

## Manhattan



Photo 1- PS 206 Manhattan –Not enough clearance space at landing.

The rail of the ramp protrudes in the narrow clearance space which would make it difficult for someone using a large wheelchair or walker to turn. The ADA requires landing a space 60 inches X 60”.



Photo 2 -PS 206 Manhattan- Path to main entrance.

The pathway along the accessible route should be free of obstacles and abrupt level changes. It would be difficult for wheelchair users, people who use walkers and people who are blind to use this pathway which is broken and uneven and cones obstructing.



### Measuring the entry



- Doorways shall have a minimum clear opening of 32" with the door open 90 degrees.
- Measure the door opening from the face of the door at the hinged side to the inside of the doorframe (door stop) on the opposite side.

Photo 3- PS 57 Manhattan – Doorway to voting area is 28 inches wide.

The ADA requires a minimum width of 32 inches. It would be difficult for someone with a wheelchair or scooter to enter through this door.



Photo 4- Riverside Park Community, Manhattan- Steep ramp from main entrance.

This length of ramp is too long for many people who use manual chairs, walkers or canes or those who tire easily when walking. This can be a deterrent to people with disabilities and to senior citizens who may not be able to make it up this ramp. The ADA requires: If a ramp is more than 30 feet long, a level landing of at least 60 inches long must be provided every 30 feet of horizontal length. [ADA Stds 4.8.4]  
Note: When the running slope is less than 1:16 and more than 1:20, each ramp segment may be up to 40 feet long followed by a level landing.



Photo 5- Riverside Park Community, Manhattan- Steep ramp from main entrance, without a landing space. See note above.



Photo 6- Bayard Rustin, Manhattan - Cone and object used to keep door open.

The objects used as door stopper are interfering with easy access. The door lip is badly beveled and the Inner section is broken/badly worn making it difficult for someone using a wheel chair to maneuver.





Photo 7- Max Meltzer Community Center Manhattan- Chair used to hold door open.

The chair at the entrance is blocking the doorway and prevents easy access for voters with mobility impairments, in particular wheel chair users. ADA standards require a 32" minimum width unobstructed opening for entry ways.



Photo 8- LGBT Center, Manhattan- menu board blocking entrance.

The menu board at the entrance is blocking the landing of the ramp making it difficult or impossible for people who use wheel chairs and walkers to make the turn on the ramp to enter the building. The bottom of the handrail looks decorative and not appropriate as a guard against someone in a wheelchair getting wheels stuck at the edge of the ramp.



Photo 9- PS 154, Manhattan – Broken, uneven sidewalk with debris on path to alternate entrance.

The pathway to the accessible entrance should be clear of barriers and without abrupt level changes as people who have difficulty walking or who use wheelchairs or other mobility aids will have trouble using this route. This could also be treacherous for someone who is blind using a cane – they might not easily find their way around this uneven sidewalk or avoid the debris. Detectable warnings should be placed around this barrier.



Photo 10- PS 154 Manhattan - Temporary ramp at alternate entrance with lip 1 1/2" high and landing on broken sidewalk.

The lip on the temporary ramp is too high making it difficult for wheelchair users to access. The landing of the ramp and the route to the accessible entrance was in poor condition with the sidewalk cracked and uneven resulting in abrupt level changes making difficult for many people with mobility issues.



Photo 11- East New York High School Brooklyn – BMD spacing

These materials on the floor prevent people using wheel chairs from getting to the BMD; they would need help to remove these items. The ADA requires a 5 foot clearance to the BMD so that voters with disabilities can use the machines.



Photo 12- East New York High School Brooklyn—small ramp with cone.

The cone blocks access to the ramp for someone using a wheelchair because it narrows the entrance to below ADA standards.



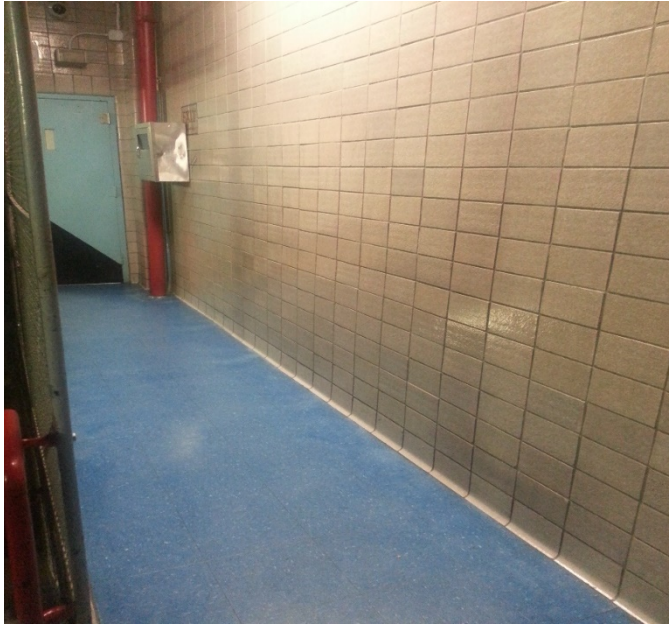


Photo 13- East New York High School, Brooklyn – Entryway has no directional signs.

Voters, particularly those who are new to this site, may become confused trying to find the voting area if there are no directional signs.



### Entering doorways:



If the door threshold is **unbeveled**, it should not be higher than  $\frac{1}{2}$ ".



If the door threshold is **beveled**, it should not be higher than  $\frac{3}{4}$ ".

Photo 14 -PS 224, Brooklyn- Lip at doorway is more than 1 inch high.

The ADA requires lips at doorways to be less than  $\frac{1}{2}$ ". This is a tipping hazard for people using wheel chairs. It is also a tripping hazard for those using walkers, canes or who are unsteady on their feet.



