

City of Atlanta ADA Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

March 17, 2026 4:00pm

Meeting called to order at 4:13pm

Attendees: Kimberly Wright, Sally Flocks, Lucy Sharpe, Carden Wyckoff, Michele Wynn, Darren Givens- Online, Matthew Reeves- Online, Georgia Lord- Online Guest, Nick Spiva- Center for Civic Innovation, Clyde Fleming- CFJR Safe Travels Corporation, Laurel Lawson- Plaintiff, and Courtney Smith.

Minutes Approval- Sally Flocks moved to approve and Carden Wyckoff seconded.

Agenda Approval- Carden Wyckoff moved to approve and Michel Wynn seconded

Sub-committee 1 Report

Sally Flocks provided update on Sub-Committee 1

Objective- Support the development and refinement of the City's ADA Transition Plan

Sally distributed a full report in the meeting:

Reviewed following recommendations:

1. The ADA Transition Plan must meet obligations stated in the Consent Decree, but these obligations do not override the federally defined priority hierarchy.
2. The ADA Transition Plan must not state or assume that all violations other than those in location specified in the consent decree will be resolved only in response to complaints.
3. Plan must include cost estimates, how these estimates have been determined and realistic budget sources.
4. The ADA Transition plan is a living document and must include updates on funds.
5. Include a prioritization schedule for audible and vibrotactile signals.
6. Provide a clear way for people to flag disability related complaints.

Angela Bowers moved to approve and Michel Wynn seconded.

Report will be submitted to Shauncey Battle-Williams and Kimberly Wright for addition to final report by 3/21/26.

Sub-committee 2 Report

Michele Wynn gave the report for Sub-committee 2. Barriers to Help identify structural and non-structural barriers that prevent individuals with disabilities from fully accessing city programs, services, and spaces. Review the city's policies, operational procedures, and outreach strategies to promote meaningful access for individuals regardless of ability.

Report was emailed to committee:

1. Add annual sidewalk funding as a line item in the ATLDOT budget that is sufficient to match the requirements of the ADA Pedestrian Public Right(s)-of-Way (Lawson) consent decree and ongoing maintenance.
2. 3. 4. 5. Update ADA self-assessment, a mandatory review process to identify and correct barriers to programs, services, and facilities for people with disabilities, on 5-year cycles and adjust annual funding accordingly.
3. Provide annual ADA education, including design and construction best practices for all relevant parties, including but not limited to ATLDOT engineers, designers, inspectors, consultants, and contractors.
4. Update the Bureau of Buildings workflow to include an independent ADA-specific inspection for work completed in the right-of-way before issuing a Certificate of Occupancy.
5. Increase the cost of sidewalk closure permits based on increased inspection for ADA compliance and enforcement of City and federal requirements.
6. Ensure that transportation access to all City of Atlanta-sponsored meetings, special events, and festivals is in accordance with the Accessibility Laws and Accessibility Standards.
7. Remove the responsibility for sidewalk maintenance from property owners and reassign it to the City of Atlanta. Establish a dedicated funding source for sidewalks through a dedicated millage rate.
8. Update zoning such that within Historic Preservation Overlay Zones and similar contexts, ADA standards will supersede the municipal code requiring certain street improvements or preservation. Example: The hexagonal paver requirement in the historic district could be mitigated by using an etched design that is more ADA-compatible.
9. Add a section to the City of Atlanta Tree Protection Ordinance similar to Sec. 158 71 (Atlanta Department of Watershed Management) for ATLDOT. Specific provisions for public and private tree replacement and recompense for ATLDOT work related to complying with

the federal ADA Pedestrian Public Right(s)-of-Way (Lawson) consent decree can be found in section 158-87.

10. Add an independent ADA inspection of construction sites to identify mitigation(s) for the maintenance of pedestrian access during construction. Example: Resurfacing project where one lane is milled, creating a 2-inch height difference through the curb cut crosswalk, making it not ADA compliant.

Michele Wynn will make minor revisions, and the committee will vote to approve at the April meeting.

Sub-committee 3 Report

Subcommittee 3 report was given by Carden Wyckoff and there were no changes from the previous month.

This report outlined a plan for how ATLDOT will engage with people with disabilities and update them on the work progress outlined in the consent decree.

Carden Wyckoff moved to approve sub-committee 3 community engagement report, and it was seconded by Angela Bowers

The report will be formalized and submitted to Kimberly Wright and Shauncey Battle-Williams for addition to the larger report.

The next meeting will be April 21, 2026, at the 999 Peachtree building upstairs.

Public Comment:

- Chairman shared information on the DOA Quarterly ADA meeting, information about the Sunflower as an identifier of people with invisible disabilities, and that she will send a copy of the consent decree to the committee.
- Committee work will be finished by June, and all recommendations will be submitted to ATLDOT.
- Angela invited the Committee to World Down Syndrome Day at the Capitol on 3/21/26.
- Kimberly Wright will share information on Wings for All event with committee.
- Laurel Lawson invited the committee to a play with Full Radius at 7 stages.
- Carden Wyckoff reminded committee of the Mayor's State of the City address.

Meeting adjourned at 5:01pm.

Minutes recorded by Angela Bowers-Committee Member