



City of Powder Springs – ADA Transition Plan

March 2024

Presented to



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1. Purpose

This plan serves as a roadmap for the City of Powder Springs to achieve full compliance with the provisions of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 enacted on July 26, 1990; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, guaranteeing equal access for everyone to all City programs, services, activities, and construction projects.

I. History of Powder Springs

Powder Springs was founded in 1838, making it one of the oldest cities in Cobb County. The city was named for the natural springs that were once abundant in the area. Powder Springs was originally a small farming community, but it began to grow in the late 19th century with the arrival of the railroad. The city continued to grow in the 20th century, and it is now one of Cobb's fastest growing cities with a population of over 17,000 people.

In 2023, the city's Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs department was named the Georgia Recreation and Park Association's Agency of the Year (Population under 20,000). The city each May draws over 10,000 visitors to its Thurman Springs Park downtown for the "Bringing the Sea to the Springs" seafood festival, which earned in 2022 the "Spot On Event of the Year" honor from Cobb Travel & Tourism. Today, residents and visitors enjoy a mix of business and industry, and the closest downtown to the Silver Comet Trail, a 61.5-mile paved trail that runs through Cobb, Paulding and Polk counties and will one day connect to the Atlanta Beltline.

Powder Springs is a great place to live, work, and play. Residents report that the city has the perfect balance of community and convenience. Our residents enjoy living in an authentic, diverse, and affordable hometown while having easy access to all the amenities of a big city. With thriving businesses and spectacular surroundings, Powder Springs is the perfect place to put down roots and create a life of possibilities.

The City of Powder Springs is located in southwest Cobb County and is approximately 24 miles west of Atlanta and approximately 23 miles from Hartsfield-Jackson Airport.

The City is a full-service municipality distinguished by its unique history, natural amenities, sense of community, and modern quality of life.

The City's community development services, police, parks and recreation, facilities, and public works, take great pride in providing excellent service to citizens and businesses.

II. Mission, Vision, and Values

Vision

Powder Springs a city inspired by the past, invigorated by the present and innovative about the future.

Mission

The City of Powder Springs government, residents and businesses working together to promote a safe, economically secure and stimulating city; where people want to visit and call home.

Values

SERVICE - The City promotes an inclusive atmosphere. We provide the highest level of service and treat our customers and residents with dignity and respect.

ETHICS - The City strives to operate with trust, honesty, fairness and understanding during all interactions.

TRANSPARENCY - The City is committed to open government, which is vital to operations and improves quality of life.

SUPPORT - The City is committed to supporting its staff and community.

ACCOUNTABILITY - The city is obligated to be a good steward of public funds through conscientious policies and processes.

INOVATION - The City continues to be innovative in the implementation of our planning goals.

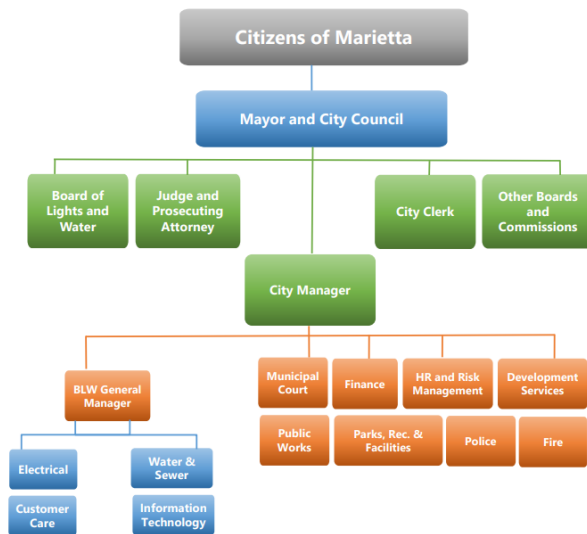
LEADERSHIP - The City's pledge to the residents is to provide good leadership and sound management.

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III. Organization

The City is governed by the Mayor and Council with the below hierarchy:

CITY OF MARIETTA ORGANIZATION CHART



IV. Statement of Accessibility

In accordance with the requirements of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ("ADA"), the City of Marietta will not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities on the basis of disability in its services, programs, or activities.

