

Pedestrian Access Advisory Comittee

Meeting Q1 2026 – April 14, 2026



Our Vision

Seattle is an equitable, vibrant, and diverse city where moving around is safe, fair, and sustainable. All people and businesses can access their daily needs and feel connected to their community.

Values & Goals

- Safety
- Equity
- Sustainability
- Mobility & Economic
- Vitality
- Livability
- Excellence
- Maintenance & Modernization



Agenda

- 2:30 – 2:50 pm: Welcome and ADA Program Updates
- 2:50 to 3:10 pm: TWSI Pilot Preliminary Updates
- 3:10 to 3:30 pm: SDOT ADA Transition Plan & Kick Off Discussion
- 3:30 to 4:00 pm: Open discussion, questions, and answers
- 4:00 pm: Adjourn



2025 Curb Ramp Construction Summary



- 1,268 curb ramps were installed citywide in 2025
 - 173 CSR curb ramps built by ADA Program
 - 543 curb ramps built by Capital Projects and Project Development
 - 89 curb ramps built by SDOT Maintenance Operations
 - 472 curb ramps permitted and constructed through utilities, private development, or other permitted capital improvements projects

2026 Projected Curb Ramp Summary (subject to change)



- 1,143 curb ramps projected to be completed citywide in 2026 via SDOT projects, including the following programs/projects:
 - 228 CSR curb ramps built by ADA Program
 - 821 curb ramps built by other SDOT Capital Projects
 - 94 curb ramps built by SDOT Maintenance Operations
- The overall projected amount of curb ramps does not include projects that will be completed by utilities or private development
 - Historically, this effort produces on average 441 curb ramps annually

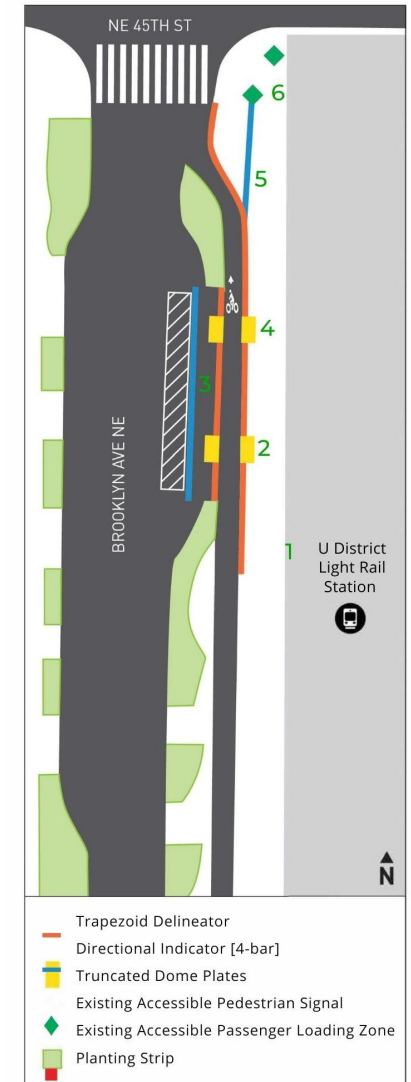
Tactile Walking Surface Indicator (TWSI) Pilot Project

- Introduce third TWSI tactile walking surface known as a tactile warning delineator (TWD)
- TWD is a trapezoid shaped pedestrian surface treatment that acts as a rollable, yet cane detectable, edge treatment.
- TWD provides different tactile cue than existing 4-bar, tactile directional indicator (TDI)
- Observe how individuals with disabilities recognize and interact with these treatments



TWSI Pilot Location at Brooklyn Ave NE

- Installed Summer 2024
- Included all three TWSI surface treatments
- Testing included pre-determined steps and movements to capture interaction with the three surfaces in multiple directions
- Eighteen individuals have participated in the pilot testing to date (2 wheelchair users and 16 white cane users)



TWSI Pilot Preliminary Results

- Detectable Warning Surfaces (DWS)
 - MMA domes difficult to detect with cane
 - Needs improvement for auditory feedback cues
- Tactile Directional Indicators (TDI)
 - Preferred by many participants
 - Supports directional navigation
 - 4-Bar treatment preferred
- Tactile Warning Delineators (TWD)
 - Positive responses as edge treatment
 - Lack of audible and texture feedback (depending on cane tip)
 - Explore additional textures



