

ADA Transition Plan Assistance Project

WEST COG



WestCOG

Serves as a forum for municipal chief elected officials to come together and discuss issues of common interest and cooperates on various initiatives



WestCOG

- ▶ 18 Municipalities
- ▶ Urban, Suburban, Rural
- ▶ Varied Population (2020)
 - ▶ Bridgewater (1,662)
 - ▶ Stamford (135,470)
- ▶ Varied Municipal Resources



WestCOG Involvement

- ▶ ADA - Unfunded Mandate
- ▶ Regionwide Applicability
- ▶ Economies of Scale
- ▶ DOJ Inspections Possible



ADA Requirements

- ▶ Physical Accessibility
 - ▶ Buildings
 - ▶ Facilities
 - ▶ Parks
- ▶ Policy and Programs
 - ▶ Recreation
 - ▶ Mobility Devices
 - ▶ Public Meetings
 - ▶ Other



Approach - Consultant Work

- ▶ RFQ and Interview (6 Firms)
- ▶ References and Selection (WT Group)
- ▶ Contract (2 years)
- ▶ Regional Services Grant (3 Fiscal Years)



Exceptions

- ▶ Two Communities Already Completed
- ▶ Public ROW - CT DOT Lead
- ▶ Major Infrastructure - Rail, Bus and Ports
- ▶ School/BOE Facilities
- ▶ Public Housing
- ▶ Private Leases and Use



Steps in the Process

Inventory Confirmation

- ▶ Buildings
- ▶ Facilities
- ▶ Parks and Trails

Coordination

- ▶ Project Management Group
- ▶ Monthly Meetings

Site Access Audits



PARKS



**No route to baseball fields at the
Community Center**

**Shower at Topstone Park not of an
accessible design**



PLAYGROUNDS

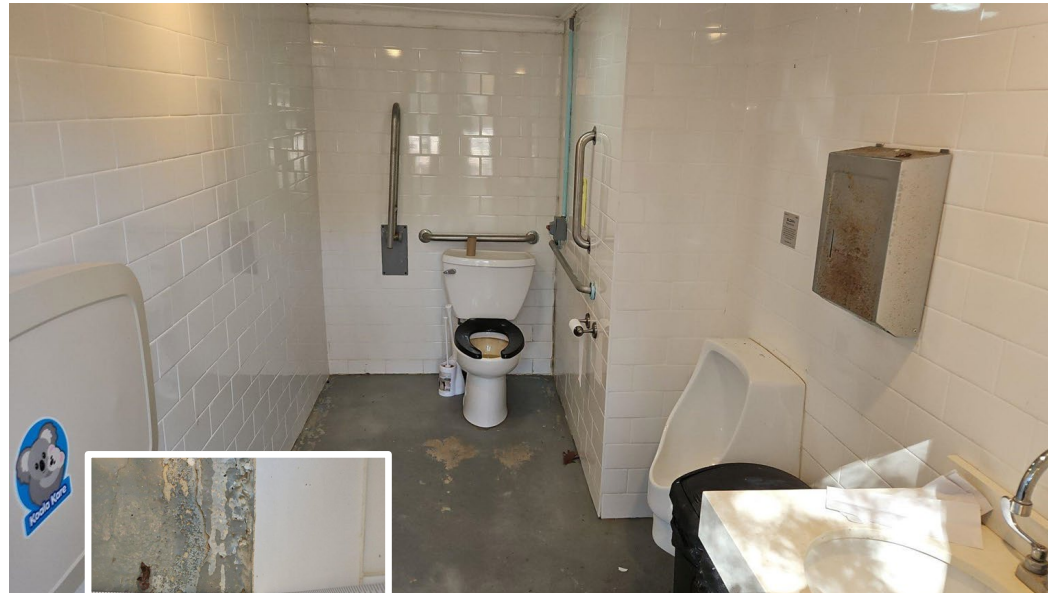
**Transfer platform too high at
the Community Center**



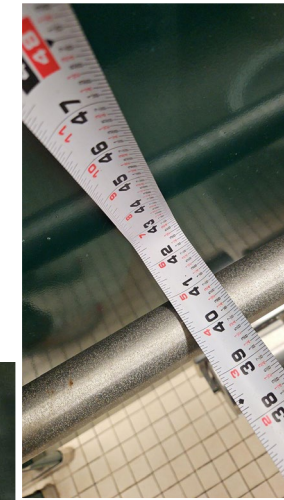
**Slopes at entries to playground
at Topstone Park**



RESTROOMS



Accessible restroom lacks dimensions at Topstone Park



Ambulatory stall too wide at Community Center



Steps in the Process

Program/Policy Review

- ▶ Interview Groups
- ▶ Interview Topics

Community Engagement

- ▶ Surveys
- ▶ Live Meetings
- ▶ Local Advocacy Groups

Transition Plan

Capital Report

Final Report



Community Engagement

Prioritization of Retrofits

- ▶ Basics (Parking, Entries, Restrooms)?
- ▶ Types of Assets?
- ▶ Location?
- ▶ Busiest Sites?
- ▶ Other Factors?



Transition Plan Process



Schedule

Commencement	September 2024
Group 1 Completed	May 2025
Group 2 Completed	August 2025
Group 3 Completed	January 2026
Group 4 Completed	August 2026
Project Completion	September 2026



Observations

- ▶ Work in Progress
- ▶ ADA Coordinators
- ▶ Clarifications
- ▶ Local Variations
- ▶ Training Planned



Thank you for your interest.

Questions?

