



Rest Area ADA Compliance

Outdated ADA Standards at Rest Areas Pose Risk to Public



PROBLEM

38 curb ramps and 16 associated pathways located throughout 14 VDOT safety rest areas did not meet current Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards.



SOLUTION

PILLAR identified the most appropriate location and correct ADA standard to achieve compliance with minimal disruption. Finally, based on the information collected from our surveyors, we determined that sites and standards were achievable.



APPROACH

PILLAR worked with the rest area maintenance service provider, who was contracted with VDOT to maintain 14 VDOT safety rest areas in western Virginia. PILLAR performed site inspections and surveyed sidewalks, paths, curb ramps and parking areas to verify slopes and grades. We utilized surveying equipment to measure grades, distances, and elevations. We developed CAD drawings and maps of existing conditions as well as repair recommendations for ADA compliance based on the data we gathered.

We found noncompliant curb ramps and some pathways at every rest area we inspected. We calculated proper slopes and grades to meet current ADA standards for slope, landings, and turning movements. This determined the optimal placement for the curbs, ramps, and pathways. In some cases, that meant moving the current ramp location to a more favorable location or increasing the amount of sidewalk width or path length. In some instances, we also adjusted the parking stall configuration to maximize and efficiently utilize handicap parking.