



ADA TRANSITION PLAN



BISMARCK PARKS AND RECREATION DISTRICT
Est. 1927

Approved March 21, 2024

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

BPRD Commitment to Accessibility

Bismarck Parks and Recreation District (BPRD) is committed to nondiscrimination on the basis of disability in the design of facilities, parks and trails and provision of services. This is affirmed in the Board's Policy Statement, which states that the BPRD is "committed to and in support of taking all steps to ensure that no person or groups of persons shall, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, low-income or LEP discrimination; be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any and all programs, services or activities administered by the District".

BPRD also recognizes "Accessibility" as essential in its core purpose to "Provide affordable, accessible, and sustainable public park and recreation services". BPRD has demonstrated this commitment through the planning and implementation of physical improvements, modification of organizational processes, coordination of compliance activities, and involvement of persons with disabilities in planning, decision-making, networking and program delivery.

ADA Transition Plan

This Transition Plan considers past ADA legislation (the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973) and implementation of Title II of ADA (adopted in 1990), which pertains to the programs, activities and services public entities provide as well as administrative requirements. The Plan also considers more recently adopted ADA standards and proposed standards that are in the process of being adopted into state and federal ADA codes.

In addition to a review of physical structures, the Transition Plan includes evaluation and recommendations related to policies, procedures, communications, programs, maintenance and training. The ADA Transition Plan uses a self-evaluation process to analyze how well BPRD has responded to ADA standards and concerns in the past and the level at which BPRD is meeting current and proposed ADA standards. The self-evaluation, along with consideration of public and stakeholder input, will be considered in developing recommendations for the prioritization of projects and strategies, which will then be considered during the annual strategic planning process and budget submission.

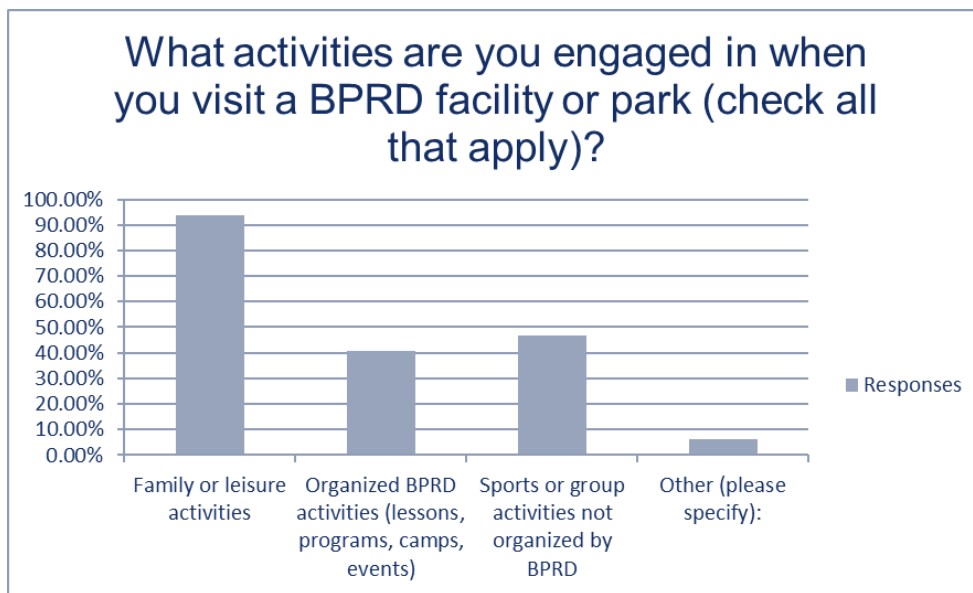
BPRD Overall Transition Plan Goals

- At a minimum, 30% of all recreation facilities, of each type, throughout the District will be fully accessible (i.e. at least 4 of the 11 picnic shelters at Sertoma Park will be fully accessible, including all features).
 - The exceptions to the 30% rule will be that all picnic shelters will have a minimum of one accessible picnic table and all play areas will be designed to be fully accessible.
- Staff training will be provided at all staff-wide risk management meetings, as well as division-specific training for each sector.
- The removal of barriers to accessibility will take priority over small adjustments to existing accessibility measures (moving grab bars 1-2”).
- Large scale slope changes to parking lots will be completed when the associated recreational facilities are renovated.
- Accessibility changes to facilities that are planned for full-scale renovations will be deferred until those renovations take place.

