



Direction for Expanding Programming and Improving Access for People with Disabilities

SD23: Government That Works for All, Health & Environment, Culture and Lifelong Learning

Better Access to City Hall

Several areas of City Hall are not fully and equally accessible to people with disabilities, sometimes simply due to lack of attention. Those areas include the Boards and Commissions room where the Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities regularly meets.

Directive 1: Provide regular training and guidance for City Hall facilities staff to provide consistent and prompt assistance for people with disabilities seeking access to public areas of City Hall.

Directive 2: Explore the feasibility of installing automatic door buttons to the interior and exterior of the Boards and Commissions room and other public work rooms to ensure equitable access for all.

Bathroom Accessibility at Zilker Park

Popular public spaces, like Zilker Park, do not provide clean, accessible bathrooms with adequate space and privacy for teens and adults with disabilities who require a caregiver to assist in changing adult diapers or other incontinent supplies.

Over 18,000 people with self-care disabilities reside in Travis County. Without equitable bathroom access, they are often left with an unfair choice: either risk going into the community knowing that they will not have proper bathroom accommodations or stay home. Creating equitable bathroom access would enable more people to explore and enjoy this recreational asset in the heart of Austin.

A solution is to install a single-stall, gender-neutral, accessible bathroom with an adult-sized changing table; a bathroom that is large enough to accommodate an adult with a wheelchair and a caregiver.

Directive 3: Include plans to locate, design, and fund this accessible bathroom for teens and adults with disabilities in the ongoing Zilker Park Master Plan.