About the project
The City of Burien Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Transition Plan provides policies and practices for implementing physical pedestrian improvements within the public right-of-way of the City of Burien. The goals of the plan are to provide safe and usable pedestrian facilities for all pedestrians, and to ensure compliance with all federal, state and local regulations and standards.

The City of Burien updates their ADA Transition Plan every three to five years, and this year we’re identifying the next phase of priority geographic areas in Burien for barrier inventory and removal.

What is an ADA Transition Plan?
The City of Burien first published an ADA Transition Plan in August 2015. The plan guides the city’s work to bring existing right of way facilities into compliance with ADA standards. Burien’s approach is to make incremental progress; the ADA Transition Plan does not attempt to inventory all ADA deficiencies citywide. Rather, plan updates complete a full inventory of selected priority geographic areas within the city and removes identified barriers. Taking an incremental approach better utilizes Burien’s limited resources, balancing community needs with funding realities. High priority barriers will be addressed through the ADA Barrier Mitigation Program. Lower priority barriers will be addressed by including the improvements in the City’s other capital projects.

Priority facilities for barrier inventory
These are the six types of pedestrian facilities found within the City of Burien that will be evaluated using barrier evaluation criteria:

- Pedestrian Circulation Paths (sidewalks and road shoulders)
- Curb Ramps
- Pedestrian Push Buttons (at signalized intersections)
- Bus Stops
- Public Parking
- Street Furniture

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU
The City of Burien is hosting a meeting to hear from Burien residents, people with disabilities, and local service and advocacy groups about priority areas to improve accessibility.

WHEN: November 2, 2017, 5:30-7:30 pm
WHERE: Burien Community Center, Seahurst Banquet Hall, 4700 6th Ave SW

ADA TRANSITION PLAN PROCESS

1 Priority Geography Identification
2 Barrier Inventory
3 Barrier Removal

Plan updates are made every three to five years.
2015 ADA Transition Plan
The first ADA Transition Plan published in 2015 described pedestrian facility needs in the city and outlined the recommended procedures for implementing improvements to provide a compliant system of curb ramps, pedestrian signals, and sidewalks. The original plan identified the Town Center, portions of Ambaum Boulevard and S/SW 156th Street as priority areas, and included detailed barrier inventories, cost estimates and plans for these areas. Repairs were designed in 2015 and are now under construction.

Next steps
The City of Burien will begin drafting the next update to the ADA Transition Plan following the public meeting. The feedback received at the meeting about what areas in Burien should be prioritized for barrier inventory and removal will guide the development of the plan update. Ongoing updates, every three to five years, will consider the next round of priority areas for barrier inventory and removal.

Improving accessibility and meeting the requirements of the law
The landmark Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 provides comprehensive civil rights protections to qualified individuals with disabilities in the areas of employment, public accommodations, state and local government services, and telecommunications. Title II of the Act took effect on January 26, 1992 and covers programs, activities, and services of public entities, including Burien, Washington. The United States Department of Justice is the primary enforcement agency for the ADA.

Title II of the ADA requires that new facilities be designed and constructed such that they are readily accessible to and usable by persons with disabilities. New construction projects address the construction of a new roadway or other transportation facility where none existed before. New construction is expected to meet the highest level of ADA accessibility unless it is structurally impracticable to achieve full compliance.

In the City of Burien, the vast majority of construction projects are not classified as new construction under the ADA, but rather they are classified as alterations. An alteration is a project that occurs within an existing developed right of way. Alterations include reconstruction, major rehabilitation, widening, resurfacing (e.g., asphalt overlays or mill and fill), signal installation and upgrades, and projects of similar scale and effect. Alterations to existing facilities are required to meet new construction standards to the maximum extent feasible.

For more information about the ADA Transition Plan, visit our website or contact us:

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