities Act, a curb ramp must be placed to access existing sidewalks, public facilities, areas with high pedestrian traffic, safely travel in locations with high vehicle traffic or speeds, safely navigate right-of-way impediments (e.g. utilities, drainage, mature trees, bus pads driveways, etc.).



## WHY IS THE CURB PAINTED RED AT INTERSECTIONS?

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Section 10.22.060 of the Long Beach Municipal Code prohibits parking within 20' of the approach to an intersection and 10' from the departure of an intersection to maintain adequate clearances and sight distance for safety.

## IS A DRIVEWAY CONSIDERED A PEDESTRIAN ACCESS POINT?

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No, because it creates a potential safety conflict between pedestrians and vehicles and does not meet the legal standards and requirements of a curb ramp.

## WHY IS PARKING AND EXISTING PARKWAY IMPROVEMENTS DISPLACED?

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The City strives to minimize parking and existing parkway impacts. In order to comply with federal and state laws in providing access equality and adhering to the 2017 settlement agreement, in many cases, it is unavoidable.