



Public Works Department

October 20, 2022

Mr. Earl Key
Washington State Department of Transportation - OEO
P.O. Box 47314
Olympia, WA 98504-7314

Re: ADA Compliance Efforts – City of Lake Stevens

Dear Mr. Key,

The City of Lake Stevens is working diligently to address the concerns received April 13, 2021, from WSDOT via an email from Mehrdad Moini, Local Programs Engineer (included as Exhibit 1). Subsequently, the city worked to communicate our plan to key WSDOT personnel to bring the issues into compliance and was under the impression that our efforts and timeline were sufficient.

On September 28, 2022, the city received a letter from you (included as Exhibit 2) notifying the city that it is no longer eligible for FHWA funds through WSDOT, citing multiple warnings from WSDOT. This is inconsistent with our correspondence with WSDOT local programs and OEO staff and came as a surprise.

In your letter you identify four key areas where the city is allegedly not compliant with the ADA. Using this as a guide to measure and report our compliance efforts, the list below clarifies our plan and projected deadlines:

1. **ADA Transition Plan Development** – The City has contracted with a consultant to prepare the ADA Transition Plan and performed a survey of the city infrastructure. Unfortunately, the technology used to perform the initial survey was inadequate and the curb ramps throughout the city will need to be reevaluated resulting in a delay. Concurrently, the public outreach and plan development are ongoing. The deadline below is consistent with WSDOT's ADA transition plan and achievable given the progress made to date.

Projected Completion Deadline: 3/31/23

2. **Correction of Non-Compliant Sidewalk Ramps and Crossings** – The City has contracted with licensed engineering firms to evaluate the compliance issues. Several design options have been prepared where larger capital projects are necessary and some of the less resource consumptive issues have been resolved. Capital project timelines are often three-year cycles; one year to scope and budget, a year for design/permitting/ROW followed by construction. The attached

matrix is used by the city to prioritize and track the work (included as Exhibit 3). Ten ramps have been replaced in 2022 and four new ADA ramps have been constructed. 24 ramps will be replaced in 2023.

Project Completion Deadline: 9/15/23

3. **ADA Construction Accommodation** – City inspectors have been trained on the requirements for construction accommodation. Training is ongoing and at regular intervals. Most recent ADA training will be completed on 11/15/22. Field issues are assessed by the team in a timely manner, expectations are communicated to contractors at the preconstruction meeting and after-action meetings are held to encourage progressive improvement.

Projected Completion Deadline: Complete, Ongoing

4. **Private Development ADA Issues** – Training is regular and ongoing. In 2022, the City added a Civil Plans Reviewer position to carefully review ADA issues in proposed developments. Inspectors are trained on ADA requirements and expectations are clearly communicated at the preconstruction meetings. Most recent ADA training will be completed on 11/15/22.

Projected Completion Date: Complete and Ongoing

It is the intention of the city to improve ADA compliance through staff training, plan development and capital project construction. The city has diligently pursued ADA compliance through capital projects constructed this year and planned construction next year along with considerable effort to contract and coordinate with a consultant to prepare the ADA Transition Plan

The City of Lake Stevens is committed to meeting all the projected completion dates set forth above and making all good faith efforts to do so as permitted by law. We must comply with state public works project bidding requirements and local procurement requirements in addressing the deficiencies that have been identified. We are also committed and working diligently to complete the ADA Transition Plan by the end of March 2023, consistent with the requirement in the approved WSDOT ADA Transition Plan.

Please feel free to contact me with questions or concerns at 425-512-1098 or email at ahalverson@lakestevens.wa.gov.

Kindest Regards,

Aaron Halverson, M.Sc., PMP
Public Works Director