



February 6, 2025

Abby Levario  
Program Manager  
Faces of Hope  
209 West Main Street  
Boise, Idaho 83702

**RE: ADA Technical Review of Faces of Hope Building**

Dear Ms. Levario

In response to your request, please find a formal technical review of the parking lot, the pathway from the parking lot, the access ramps to the customer entrance, and areas in the facility that are accessible to the public for the Faces of Hope office located at 209 West Main Street in Boise.

**PARKING**

1. **Accessible Parking:** Where parking spaces are provided, the 1991 Standards, at sections 4.1.2 (5)(a) and (7) and 7(a), and the 2010 Standards, at section 208.1, require 1 in 25 parking spaces to be van accessible. Accessible parking spaces must be located on the shortest accessible route to an accessible entrance, relative to other spaces in the same parking facility. A maximum travel distance is not specified in the standards.

**Noncompliant Findings:** The parking lot located at the rear of the building has no van accessible parking space.

**Recommendation:** Designate a van accessible parking space in the rear of the building closest to the wheelchair ramp that provides access to the front entrance of the building. This parking space must comply with Section 502, including the width of the parking space and access isle, van accessible signage, and an accessible route directly connecting from the access isle to the wheelchair ramp at the front of the building.

The photos below show an arial view (Figure 1) of the recommendation van accessible parking space and the accessible route to the ramp, and a surface view (Figure 2) of the recommended parking space. The cross-slope of the recommended parking space is 1.45 degrees, which is less than required maximum 1.48 degrees or 2.08 percent.



Figure 1 - Aerial view of parking lot

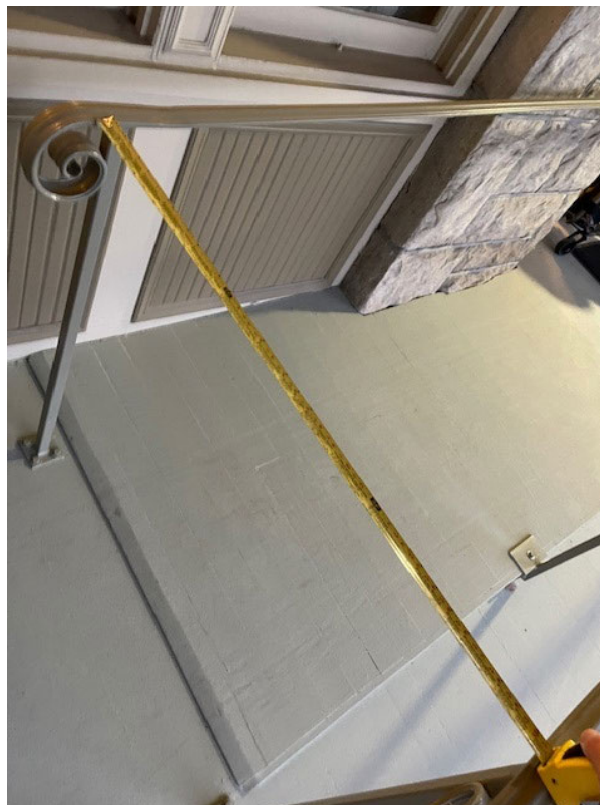


Figure 2 - Surface view of recommended accessible space

## RAMP

2. **Clear Width:** The clear width of a ramp run and, where handrails are provided, the clear width between handrails shall be 36 inches minimum per Section 405.5.

**Noncompliant Findings:** The width of the ramp from street level to the front porch of the building between handrails is only 32 inches, and must be at least 36 inches. The width of the ramp from the porch to the front door is 34.5 inches. The photo below (Figure 3) shows the ramp from the porch to the front door being measured.



*Figure 3 - Photo of ramp width being measured*

3. **Ramp Landings:** Ramp landings are necessary to provide ample space for wheelchairs to maneuver around each segment of the ramp. Ramps shall have landings at the top and the bottom of each ramp run. Ramps that change direction between runs at landings shall have a clear landing 60 inches minimum by 60 inches minimum per Section 405.7.4. Handrails, edge protection, vertical posts, and other elements cannot obstruct or overlap the minimum 60 inch by 60 inch clearance.

**Noncompliant Findings:** The ramp, which includes changes in direction, does not have landings that are 60 inches by 60 inches in clearance. The photo below (Figure 4) shows a measurement of 47.5 inches, which is less than the required 60 inches.

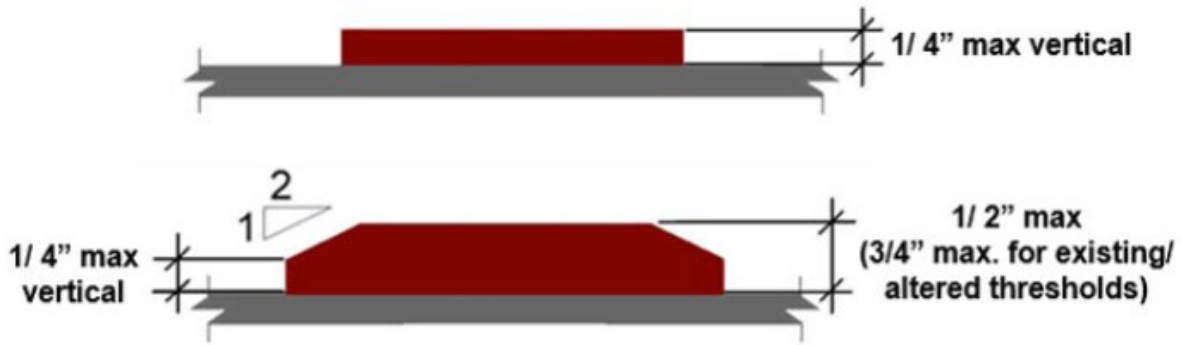


Figure 4 - Photo of ramp landing being measured

**Additional Recommendations:** The location of the ramp entrance from street level can be difficult to identify. Adding appropriate signage directing those who need ramp access would improve awareness of the ramp location and clearly identify the accessible pathway/entrance to the building.

