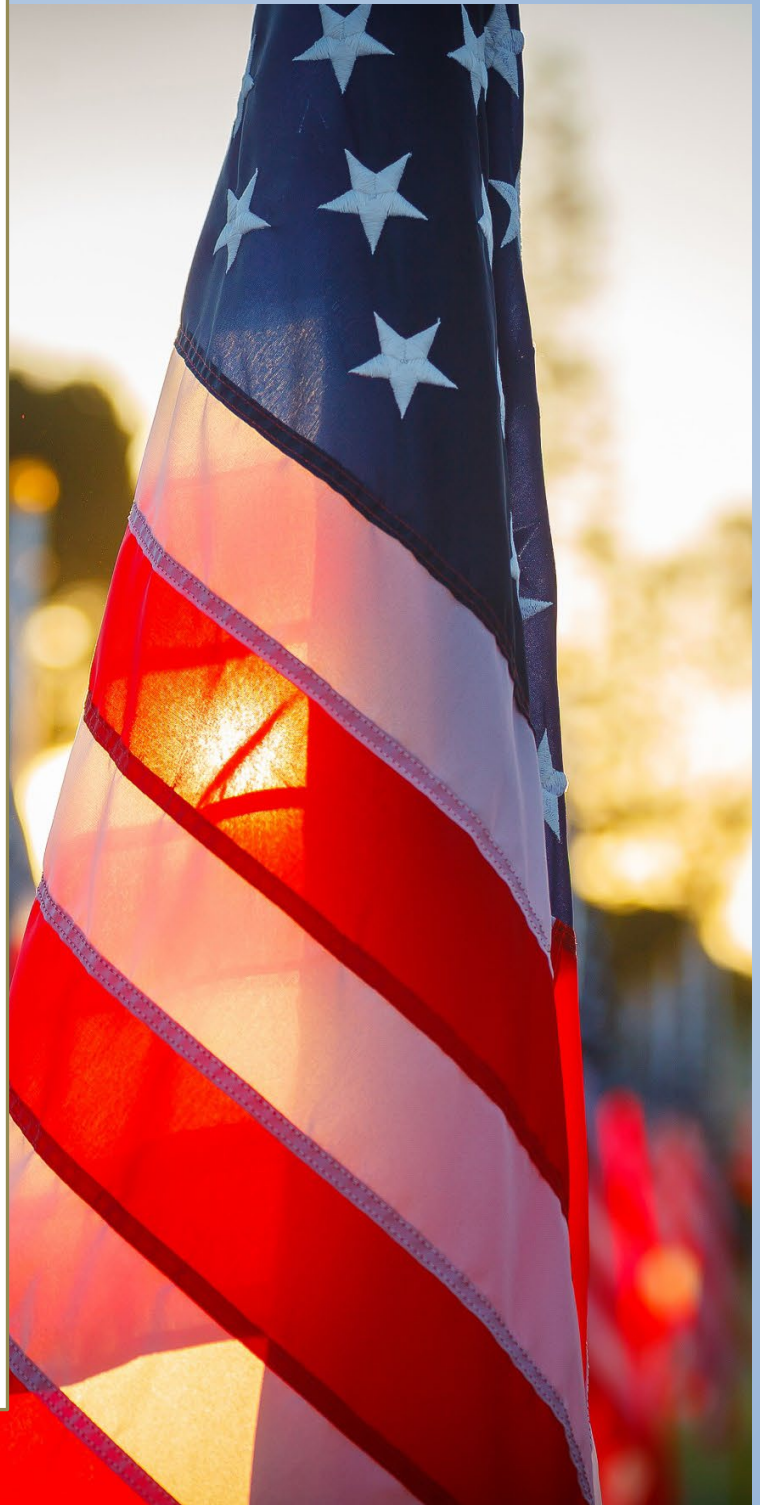


This report examines voting site access for people with disabilities across North Dakota. Surveyors looked at whether voters can safely park, enter voting sites, access voting spaces, and cast their ballots.

Voting Site Accessibility for People with Disabilities

A 2024 Survey of 87 voting sites in North Dakota

Prepared by the
North Dakota Protection &
Advocacy Project



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Purpose

Congress passed the Help American Vote Act (HAVA) in 2002. One of the purposes of HAVA is to ensure voting is convenient, accessible, and easy to use for people with disabilities. This includes polling sites and voting equipment. It does so by recognizing that people with disabilities face unique obstacles when voting at polling sites.

