



Legion Hall Groton, MA
ADA Transition Plan

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Self-Evaluation/Site Access Survey for the Town of Groton

To: Michelle Collette, ADA Coordinator
Town Hall, 173 Main Street
Groton, MA 01450

**Legion Hall
Address: 75 Hollis Street
Town Manager Mark Haddad
978-448-1111**

**Reviewed by the Commission on Accessibility
December 10, 2018**

Present today were:

*Michelle Collette, Town of Groton ADA Coordinator
Consultant James Lyons, Northeast Independent Living Program Inc.
Consultant Grant Murphy, Northeast Independent Living Program Inc.*

Legion Hall was surveyed by the team listed above on June 18, 2018. The Legion Hall was first constructed as the Chaplin School in the late 1860's era, and the site is now owned by the state of Massachusetts, and it is maintained and managed by the town. The Chaplin School was an elementary school that had replaced several of the town's one-room schoolhouses. The building was renamed and rededicated as Legion Hall to serve veterans after World War I. The flooring was replaced during the spring of 2011, and the Town completed some access improvements at that time.

The annual GrotonFest event is held at this site (Legion Common) annually in September, on the third Saturday of the month. The Memorial Day Parade uses Legion Common as its staging area. Additionally, there are many town/other important meetings held here regularly. For example, Finance Committee, Park Commission, Trails Committee, Town Democratic Committiee, and other groups meet at Legion Hall. It is important to note that the building and the field are registered historic places in the state of Massachusetts. This is the site for the American Legion Post # 55.

The town provides a skating rink during some winters on the Legion Common. During the GrotonFest, as well as all events held at this site, there are always accessible portable toilets provided.

The scope of this report is to identify barriers in programs & activities that might prevent persons with disabilities from access to Legion Hall and its programs, activities, and services. The key to our success is to provide equivalent access to the maximum extent feasible to everyone, regardless of disability. This report includes an inventory (and details) of the hall where structural modifications are needed to make facilities accessible to persons with disabilities. Since this is the foundation for the ADA Transition Plan, we recommend The Town maintain it on file/available for public inspection for 5 years from date of completion. This audit contract includes all: Legion Hall

We appreciate the hospitality, ADA/disability sensitivity, and dedication of Michelle Collette, Town ADA Coordinator who assisted with providing the tour today.

There are many town/other important meetings held here regularly. For example, Finance Committee, Planning Board, Town Democratic Committiee, and other groups meet here. It is important to note that the building is registered as a historic place in the state of Massachusetts.

In our opinion the following issues were found:

Accessible Parking: We found that there is no "Van Accessible" sign designating a van accessible HP parking space at Legion Hall. We recommend that a "Van Accessible" sign be purchased and mounted where the current HP parking space and sign is located. The ADA Access Guidelines (ADAAG) require-One space should be a "Van Accessible" space 8-foot-wide with an 8-foot access aisle and van accessible sign. The team found that the pavement where the HP accessible space is located is uneven. We recommend that this area be repaved and after being repaved have the HP space striped as required by the ADAAG.

Entrances: The team found that there is a 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch lip at the accessible door that leads from the parking lot via the accessible walkway. We recommend this lip be bevelled to allow for an even leveled pathway from the HP parking to the accessible entrance.

The concrete walkway to the accessible entrance was also found to have three sets of cracks that each exceed $\frac{3}{4}$ inches. We recommend these cracks be repaired to again allow for a smooth, firm, and stable pathway to the accessible entrance. This is required, as per, Mass AAB regulations, 521 CMR; Section **2.6**, maintenance of accessible features, "At all times, accessibility features must be maintained and fully operational. (i.e. access aisles kept clear at all times, mechanical devices are kept in operating condition, etc.)."

The team noted that there is no **directional signage** posted (at the inaccessible door in the front of the building) to indicate where the accessible entrance is located. We recommend that a sign be placed at the front entrance informing people with disabilities how to find the accessible entrance. This is suggested by the ADA Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG), Section 4.1.2 (7) (c) that requires that inaccessible entrances need to have directional signage to indicate the route to the nearest accessible entrance. The team found that there were items being stored in the small hallway behind the accessible entrance. We recommend

those items be relocated in order to allow for an accessible path from the accessible entrance into Legion Hall.

Restrooms: The team noted there are two restrooms on site at Legion Hall. The Men's room is not accessible, and does not have enough space for a 3 feet turn radius, etc. The Women's room is the one that is essentially accessible for people with disabilities. We recommend that the Women's room be designated the accessible restroom by mounting a Unisex sign designation on the wall next to the restroom on the pull side of the door. This is recommended by the ADA Access Guidelines (ADAAG), Section 4.30.6, Mounting Locations and Height *that* states "Where permanent identification is provided...signs shall be installed on the wall adjacent to the latch side of the door."

Thank You,

James Lyons
Community Development Director
Northeast Independent Living Program, Inc.
The Northeast ADA Access Group
20 Ballard Road,
Lawrence, MA 01843,

Grant Murphy
ADA Coordinator

Attachments:
-Legion Hall photos



The first Legion Common ADA transition Plan action step is to add a van accessible sign under the HP parking sign already there. Specifically, the Van sign under the ADAAG section 4.6.4, requires that accessible parking spaces be "designated as reserved by an above-ground sign showing the symbol of accessibility. Spaces shall have an additional sign 'Van Accessible' mounted below the symbol of accessibility". In this way, we recommend the town install one van accessible HP parking spot.



The second Legion Hall ADA Transition Plan action item is to post a sign at the above locale, indicating where the accessible entrance can be found.



The ADA Survey team found that there is a 1 1/2-inch lip at the accessible entrance to the parking lot. We recommend this lip be removed to allow for an even leveled pathway from the HP parking to the accessible entrance.



The concrete walkway to the accessible entrance was found to have three sets of cracks that each exceed $\frac{3}{4}$ inches. We recommend these cracks be repaired to allow for an even leveled (stable, firm, and smooth) pathway to the accessible entrance. This is due to the effects of natural wear and tear.