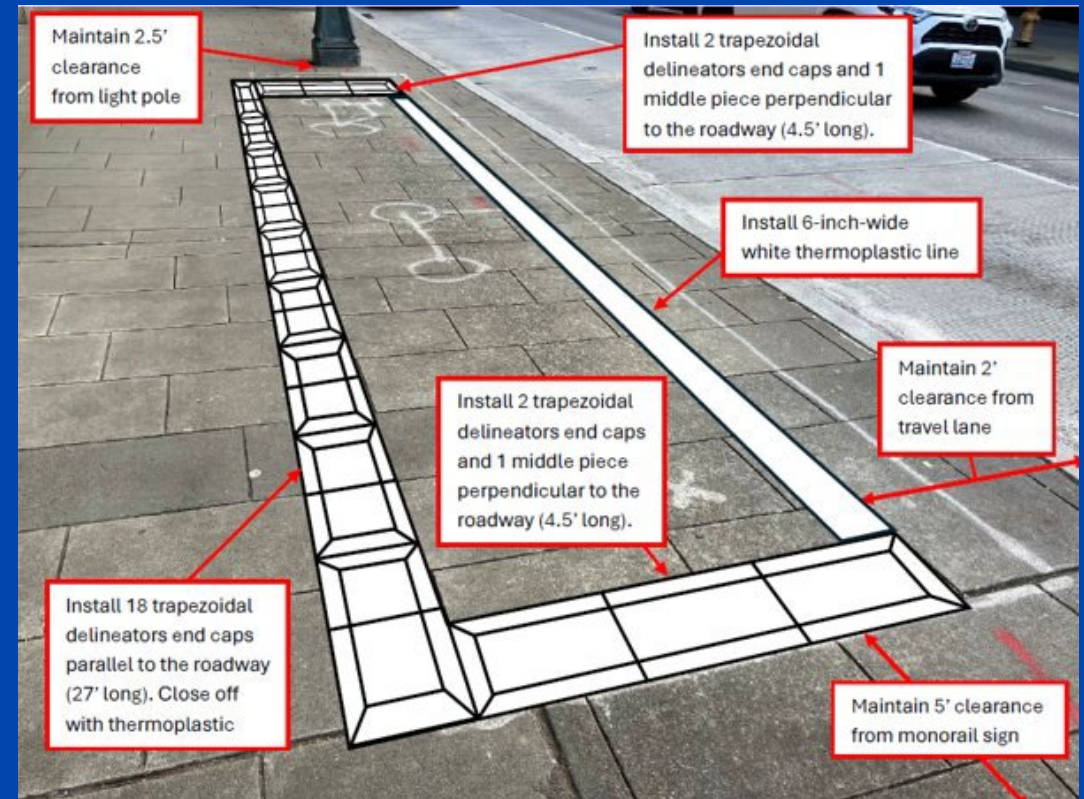
TWSI Pilot Preliminary Results

- Color contrast (for low vision individuals)
 - White and Grey – low contrast
 - Blue, yellow – high contrast (preferred)
 - Open to other bright colors
- Transition of trapezoidal treatment to 4-bar treatment confusing to some
 - Preferred one consistent TWSI treatment (TDI as MMA acceptable)
- Establish TWSI design best practice on cane sweeping techniques and width



TWSI Pilot Next Steps

- Finalizing plans to install warning delineators around select micromobility sites in downtown Seattle
 - 3rd and Union
 - 5th and Pine
 - Pine and 5th
 - Pine and 6th
 - Stewart and 3rd
- Continue to partner with community members for feedback on future pilots
- Future pilot installation to be determined