States and localities are supposed to use HAVA funding to make polling sites, including the path of travel, entrances, exits, and voting areas of each polling facility accessible to people with disabilities, including the blind and visually impaired, in a manner that provides the same opportunity for access and participation (including privacy and independence) as for other voters. ([52 U.S.C. § 21021](#))

The Help America Vote Act authorizes funding for the Protection and Advocacy for Voting Access (PAVA) program. The purpose of this comprehensive survey is to assess and improve polling site accessibility for people with disabilities across the state of North Dakota.

Introduction

Eighty seven (87) voting sites across North Dakota were surveyed between July 15 and September 19, 2024. This included nearly every poll site owned by state, county, or municipal governments and spanned 46 of North Dakota's 53 counties. The North Dakota Protection and Advocacy Project contracted with the North Dakota Centers for Independent Living to complete this project. ND Centers for Independent Living staff members conducted the surveys. Photos of voting sites as well as the full survey are available upon request.

Limitations

Surveys were not completed on election day and therefore did not consider temporary measures that may address accessibility related issues. Thus, the report may identify issues that will likely be addressed by County Auditors in advance of election day.

Survey Checklist

Each surveyor used a standardized assessment tool to examine basic accessibility features required for voters with disabilities. This assessment tool is based on Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division, Disability Rights Section's [Americans with Disabilities Act \(ADA\) Checklist for Polling Places](#) and covers various elements of polling place accessibility. The checklist references the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design ([28 C.F.R. §35.150\(b\)\(2\)](#)), which offer specific guidelines to ensure full accessibility compliance. While the 2010 Standards have updated requirements from the 1991 ADA Standards, polling places constructed or altered before March 15, 2012, that complied with the earlier standards may still be considered accessible under certain conditions. Areas surveyed at each voting site were parking, passenger drop-off area, exterior route to accessible entrance, polling place entrance, route from entrance into voting area, voting area, ramp, lift, and elevator.

Survey Findings

Parking

1. Is there at least one designated van accessible parking space with International Symbol of Accessibility (ISA) signage and designated “van accessible”? (§§ 208.2, 208.4, 502.6)
 - 47% of surveyed sites were compliant.
2. Are the designated van accessible spaces at least 96” wide with a 96” wide access aisle, or 132” wide with a 60” wide access aisle? (§§ 502.2, 502.3)
 - 52% of surveyed sites were compliant.
3. For van accessible spaces (particularly in a garage or parking structure), is there vertical clearance of at least 98" for the vehicular route to the parking space, in the parking space and access aisle, and along the vehicular route to the exit? (§502.5)
 - This question was applicable to only 50 of 87 poll sites surveyed. Of those it applied to 90% were compliant.
4. Are designated accessible parking spaces and the access aisles serving them on a level surface, with slopes not exceeding 1:48 in all directions? (Note: Curb ramps may not be part of an access aisle since they include slopes greater than 1:48.) (§502.4)
 - 42% of surveyed sites were compliant.
5. Are the surfaces of the designated accessible parking spaces and access aisles stable, firm, and slip resistant? (§§502.4, 302.1)
 - 89% of surveyed sites were compliant.
6. Are the designated accessible parking spaces located on the shortest accessible route to the accessible entrance? (§208.3.1)
 - 92% of surveyed sites were compliant.
7. 4” wide blue lines will be used to designate accessible parking spaces. If present, the curb shall also be painted blue. (North Dakota Century Code § 39-01-15)
 - 45% of surveyed sites were compliant.
8. A sign must indicate that unauthorized use of the space is a violation for which a fee of \$100.00 must be imposed. (North Dakota Century Code § 39-01-15)
 - 56% of surveyed sites were compliant.

Summary

The survey revealed that accessibility elements related to parking at voting sites is a statewide challenge. The greatest opportunities for improvement are in the areas of ensuring the availability of a van-accessible space with appropriate signage, ensuring accessible parking spaces are on a level surface, and have painted blue lines/curbs. Despite challenges in this area, voting sites generally excelled in ensuring accessible parking spaces were located on the shortest route to the accessible entrance.

Temporary or permanent measures to remedy accessibility issues:

Adding or designating spaces, adding appropriate signage, painting lines, or moving spaces to more accessible areas.