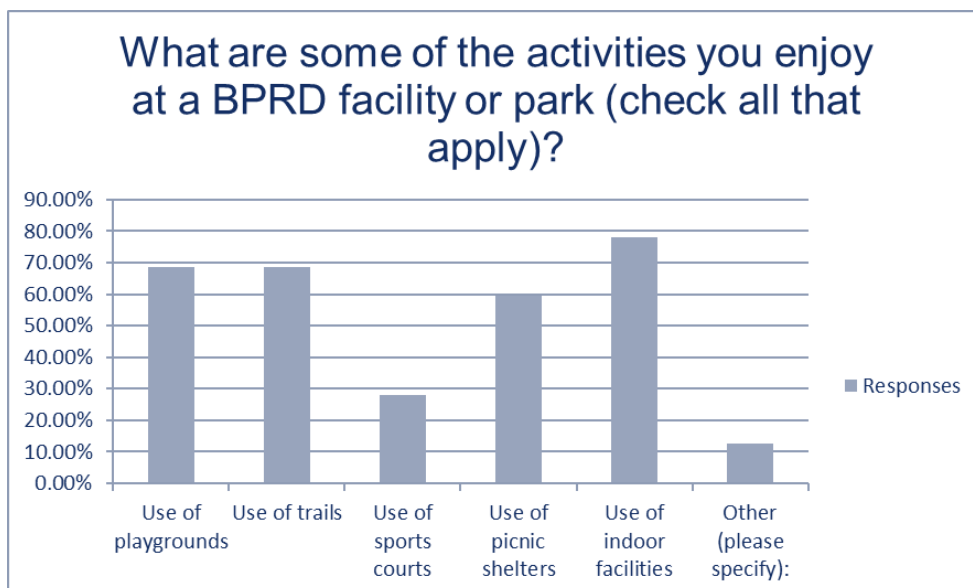
PUBLIC INPUT

Public Input Survey

- In summer 2023, BPRD initiated a public input survey to gather feedback on the accessibility of park district facilities, programs, and events. The Park District received 32 responses. The survey responses helped to inform the criteria by which the audit issues will be evaluated and prioritized.
- The summary and analysis of the survey is below. The full survey summary is attached.

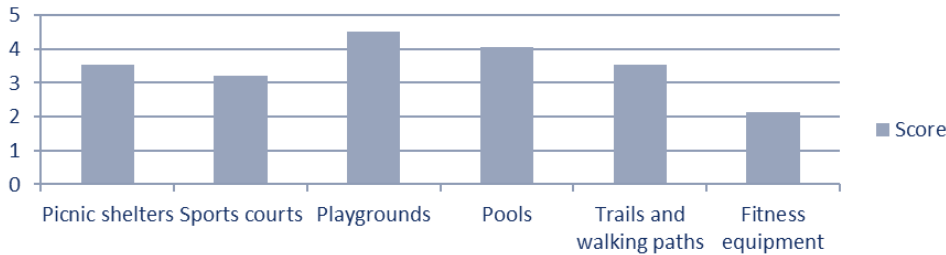


With family and leisure activities ranked highest, BPRD will continue to prioritize free and open recreational opportunities like parks, trails, and unstructured programs in facilities.



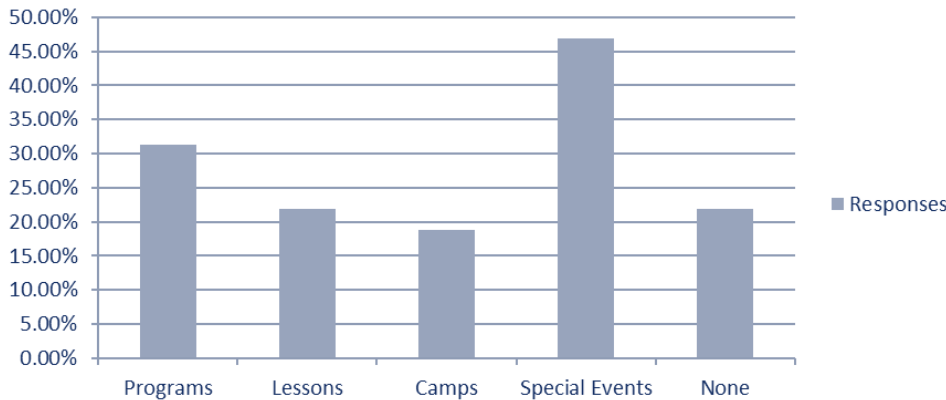
Accessibility upgrades to indoor facilities, playgrounds, trails, and picnic shelters will be prioritized.