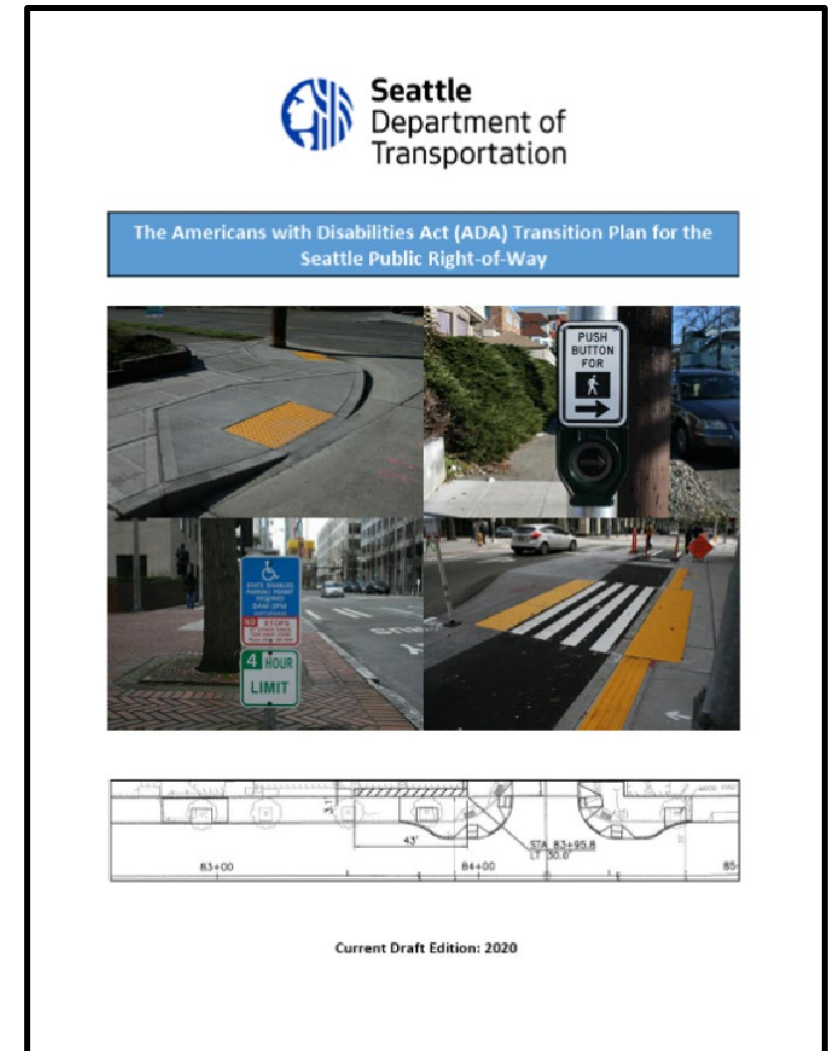
SDOT ADA Transition Plan Update

- SDOT is kicking off an ADA Transition Plan Update (TPU) project
 - Three-year project with future update cycles
- ADA Transition Plan Basics
 - A public entity shall operate services, programs, or activities so that [they] are readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities
 - The pedestrian right-of-way, specifically sidewalks, is a program subject to program access
 - The plan needs to identify barriers to access and detail methods to remove said barriers
 - Requires public participation to be a part of the transition plan process and implementation