Passenger drop-off area

1. Is the vehicle pull-up space on a level surface, with slopes not exceeding 1:48 in all directions? (§503.4)
 - This question was applicable to only 19 of 87 poll sites surveyed. Of those it applied to 58% were compliant.
2. Is the access aisle next to the vehicle pull-up space on a level surface, with a slope not exceeding 1:48 in all directions? (§503.4)
 - This question was applicable to only 16 of 87 poll sites surveyed. Of those it applied to 50% were compliant.
3. Is there vertical clearance of at least 114" (9 feet 6 inches) from the site entrance to the vehicle pull-up area, in the access aisle, and along the vehicular route to the exit? (§503.5)
 - This question was applicable to only 18 of 87 poll sites surveyed. Of those it applied to 94% were compliant.
4. Is a curb ramp provided if a curb separates the access aisle from the accessible route to the accessible entrance? (§§206.2.1, 503.3)
 - This question was applicable to only 23 of 87 poll sites surveyed. Of those it applied to 74% were compliant.
5. Is the width of the curb ramp surface at least 36" (not counting the side flares)? (§405.5)
 - This question was applicable to only 20 of 87 poll sites surveyed. Of those it applied to 95% were compliant.
6. Does an accessible route connect the access aisle and curb ramp to the accessible entrance of the polling place? (§206.2)
 - This question was applicable to only 27 of 87 poll sites surveyed. Of those it applied to 78% were compliant.

Summary

At the time of surveying, few voting sites had a drop-off area. Of those that did, the greatest challenges were related to maintaining level services in the drop off area. Overall, poll sites did well in the areas of complying with curb ramp width and vertical clearance requirements.

Temporary or permanent measures to remedy accessibility issues:

Creating a drop-off area, moving the drop-off area, marking the drop-off area, or creating an appropriate curb ramp.

Exterior route to accessible entrance

1. Is the route at least 36" wide? (§403.5.1)
 - 99% of surveyed sites were compliant.
2. Is the route free of abrupt changes in level greater than 1/2", including stairs? (§303)
 - 72% of surveyed sites were compliant.
3. Is the route free of surface openings greater than 1/2", such as grates or holes in the pavement? (§302.3)
 - 67% of surveyed sites were compliant.
4. Are walking surfaces stable, firm, and slip resistant? (§302.1)
 - 96% of surveyed sites were compliant.

5. Is the route free of wall mounted objects that protrude more than 4" into the path of travel and are between 27" and 80" high? (§307.2)
 - 94% of surveyed sites were compliant.
6. Is the route free of post mounted objects that protrude more than 12" into the path of travel and are between 27" and 80" high? (§307.3)
 - 98% of surveyed sites were compliant.
7. Are objects that hang over the pedestrian route 80" or higher, including the underside of exterior stairs? (§307.4)
 - This question was applicable to only 63 of 87 poll sites surveyed. Of those it applied to 98% were compliant.
8. If the route crosses a curb, is there a curb ramp that is at least 36" wide with a slope no more than 1:12? (§§303.4, 405.2, 405.5, 406.1)
 - This question was applicable to only 50 of 87 poll sites surveyed. Of those it applied to 82% were compliant.
9. Is the running slope of part of the route greater than 1:20? (§402.2)
 - 64% of surveyed sites were compliant.
10. Is the cross slope of the accessible route no greater than 1:48? (§§403.3, 405.3)
 - 71% of surveyed sites were compliant.

Summary

Overall voting sites excelled in elements related to an appropriately wide exterior route and adequate walking surfaces. The greatest opportunities for improved access involve ensuring the route is free of large surface openings and ensuring the slope of the route is appropriate.

Temporary or permanent measures to remedy accessibility issues:

Fixing pavement, surface, or sidewalks to create stable surfaces, and providing an alternate exterior route.

Polling site entrance

1. Is the clear width of the door opening (one door or one active leaf of a double door) at least 32"? (§404.2.3)
 - 94% of surveyed sites were compliant.
2. Is each door hardware useable with one hand without tight grasping, pinching, or twisting of the wrist? (§§309.4, 404.2.7)
 - 97% of surveyed sites were compliant.
3. On the pull side of the door, is there at least 18" of clearance provided to the side of the latch? (§§404.2.4.4, 405.7.1)
 - 95% of surveyed sites were compliant.
4. Is the area in front of the door level, with slopes no greater than 1:48 in all directions? (§§404.2.4.4, 405.7.1)
 - 78% of surveyed sites were compliant.
5. If there are doors in a series, is the distance between the two hinged doors at least 48" plus the width of the door swinging into the space? (§404.2.6)
 - This question was applicable to only 49 of 87 poll sites surveyed. Of those it applied to 94% were compliant.