Photo 15- PS 224 Brooklyn- Bevel at entrance of ramp is too steep.

While we were surveying this site, a person in an electric wheel chair tried to round the corner here and get up the ramp. He had to try several times to get on the ramp because of the steep bevel and the tight turning radius. This gentleman was strong and determined. Even so, he banged into the back brick border several times. A voter with less strength or one using a manual wheel chair may be deterred from voting. The temporary ramp narrows the turning radius and the bevel does not meet ADA standards.



Photo 16- PS 290 Brooklyn – this sign had wrong address for the accessible entrance. For people with disabilities going to this voting site for the first time, a wrong address could have them searching for the accessible entrance. For those using walkers or canes, or for those who cannot walk for lengths of time, this could be a serious deterrent to voting.





Photo 17- PS 290 – The ramp has missing handrails.

The ADA requires edge guards for the full length of a ramp. Someone using a wheelchair and making the turn on to the “landing” could easily run a wheel off the edge and become stuck, or worse, run off the ramp and tip over.

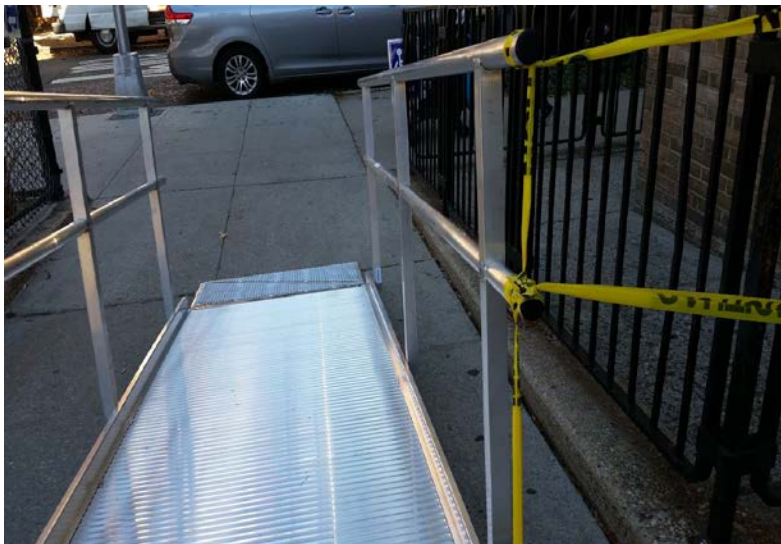


Photo 18 -PS 321 Brooklyn - This ramp is poorly constructed with missing handrails on both sides.

The construction of this ramp was done in the morning so from observation it was incomplete. The missing handrails would be dangerous for people who need the support of the handrails as well as for wheel chair users.



Photo 19 - WH Career Tech PS 60, Brooklyn— Ramp has no landing

This length of ramp is too long (60') for many people who use manual chairs, walkers or canes or those who tire easily when walking. This can be a deterrent to people with disabilities and to senior citizens who may not be able to make it up this ramp. The ADA requires: If a ramp is more than 30 feet long, is a level landing at least 60 inches long provided every 30 feet of horizontal length? [ADA Stds 4.8.4] Note: When the running slope is less than 1:16 and more than 1:20, each ramp segment may be up to 40 feet long followed by a level landing.



Photo 20- PS 38 Brooklyn – Broken sidewalk on pathway to alternate entrance.

This sidewalk on the route to the accessible entrance was in very bad condition, broken and uneven which could cause someone using a manual wheelchair or walker to trip. According to the ADA guidelines the accessible path should be free of obstacles. If it is not, a temporary solution is to put cane detectable warnings near in front of (in each direction) so that people who are blind can detect this kind of barrier. It's unclear whether there is safe passage along this route to avoid this hazard.



Photo 21- PS 38 Lip at accessible entrance was badly beveled and approximately 2 inches high.

The lip at the entrance did not meet the ADA requirements. See note above. This would make it difficult for wheel chair users to enter the building and is a tipping hazard for someone using a wheel chair.



Photo 22-PS 53, Bronx - Door way is 27" wide.

The ADA requires doorways to be at least 32" wide. Many people with scooters or wheelchairs could not make it through this doorway to enter the polling site.

### Measuring the entry



- Doorways shall have a minimum clear opening of 32" with the door open 90 degrees.
- Measure the door opening from the face of the door at the hinged side to the inside of the doorframe (door stop) on the opposite side.





Photo 23- PS 53 Bronx - No clearance at BMD

The ADA requires 5' clearance to the BMD and no chairs at the BMD. As you can see in this picture, there is not the appropriate clearance, there is a chair in front of the machine and what looks like a buffet table behind that. This would require a voter to get help to get to the machine, which was developed specifically to allow voters with disabilities to vote privately and independently.



Photo 24- Bronxworks Bronx- Door way 31 inches wide.

The ADA requires doorways to be at least 32" wide. People with scooters or wheelchairs may have difficulty entering the poll site. See note above.



Photo 25- Summerfield Church, Staten Island –Broken pathway.

The pathway to the accessible entrance is broken and uneven making it difficult for people with mobility impairments – no hazard warnings are there for people who are blind. Those who are blind may easily trip if they suddenly come to this part of the sidewalk. They will also not know when the hazard ends.



Photo 26- American Legion Staten Island – Doorway has a 1.5" lip and pathway to accessible entrance uneven. The path to the accessible entrance is through a gravel parking lot with spots of grass which is difficult for people who use mobility aids and wheelchair users to navigate. There are also several tripping hazards that are not marked for people who are blind. People who are blind and use canes may not register the large drop on the left in this picture until they are already tripping off the sidewalk.