



AAC

Accessibility Advisory Committee

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February 5, 2018

Dear Chair Evans and Members of the Board,

It is my pleasure to present you with the Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC) report for the month of January 2018. The primary issue we reviewed was the new MetroAccess Vehicle.

Issue of the Month

New MetroAccess Vehicle

The AAC received an update on modifications to the new MetroAccess vehicles, and the AAC was provided an opportunity to receive a first-hand in-person observation of the improvements to the vehicle design. The AAC is tremendously impressed with the newly modified vehicle, and equally impressed with the responsiveness of Metro staff to the concerns and recommendations of the AAC and other disability stakeholders.

Modifications to the vehicle included the following:

1. To address concerns about the height of the rear seat, two single seats have been added to replace the extended seat;
2. The right-side seat knee room space has been increased with the installation of a fold tip seat;
3. Overhead grip straps were added to the front and rear of the van to assist customers with steadiness while being transported, along with entry and exit from the vehicle;
4. The assist handles' vertical stanchion has been repositioned to provide better customer assistance while boarding and disembarking the vehicle;
5. The extended metal step on the exterior of the van has been redesigned;
6. A slip resistant coating has been added to the vehicle floors;
7. The edge of the step has been modified to better assist blind/low vision customers with boarding; and
8. Signage and padding have been added inside the passenger door, advising customers to watch their head when boarding.

These changes have greatly improved the new MetroAccess vehicle design. The AAC extends a warm thanks and commendations to Metro staff and Metro leadership for facilitating these outstanding improvements. We look forward to having all of the existing new vehicles modified to include these improvements.

Sincerely,

Philip Posner
Chair