6. Can the second door (interior door) in the series be opened with no more than 5 pounds of force? (§309.4)
 - This question was applicable to only 37 of 87 poll sites surveyed. Of those it applied to 73% were compliant.
7. Does the second door (interior door) in the series have hardware useable with one hand without tight grasping, pinching, or twisting of the wrist? (§§309.4, 404.2.7)?
 - This question was applicable to only 40 of 87 poll sites surveyed. Of those it applied to 95% were compliant.
8. Does the second door (interior door) in the series have at least 18" of clearance provided to the side of the latch on the pull side of the door? (§§404.2.4.4, 405.7.1)
 - This question was applicable to only 43 of 87 poll sites surveyed. Of those it applied to 93% were compliant.
9. Does the second door (interior door) in the series have a level area in front of the door, with slopes no greater than 1:48 in all directions? (§§404.2.4.4, 405.7.1)
 - This question was applicable to only 43 of 87 poll sites surveyed. Of those it applied to 98% were compliant.
10. Are door thresholds no higher than 1/2"? (Note: If the threshold is between 1/4" and 1/2" it must be beveled.) (§404.2.5)
 - 91% of surveyed sites were compliant.
11. Do inaccessible entrances have signage directing voters to the accessible entrance? (§216.6)
 - This question was applicable to only 42 of 87 poll sites surveyed. Of those it applied to 64% were compliant.
12. If voters are directed to an alternative accessible entrance, is this entrance kept unlocked during voting hours? (28 C.F.R. §§35.130,35.133)
 - This question was applicable to only 40 of 87 poll sites surveyed. Of those it applied to 98% were compliant.

Summary

Overall voting sites excelled in this section with most sites meeting requirements in each of the twelve elements assessed. The area with the greatest opportunity for improvement is related to signage at inaccessible entrances.

Temporary or permanent measures to remedy accessibility issues:

Replace hardware and reroute people to accessible routes with appropriate signage.

Route from entrance into voting area

1. Is the route at least 36" wide? (§403.5.1)
 - 99% of surveyed sites were compliant.
2. Is the route free of wall mounted objects that protrude more than 4" into the path of travel and are between 27" and 80" high? (§307.2)9
 - 79% of surveyed sites were compliant.
3. Is the route free of post mounted objects that protrude more than 12" into the path of travel and are between 27" and 80" high? (§307.3)10
 - 89% of surveyed sites were compliant.
4. Are objects that hang over the route 80" or higher, including the underside of stairs? (§307.4)

- This question was applicable to only 66 of 87 poll sites surveyed. Of those it applied to 95% were compliant.
5. Is the route free of abrupt changes in level greater than 1/2", including stairs? (§303.11)
 - 96% of surveyed sites were compliant.
 6. Is the running slope of part of the route greater than 1:20? (§ 303.4)
 - 51% of surveyed sites were compliant.
 7. If the route to the voting area has stairs, is a platform lift or elevator provided? (§402.2)
 - This question was applicable to only 24 of 87 poll sites surveyed. Of those it applied to 100% were compliant.
 8. If doors are provided along the route to the voting area, is the clear width of each door opening (one door or one active leaf of a double door) at least 32"? (§404.2.3)
 - This question was applicable to only 65 of 87 poll sites surveyed. Of those it applied to 98% were compliant.
 9. Is each door hardware useable with one hand without tight grasping, pinching, or twisting of the wrist? (§§309.4, 404.2.7)
 - This question was applicable to only 57 of 87 poll sites surveyed. Of those it applied to 84% were compliant.
 10. Can each door be opened with no more than 5 pounds of force? (§309.4)
 - This question was applicable to only 52 of 87 poll sites surveyed. Of those it applied to 75% were compliant.
 11. Is the threshold at each door no higher than 1/2"? (Note: If the threshold is between 1/4" and 1/2" it must be beveled.) (§404.2.5)
 - 97% of surveyed sites were compliant.
 12. On the pull side of each door, is there at least 18" of clearance provided to the side of the latch? (§404.2.4)
 - This question was applicable to only 65 of 87 poll sites surveyed. Of those it applied to 89% were compliant.
 13. Is the area in front of each door level, with slopes no greater than 1:48 in all directions? (§§404.2.4.4, 405.7.1)
 - 99% of surveyed sites were compliant.