Employment

The City of Marietta does not discriminate on the basis of disability in its hiring or employment practices and complies with all regulations promulgated by the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission under Title I of the ADA.

Effective Communication

The City of Marietta will generally, upon request, provide appropriate aids and services leading to effective communication for qualified persons with disabilities so they can participate equally in City of Marietta programs, services, and activities, including qualified sign language interpreters, documents in Braille, and other ways of making information and communications accessible to people who have speech, hearing, or vision impairments.

Modifications to Policies & Procedures

The City of Marietta/BLW will make all reasonable modifications to policies and programs to ensure that people with disabilities have an equal opportunity to enjoy all of its programs, services, and activities. For example, individuals with service animals are welcomed in City of Marietta/BLW offices, even where pets are generally prohibited.

Anyone who requires an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication, or a modification of policies or procedures to participate in a program, service, or activity of the City of Marietta/BLW should contact the office of Grace Brown, Risk Manager/ADA Coordinator, Department of Human Resources, as soon as possible but no later than 48

hours before the scheduled event.

The ADA does not require the City of Marietta/BLW to take any action that would fundamentally alter the nature of its programs or services, or impose an undue financial or administrative burden.

Providing Auxiliary Aids

The City of Marietta/BLW will not place a surcharge on a particular individual with a disability or any group of individuals with disabilities to cover the cost of providing auxiliary aids/services or reasonable modifications of policy, such as retrieving items from locations that are open to the public but are not accessible to persons who use wheelchairs.

2. Evaluation of Facilities

The City is responsible for review of all City facilities as part of the compliance with the ADA Plan. The City operates multiple public buildings, police and fire stations, utility service facilities, parks, public spaces, and roadways.

I. Public Buildings

The Facilities Division of the City's Parks, Recreation, and Facilities Department maintains all Public Buildings. Assessment of these facilities continues from our 2018 submittal.

A City Facility Inventory can be found in the Appendix as Attachment 1 and assessments in the Appendix as Attachment 2.

II. Police and Fire Stations

The Facilities Division of the City's Parks, Recreation, and Facilities Department provides varied levels of maintenance and support to the Police and Fire Stations. Assessment of these facilities continues from our 2018 submittal.

A City Facility Inventory can be found in the Appendix as Attachment 1 and assessments in the Appendix as Attachment 2.

III. Utility Service Facilities

The Facilities Division of the City's Parks, Recreation, and Facilities Department maintains all Utility Service Facilities. Assessment of these facilities continues from our 2018 submittal.

A City Facility Inventory can be found in the Appendix as Attachment 1 and assessments in the Appendix as Attachment 2

IV. Parks, Off Roadway, Trails and Public Spaces

The Grounds Division of the City's Parks, Recreation, and Facilities Department maintains all City parks and off-road trails. Many of these facilities have been subject to renovations or

are new facilities that were funded by the 2009 Parks Bond. At the time the work was completed on these facilities, they met current standards for accessibility that applied. Assessment of these facilities continues from our 2018 submittal.

A City Facility Inventory can be found in the Appendix as Attachment 1 and assessments in the Appendix as Attachment 2.

V. Roadways

The City maintains an extensive network of roads within the City Limits which includes a network of sidewalks and trails. The City maintains a comprehensive sidewalk map that displays all existing and proposed sidewalks/trails. The City completed an audit of the downtown area for pedestrian improvements as part of this year's effort. The audit, a list of repairs done in 2021, and the sidewalk map can be found in the appendix as Attachments 3, 4, and 5, respectively.

3. ADA Procedures

I. Citizen Requests and ADA Complaints

The City receives requests and ADA complaints from residents, business owners, and other stakeholders to address ADA deficiencies. Complaints that a program, service, or activity of the City of Marietta/BLW is not accessible to persons with disabilities should be directed to Grace Brown, Risk Manager/ADA Coordinator, Department of Human Resources and Risk Management. The City also receives these items through the Citizen Request feature on the website (<http://www.MariettaGa.gov/1254/Citizen-Request>) or through phone calls placed to the various City Departments. Additionally, requests may come from a City Councilperson or the Mayor as they are brought to their attention. Requests are tracked through the Citizen Request online database and assigned to the responsible parties within the City. The City Manager and other Department heads regularly monitor the lists of requests to be sure that items are addressed promptly and thoroughly.