How would you prioritize the following areas for improving accessibility, with 1 being the highest priority and 6 being the lowest priority? Select the arrows to move the options up or down so they are listed in your priority order.

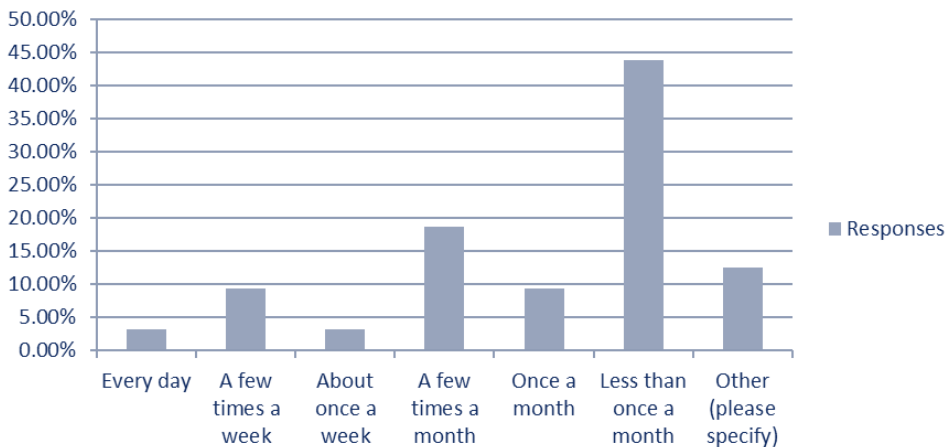


Playgrounds have been and will continue to be a priority within the Park District for accessibility. BPRD also strives to go beyond the guidelines and provide spaces where everyone can play together.

Please indicate which BPRD sponsored activities you have participated in recently (check all that apply).



How often do you participate in a BPRD sponsored program or event?



ACCESS AUDIT

In 2021, BPRD hired ACTServices Consulting to complete a 2-phase access audit for all facilities, parks, trails, and spaces.

- Phase 1 (2021) - All BPRD indoor facilities, programs, and administrative policies
- Phase 2 (2022) - All BPRD outdoor recreation facilities, parks, trails, and properties

Audit Process

1. Deficiency Resources
 - Plan provides a detailed list of all accessibility barriers at all facilities and parks.
2. Budget Tool
 - An estimated cost for removal of an accessibility barrier
3. Technical Options
 - Provide various options for removal of barrier. EX. Adjust door pressure as part of your regular maintenance or install an automatic door opener.

The access audit provided the following items:

- Barrier identification
- Photo of the barrier
- ADAAG/IAC identification of issue
- Proposed solution
- Priority level
- Projected cost

Additional items to be completed by BPRD included:

- Further prioritization by BPRD
- Identification of division responsible for the solution
- Projected date of completion
- Summary of action taken

TRANSITION PLAN DESIGN & IMPLEMENTATION

Prioritization Criteria

BPRD utilized three subgroups of criteria to evaluate every ADA issue that was noted in the accessibility audit. All items were evaluated and ranked 1-4 based on the ADA Barrier Removal guidelines, BPRD usage and popularity of the site, and BPRD development type. The three subgroups were then evaluated to determine the mean value in order to guide the budget decisions each year.

- **ADA Barrier Removal - Levels of Priority**

(Ranking by ACTServices, with 1 being highest priority)

1. Accessible route, building or park features
2. Interior access to goods and services; Access at playground
3. Restrooms, shower rooms, locker rooms
4. Access to remaining elements (drinking fountains, mirrors, coat hooks, etc.)

- **BPRD site/facility usage and popularity AND usage by underserved populations**

(Ranking by BPRD directors with management input, with 1 being highest priority)

1. Most popular sites that are free & open year-round; Sites most utilized by underserved populations
2. Most popular sites/facilities that have a small fee; Sites often utilized by underserved populations
3. Popular sites/facilities with a larger fee for usage, or less popular sites
4. BPRD sites/facilities that are less utilized

- **BPRD development type**

(Ranking by BPRD directors with management input and usage data, with 1 being highest priority)

1. Upgrade that can be implemented by Staff
2. Upgrade that can be implemented by quotes/sealed quotes
3. Reinvestment that is over the bid threshold but does not involve changing the entire site/facility
4. Redevelopment of the entire site/facility