Summary

Overall, poll sites excelled in meeting requirements regarding accessible voting area entrances. The greatest opportunity for improving accessibility in this section is to ensure an appropriate running slope on the voting route.

Temporary or permanent measures to remedy accessibility issues:

Replace hardware, prop open doors, reroute voters to entrances with appropriate slopes, and ensure routes are clear.

Voting area

1. Are floor surfaces stable, firm, and slip resistant? (§302.1)
 - 100% of surveyed sites were compliant.
2. Is the route free of wall mounted objects that protrude more than 4" into the path of travel and are between 27" and 80" high? (§307.2)
 - 90% of surveyed sites were compliant.

3. Is the route free of post mounted objects that protrude more than 12" into the path of travel and are between 27" and 80" high? (§307.3)
 - 95% of surveyed sites were compliant.
4. Are objects that hang over the route 80" or higher, including the underside of stairs? (§307.4)
 - This question was applicable to only 65 of 87 poll sites surveyed. Of those it applied to 97% were compliant.
5. Is there enough room to provide a route at least 36" wide to the registration table and voting stations? (§403.5.1)
 - 96% of surveyed sites were compliant.
6. Is there enough room to provide a turning space in front of at least one voting station, such as a circle that is at least 60" in diameter? (§304.3)
 - 99% of surveyed sites were compliant.
7. Is there enough room to provide a turning space in front of at least one accessible voting machine, such as a circle that is at least 60" in diameter? (§304.3)
 - 100% of surveyed sites were compliant.

Summary

Most sites were compliant with all seven accessibility requirements within the voting area section. The greatest area for improvement in this section is in regard to wall mounted objects that protruded into the route.

Temporary or permanent measures to remedy accessibility issues:

Move objects that protrude into the route to ensure there are no potential barriers.

Ramp

1. Is the running slope of the ramp no greater than 1:12? (§405.2)
 - 80% of surveyed sites were compliant.
2. Is the cross slope of the ramp 1:48 or less? (§405.3)
 - 82% of surveyed sites were compliant.
3. Is the rise (height) for any ramp run 30" or less? (§405.6)
 - 83% of surveyed sites were compliant.
4. Is the ramp, measured between handrails, at least 36" wide? (§405.5)
 - 89% of surveyed sites were compliant.
5. Does the ramp have a level landing that is at least 60" long, at the top and bottom of each ramp section? (§405.7)
 - 83% of surveyed sites were compliant.
6. For every 30" of rise, is a level landing at least 60" long provided? (§§405.6, 405.7)
 - 75% of surveyed sites were compliant.
7. Is a level landing, at least 60" by 60" provided where the ramp changes direction? (§405.7.4)
 - 78% of surveyed sites were compliant.
8. If the rise of the ramp is greater than 6", are handrails provided that are between 34" and 38" above the ramp surface? (§§405.8, 505.4)
 - 72% of surveyed sites were compliant.
9. If the rise of the ramp is greater than 6" and the ramp or landing has a vertical drop-off on either side of the ramp, is edge protection provided? (§405.9)

- 79% of surveyed sites were compliant.

Summary

This section of questions was applicable to just a small portion of voting sites surveyed. Of poll sites to which these questions applied, most were compliant in all nine areas assessed. The greatest opportunity for improvement is in the areas of appropriate ramp slope, landings, and handrail height.

Temporary or permanent measures to remedy accessibility issues:

Replace noncompliant ramps with compliant versions.

Lift

1. Is the lift operational at the time of the survey? (28 C.F.R. §§35.130, 35.133)
 - 100% of surveyed sites were compliant.
2. Is the lift independently operable, or can it be made so during Election Day? (§410.1)
 - 100% of surveyed sites were compliant.
3. Is there 30" by 48" of clear floor space within the lift? (§§410.3, 305.3)
 - 100% of surveyed sites were compliant.
4. Are the controls for the lift no higher than 48"? (§§410.5, 309.3, 308)
 - 100% of surveyed sites were compliant.
5. Are the controls useable with one hand without tight grasping, pinching or twisting? (§§410.5, 309.4)
 - 100% of surveyed sites were compliant.
6. Is the clear width of the door opening/gate opening at the end of the lift at least 32"? If a side door/gate is provided, is the clear opening width at least 42"? (§410.6)
 - 100% of surveyed sites were compliant.