II. Evaluation of Requests

When the City receives a request related to ADA deficiencies, the request is reviewed against the current Comprehensive Transportation Plan (found in the Appendix as Attachment 6) to see if the area in question already has a documented corrective action. If it does not, the person(s) assigned to the request will evaluate it and a plan of action will be developed using guidance established in City Ordinance 732.07 (Sidewalks).

III. ADA Advisory Board

The City has established an Americans with Disabilities Advisory Board per City Code Section 1-10-6-020. The purpose of this board is to provide commentary and technical

assistance to the city council in regard to the city's self-evaluation process and transition plan in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The City has designated the Risk Manager, Grace Brown, to serve as the ADA Coordinator for the city and her contact information is displayed below. She received her GDOT ADA Training in July of 2020.

Grace Brown, Risk Manager/ADA Coordinator, 205 Lawrence St. NE, Marietta, GA 30060, [REDACTED], [REDACTED]

4. Long Range Plan

I. City Facilities

The City will be creating a Long Range Plan to address ADA issues throughout all City facilities established in Section 2.

II. Roadways

The City has a Transportation Plan which accounts for all roadway improvement projects. This list will designate projects that have been programmed to be completed by funding mechanisms including but not limited to Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) Programs, ARC TIP Program, GDOT Federal Aid Programs, various grants, and direct City funding. The Transportation Plan can be found in the Appendix as Attachment 6.

All projects that are developed from this plan are reviewed for ADA items by Transportation Department Employees and by professional engineering consultants hired by the City. The City follows the practice of providing for ADA facilities when practical within the limits of the project by reviewing existing sidewalk, pedestrian density, existing and proposed traffic signals, and connections to existing pedestrian sidewalk and trail networks. Additionally, the City allocates a discretionary fund for pedestrian and safety improvements for each City Councilperson to make improvements within their ward. These discretionary projects can include new or improved sidewalk with ADA improvements such as ADA ramps, crosswalks, and sidewalks.

5. Accomplishments

In the past three years, the City has made several improvements to accessibility and they are listed below:

- Cemetery Trail
- West Park on the Square Pedestrian Improvements
- South Park on the Square Pedestrian Improvements
- 13 Intersections near Wellstar Hospital (in construction)
- Cobb Parkway at Allgood Road Intersection Improvement

- Roswell Streetscapes and Widening from Victory to Dodd
- North Marietta Parkway and Cobb Parkway Intersection Improvement
- North Marietta Parkway Sidewalks
- Cole Street Sidewalks
- Faith Street Sidewalks
- Sawyer Road Sidewalks
- Scufflegrit Sidewalks
- Whitlock Drive Phase 1 Sidewalks
- Roosevelt Sidewalks (in construction)
- Sawyer and Allgood Intersection Improvements
- Elizabeth Porter Park
- Elizabeth Porter Area Sidewalks
- Sawyer Road Fire Station
- Roswell Street Sidewalks
- Whitlock Drive Phase 2 Sidewalks
- KMCR Gap Trail
- East Dixie Sidewalk
- Kennesaw Avenue Streetscapes
- Lakewood and Manget Intersection Improvement
- Manning Road Traffic Calming
- Cole Street South
- Bouldercrest Sidewalks
- Mountain View Access Sidewalks
- Cherokee Sidewalks
- White Circle Intersection Improvement
- Waddell Street Pedestrian Crossing

6. Appendix

- Attachment One – City Facility Inventory
- Attachment Two – Facility Assessment
- Attachment Three – 2021 Sidewalk ADA Audit
- Attachment Four – 2021 Sidewalk Repairs
- Attachment Five – 2021 City Sidewalk Map
- Attachment Six – Comprehensive Transportation Plan