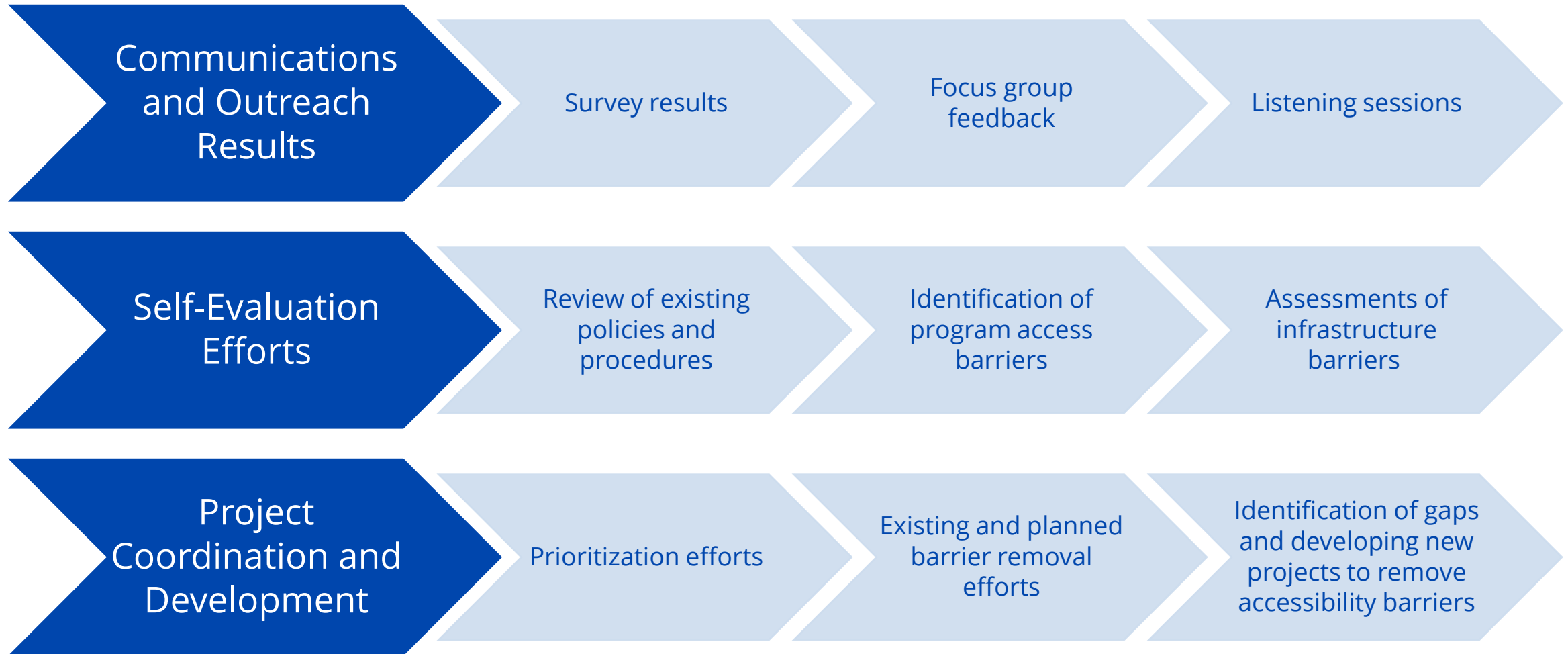


Current SDOT ADA Transition Plan Status

- Current version released in December 2020
 - Need to account for past barrier removal projects since last update
- Outdated information, staff, and guiding policies
 - New department priorities and initiatives
 - Seattle Transportation Plan (STP) coordination
 - Transportation Levy partnerships and projects
- Incomplete sections and missing information
 - Updated self-evaluation efforts
 - Revisions to plan framework



What will be part of the ADA TPU?



SDOT ADA TPU - Structure and Approach

- Collect feedback from the disability community (PAAC, advocacy groups, etc.) to identify barriers and help SDOT determine priorities
- Develop additional self-evaluations based on issues in feedback
- Develop prioritization methodology and coordinate with existing SDOT programs to support existing or develop new barrier removal projects
- Develop projects and coordinate resources to address barriers to access
- **Relationship to Other Documents, Projects, and Initiatives**
 - Overlay to Seattle Transportation Plan (STP) and Transportation Levy priorities
 - Coordination with partners (i.e. King County Metro Transition Plan)

SDOT ADA TPU – Survey and Feedback

- SDOT ADA Program plan to release the survey in May through mid-September
 - Survey will help determine where SDOT should focus efforts to assess barriers, identify accessibility issues, and rank priorities
 - Available in English, Traditional Chinese, Somali, Spanish & Vietnamese
- Project website will provide survey link to the public
 - Remain open until early Fall
- Other opportunities to provide feedback:
 - Focus groups to discuss specific priorities based on identified barriers and needs
 - Review of Final Draft of Transition Plan



ADA TPU Survey Content

- **Background Information**

- Standard demographics (age/gender/employment status/race and ethnicity)
- Disability related questions (nature of disability/service animals or assistive tools/mobility)
- Seattle residency, neighborhood, etc.
- Affiliation/organization

- **Priority Destinations & Locations**

- Ranking important destinations
- Destinations w/ limited access or barriers



ADA TPU Survey Content

- **Barriers & Challenges**

- Right of way barriers encountered for priority locations
- Ranking criteria for curb ramp improvement
- Current difficulties for **curb ramps, sidewalks, pedestrian crossings, sidewalks, and APS**
- Ranking importance of pedestrian improvements & other access issues
- Temporary pedestrian routes w/ construction
- Curbside drop-off/pick-up

- **Survey Wrap Up & Involvement**

- Travel priorities
- How they found survey



ADA TPU Survey Improvements from 2016

- **Limitations of previous survey**

- Primary focus on curb ramps, identified facilities/locations were very limited
- Many questions focused on frequency of difficulty w/ access vs. nature of difficulty
- Basic questions evaluating access

- **Improvements**

- Questions beyond curb ramps (sidewalks, ped crossing, APS, loading zones, etc.)
- Questions ask/specify nature of difficulty
 - (e.g., **what** aspects makes sidewalks difficulty to use)
- Wider range of identified facilities/primary destinations
- Option for short response answers for elaborating responses/voicing thoughts

ADA TPU Timeline

*Major updates every 3-5 years

	PHASE I Spring 2026 - Summer 2026	PHASE II Fall 2026 - Fall 2027	PHASE III Fall 2027 - Spring 2028	WRAP UP Project Completion 2028*
We are asking you to...	Tell us what your barriers are	Co-Create and provide feedback on updated criteria for ADA Program	Support public review period of ADA Transition Plan Update	Final open comments

CL support throughout the Transition Plan Update

Survey awareness and distribution

Focus groups to refine barriers and priorities

Listening sessions to expand accessibility awareness and collaboration

Open Forum Discussion and Questions



**Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 30, 2026
2:30 – 4:00 PM**

Contact

Stay in touch

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<https://www.seattle.gov/transportation/projects-and-programs/programs/ada-program>