Summary

This section of questions was applicable to only three (3) voting sites surveyed. Of poll sites to which these questions applied, all were compliant in all areas assessed.

Temporary or permanent measures to remedy accessibility issues:

N/A

Elevator

1. Is the elevator car door opening at least 36" wide? (§407.3.6, Table 407.4.1)
 - 100% of surveyed sites were compliant.
2. Is there space to maneuver within the elevator car, e.g., 51" deep and 68" wide; OR 80" deep and 54" wide; OR 60" deep and 60" wide? (§407.4.1)
 - 92% of surveyed sites were compliant.
3. Are hallway elevator call buttons 48" high or lower? (§§407.2.1.1, 308.2, 308.3)
 - 100% of surveyed sites were compliant.
4. Are elevator car controls 48" high or lower? (§§407.4.6.1, 308.2, 308.3)
 - 100% of surveyed sites were compliant.
5. Does the elevator have visible and audible signals in the hallway to indicate the arrival and direction of the elevator car? (§407.2.2.1)

- 58% of surveyed sites were compliant.

Summary

This section of questions was applicable to only twelve (12) voting sites surveyed. Of poll sites to which these questions applied, most were compliant in all areas assessed. The greatest opportunity for improved accessibility is in regard to signals to indicate arrival and direction of the elevator car.

Temporary or permanent measures to remedy accessibility issues:

Conduct elevator modifications or modify route, if possible and necessary.

Discussion of Findings

2024 Survey Findings

Few sites across the state were found to be fully compliant with all accessibility requirements. This means that many surveyed voting sites had at least one potential barrier to voting for people with disabilities.

- 6% of sites (5 sites) surveyed were fully compliant with accessibility requirements.
- 87% of sites surveyed had non-compliant accessibility elements that could be remedied with temporary measures. Most concerns were regarding accessible parking.
- 7% of sites (6 sites) had non-compliant accessibility elements that could not be remedied by temporary measures. Relocation is recommended due to significant accessibility barriers.

Accessibility Issues at Polling Sites

Voters arriving at voting locations may find difficulty with parking, especially voters using wheelchairs. The most common problems were regarding:

- Having at least one designated van accessible space with signage including the International Symbol of Accessibility and designated "van accessible."
- Having designated accessible parking spaces with the access aisles serving them on a level surface, with slopes not exceeding 1:48 in all directions.
- Having 4" wide blue lines to designate accessible parking spaces.

Survey Result Comparison

Fifty-five (55) of the sites surveyed in 2024 were also surveyed in 2022. Upon comparison, significant improvement in accessibility in several categories:

- Is there at least one designated van accessible parking space with International Symbol of Accessibility (ISA) signage and designated "van accessible"? (§§ 208.2, 208.4, 502.6)
 - In 2022, 28% of sites surveyed met this requirement, by 2024, 47% of sites surveyed met this requirement. For sites that were surveyed in both 2022 and 2024, this is a 56% growth in number of sites in compliance.
- Are the designated van accessible spaces at least 96" wide with a 96" wide access aisle, or 132" wide with a 60" wide access aisle? (§§ 502.2, 502.3)
 - In 2022, 50% of sites surveyed met this requirement and in 2024 52% of sites met this requirement. For sites that were surveyed in both 2022 and 2024, this is a 13% growth in number of sites in compliance.

- If doors are provided along the route to the voting area, is the clear width of each door opening (one door or one active leaf of a double door) at least 32"? (§404.2.3)
 - In 2022, 97% of sites surveyed met this requirement and in 2024 98% of sites met this requirement. For sites that were surveyed in both 2022 and 2024, this is a 15% growth in number of sites in compliance.

Conclusion

This survey examined only a portion of polling sites statewide leading up to the 2024 election. State and federal law provide the framework for ensuring all voters have access to polling sites to cast their ballots and make their voices heard on Election Day. The checklist used in this report can serve as a tool to ensure compliance with voting site accessibility requirements. Because many elements of non-compliance can be remedied with temporary or permanent measures, surveying polling sites for accessibility well in advance of Election Day allows sites to fix areas of non-compliance in a timely manner.

Reference Material

Parking Space Information in North Dakota

Below is information from the [Americans with Disabilities Act \(ADA\) 2010 Standards](#) and the [North Dakota Century Code section 39-01-15](#) regarding parking space requirements and accessibility.

