

Design and Construction Surveying for ADA Projects

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Key Messages

• We need both elevation and horizontal accuracy for design surveys.

Correct location of surface utilities.

 Sidewalk profiles and adjacent right of way tie-ins in your plans.

New survey technologies.















Levels of Detail

Level 1

- Curb ramps line up with inplace sidewalks
- Contractor builds according to standard plans with a tabulation
- Surveys not required

Level 2

- When ramp layouts differ from standard plans and for all signalized intersections
- 20-scale detail provided in plan
- Ramp slope ranges and working points provided

Level 3

- When slopes are non-compliant or there's a tie-in point (such as a doorway)
- 20-scale detail provided in plan
- Specific ramp slopes if non compliant and working points provided

















Level 1 (Standard Plan) Ramps





Level 2 Ramps





Level 3 Ramps

















Surveyed Intersections

Site may contain numerous features

Surveys should locate:

- All utilities including handholes, manholes, hydrants, gate valves, drainage structures, signal poles/cabinets, light poles, loop detectors, telephone/cable boxes, fiber optic vaults, and irrigation/sprinkler heads or services

 Buildings and doorways, other permanent features in sidewalk areas such as landscaping, retaining walls, benches, sign posts, etc.,

- Crosswalk striping, curb and gutter, sidewalk edges 30' in both directions(mainline and side street), Median locations

 ROW in areas where the construction limits may fall close to or outside existing ROW













Base ADA Topo Survey – Level 2&3



A surveyed distance of approximately 50 ft from the PT is usually sufficient. Distance needed from back of walk depends on the environment (generally 10 ft urban; 20 ft suburban or rural).



















Level 3 Roadway Survey needed for all critical tieins (doorways, steps etc.), curb line changes, and all medians and porkchops.



ADA Topos: Utilities

 Always shoot the center of unobstructed structures such as hand holes and the corners on structures such as cabinets, cabinet bases and vaults.

Accuracy is key!





ADA Topos: Signal Bases

 Additional signal base shots needed obtain exact signal and pedestal locations













ADA Topos: Doorways

★ Tie-in elevations at entrance



★ Height and tread width of bottom step





















Matching Stoops/Doorways





Matching Steps Example

















Construction Plans: Doorways









Elevations





Utilities





Utilities





Elevations





Elevations





Elevations and Utilities





ADA Survey Accuracy

Methodology	Vertical	Horizontal
Total Station	0.03	0.04
Terrestrial LIDAR	0.04-0.05	0.10
Mobile LIDAR	0.05-0.06	0.10
VRS	0.20	0.10
Mapping	0.30-0.50	0.50

Total station equipment and LIDAR are the only acceptable survey methods.

A 6 ft length ramp designed at 7.5% could very well be non-compliant using VRS or mapping.













ADA Survey Accuracy

- The survey technology is only as good as the accuracy of the project control
- Relative accuracy within a project is what's needed for desired results (not absolute MSL)
- Designers need to know and document
 - Method of collection used
 - Stated vertical and horizontal accuracy
 - Date of collection (year and time of season)
- Pros and Cons for all surveying methods such as cost, project schedule, personnel hours, worker's safety













ADA Survey Accuracy

- Terrestrial scanning needs multiple setups to get backsides of medians, pork chops and shaded areas.
- Mobile scanning needs free rights and side streets.
- Both may need to be augmented with total station.
- Working with automation users group to determine ADA best practices. (i.e. scaling, symbols and data collection methods).



















Construction Staking: PAR





Construction Staking: PAR





Sidewalk Profiles





Sidewalk Profiles





Entrance Tie-ins









Questions?





Your Destination...Our Priority