## DOOR

4. **Thresholds:** Thresholds of doors need to meet standards to prevent trip type hazards for wheelchair casters and other mobility devices. The height of thresholds is limited to  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch in new construction. The edge must be beveled 1:2 maximum above a height of  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch. A maximum height of  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch is permitted for existing or altered thresholds if they have a beveled edge on each side with a slope not steeper than 1:2. These requirements apply to all types of doors required to comply, including sliding doors. The image below (Figure 5) illustrates the threshold requirements.



**Note: vertical edge must be located below bevel, not above**

*Figure 5 - Illustration of threshold requirements*

5. **Noncompliant Findings:** The threshold of the front door has a vertical edge of 5/8 inches, which is greater than the maximum required edge of 1/4 inches.

**Recommendation:** Replace with a compliant threshold or modify the existing threshold so that it has a maximum 1/4 inch vertical edge below the bevel and a total threshold height, including the beveled edge of 1/2 inch to 3/4 inch for existing altered thresholds.

The photo below (Figure 6) shows the measurement taken of the noncompliant vertical edge and the threshold in relation to the front door (Figure 7).



*Figure 6 - Photo of threshold vertical edge being measured*



Figure 7 - Front door of the building

## BATHROOM

6. **Components of Accessible Single User Toilet Room:** Accessible restrooms allow a person using a wheelchair to enter the bathroom and close the door, safely transfer onto the toilet, access the toilet paper dispenser, and use the sink, the paper towel dispenser, and hand soap. Requirements in the Standards for toilet rooms address doors, turning space, plumbing fixtures, mirrors, dispensers, shelves, and other elements provided. Other provisions in the Standards also apply. Figure 8 below illustrates the different requirements for a single user toilet room.

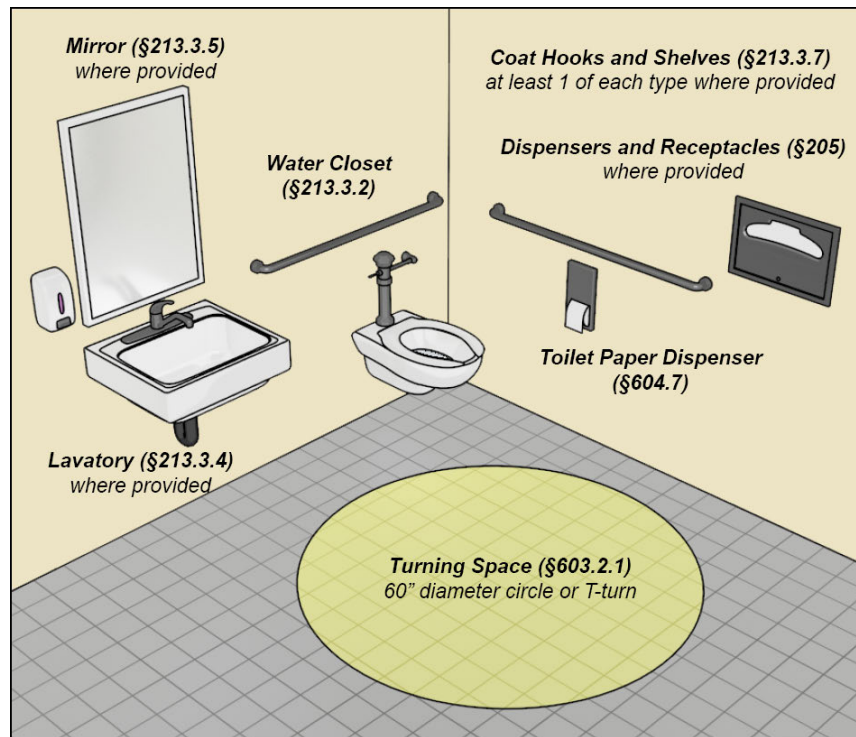


Figure 8 - Illustration of single use toilet requirements

**Noncompliant Finding:** The single use restroom (Figure 9) that is accessible to the public is not compliant with the standards set forth in the ADA.



Figure 9 - Single use nonassessable bathroom





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## **ADA Evaluation Addendum**

### 1. Parking

- a. We have identified and marked a handicap parking spot in the rear parking lot with an area large enough for loading/unloading.

### 2. Ramp

- a. The existing ramp at Boise location does not meet current ADA slope and handrail requirements. However, because the property is designated as a historical structure, it is grandfathered under ADA Title III regulations, which allow certain modifications or exemptions to preserve the historical integrity of the building. As such, alterations to the ramp are not required unless they can be made without compromising the historic character of the site.
  - i. If a client is in a wheelchair, employees will direct the client to Meridian location that is wheelchair accessible.

### 3. Door – Threshold

- a. A rubber threshold was installed onto the existing threshold that meets regulations.

### 4. Bathroom

- a. The existing bathroom at the Boise location does not meet current ADA accessibility standards, including clear floor space, fixture heights, and maneuverability requirements. However, because the property is recognized as a historic structure, it is grandfathered under ADA Title III regulations. These regulations allow exceptions when full compliance would threaten or destroy the historic significance of the building. As a result, modifications to the bathroom are not mandated unless they can be made without compromising the building's historic character.