Section 502 of the 2010 ADA Regulations: Parking Spaces & Access Aisles

502.1 General. Car and van parking spaces shall comply with this section (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.

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.

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.

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.

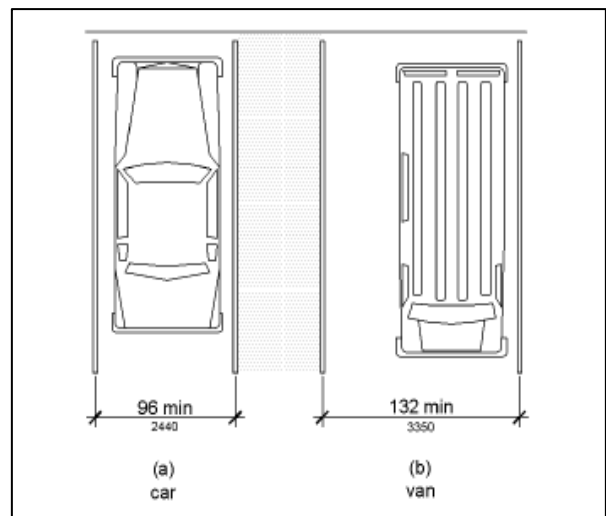


Figure 502.2 Vehicle Parking Spaces

502.3 Access Aisle. Access aisles serving parking spaces shall comply with 502.3. Access aisles shall adjoin an accessible route. Two parking spaces shall be permitted to share a common access aisle.

Advisory 502.3 Access Aisle. Accessible routes must connect parking spaces to accessible entrances. This is called an “access aisle”. In parking facilities where the accessible route must cross vehicular traffic lanes, marked crossings enhance pedestrian safety, particularly for people using wheelchairs and other mobility aids. Where possible, it is preferable that the accessible route not pass behind parked vehicles.

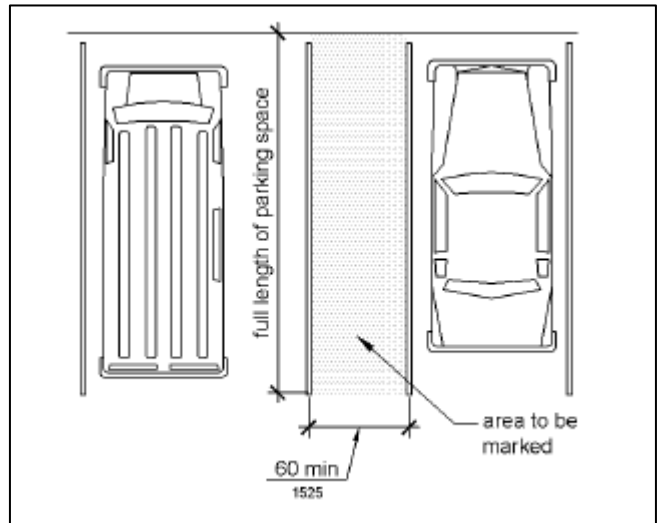


Figure 502.3 Parking Space Access Aisle

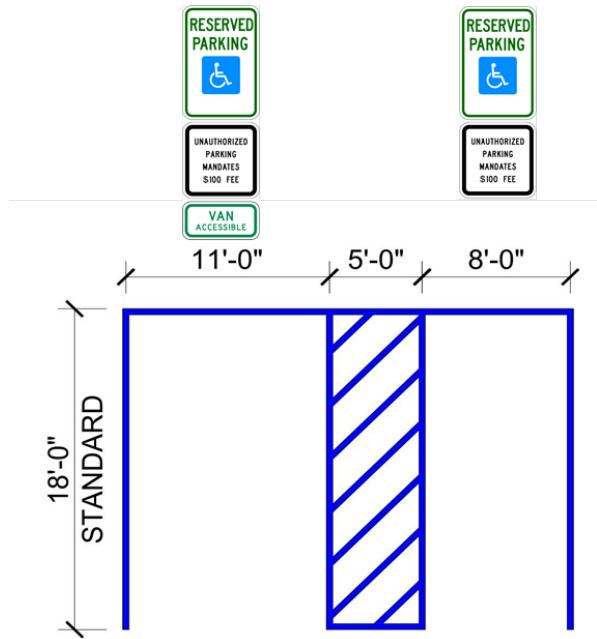
502.3.1 Width. Access aisles serving car and van parking spaces shall be 60 inches wide minimum.

502.3.2 Length. Access aisles shall extend the full length of the parking spaces they serve.

502.3.3 Marking. Access aisles shall be marked to discourage parking in them.

Advisory 502.3.3 Marking. Because these requirements permit the van access aisle to be as wide as a parking space, it is important that the aisle be clearly marked.

N.D.C.C. § 39-01-15(9). North Dakota law requires that designated parking spaces for accessible parking be indicated by blue paint on the curb or edge of the paved portion of the street or parking lot adjacent to the space. In addition to the blue paint, each reserved space must be indicated by a sign bearing the international symbol of accessibility for the mobility impaired. The sign must indicate that unauthorized use of the space is a non-moving violation for which a fee of \$100 must be imposed (“UNAUTHORIZED PARKING MANDATES \$100 FEE”.) The “Van Accessible” sign can be either Green or Black on a White background for parking signage or White on a Blue background for directional signage.



502.3.4 Location. Access aisles shall not overlap the vehicular way. Access aisles shall be permitted to be placed on either side of the parking space except for angled van parking spaces which shall have access aisles located on the passenger side of the parking spaces.

Advisory 502.3.4 Location. Wheelchair lifts typically are installed on the passenger side of vans. Many drivers, especially those who operate vans, find it more difficult to back into parking spaces than to back out into comparatively unrestricted vehicular lanes. For this reason, where a van and car share an access aisle, consider locating the van space so that the access aisle is on the passenger side of the van space.

502.4 Floor or Ground Surfaces. 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.

EXCEPTION: Slopes not steeper than 1:48 shall be permitted.

Advisory 502.4 Floor or Ground Surfaces. Access aisles are required to be nearly level in all directions to provide a surface for wheelchair transfer to and from vehicles. The exception allows sufficient slope for drainage. Built-up curb ramps are not permitted to project into access aisles and parking spaces because they would create slopes greater than 1:48.

502.5 Vertical Clearance. Parking spaces for vans and access aisles and vehicular routes serving them shall provide a vertical clearance of 98 inches (2490 mm) minimum.

Advisory 502.5 Vertical Clearance. Signs provided at entrances to parking facilities informing drivers of clearances and the location of van accessible parking spaces can provide useful customer assistance.

502.6 Identification. Parking space identification signs shall include the International Symbol of Accessibility complying with 703.7.2.1. Signs identifying van parking spaces shall contain the designation "van accessible." Signs shall be 60 inches (1525 mm) minimum above the finish floor or ground surface measured to the bottom of the sign.

Advisory 502.6 Identification. The required "van accessible" designation is intended to be informative, not restrictive, in identifying those spaces that are better suited for van use. Enforcement of motor vehicle laws, including parking privileges, is a local matter.

502.7 Relationship to Accessible Routes. Parking spaces and access aisles shall be designed so that cars and vans, when parked, cannot obstruct the required clear width of adjacent accessible routes.

Advisory 502.7 Relationship to Accessible Routes. Wheel stops are an effective way to prevent vehicle overhangs from reducing the clear width of accessible routes.

Section 208 of the 2010 ADA Regulations: Parking Spaces

208.1 General. Where parking spaces are provided, parking spaces shall be provided in accordance with 208.

Table 208.2 Parking Spaces

Total Number of Parking Spaces Provided in Parking Facility or Parking Lot	Minimum Number of Required Accessible Parking Spaces
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1-25	1
26-50	2
51-75	3
76-100	4
101-150	5
151-200	6
201-300	7
301-400	8
401-500	9
501-1000	2% of total spaces
1001+	20, plus 1 per 100, or fraction thereof, over 1000

208.2.4 Van Parking Spaces. For every six or fraction of six parking spaces required by 208.2 to comply with 502, at least one shall be a van parking space complying with 502.

208.3 Location. Parking facilities shall comply with 208.3

208.3.1 General. 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. Where parking serves more than one accessible entrance, parking spaces complying with 502 shall be dispersed and located on the shortest accessible route to the accessible entrances. In parking facilities that do not serve a particular building or facility, parking spaces complying with 502 shall be located on the shortest accessible route to an accessible pedestrian entrance of the parking facility.

Thank You

We want to extend our gratitude to the Secretary of State's Office and County Auditors who collaborated on this project and do their best every day to ensure North Dakotans can participate in the electoral process. A special thank you also goes to Centers for Independent Living and its staff who conducted surveys statewide and to Mr. Burlingame for preparing the initial draft of this report.



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