

ALL STATIONS ACCESSIBILITY PROGRAM (ASAP)



▶ WHAT IS THE ALL STATIONS ACCESSIBILITY PROGRAM (ASAP)?

The Chicago Transit Authority is committed to making its rail system 100% accessible to people with disabilities. ASAP is a new planning effort introduced by CTA President Dorval R. Carter, Jr., that will establish the first blueprint for making 42 remaining non-accessible rail stations accessible over the next 20 years.

By early 2017, this comprehensive plan will outline both short-term and long-term station accessibility project plans, which will include station concepts and cost estimates. The plan for the rehabilitation and/or replacement of 155 existing station elevators will also be included.

To help develop and finalize this program, a working group was created that consists of representatives from the Chicago Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities, the Chicago Transit Board, personnel from various CTA departments such as planning, ADA compliance, construction, etc., as well as consultants from LCM Architects, a Chicago-based design firm consisting of experts in accessibility and universal design.

▶ WHY WILL IT TAKE ANOTHER 20 YEARS TO MAKE THE REMAINING STATIONS ACCESSIBLE?

Making a station accessible requires far more than the addition of an elevator. Like many older transit systems across the country, the CTA faces a wide range of challenges and opportunities related to making its existing stations accessible to customers with disabilities – the biggest hurdle being funding.

With an average age of **75 years**, the remaining non-accessible stations all have their own unique set of needs and environmental factors that must be considered as part of the planning process, including: historic aspects of the station or adjacent buildings and/or infrastructure; significant structural changes to accommodate one or more elevators and wider platforms; possible property acquisitions; and complex design and engineering solutions to work within physical constraints of each station.

CTA ACCESSIBILITY FACTS-AT-A-GLANCE

- Bus and rail car fleets: 100% accessible
- Rail stations: 99 of the 145 are accessible to mobility device users
- Four additional stations will be wheelchair accessible by late 2017:
 - Blue Line: Addison
 - Red Line: Wilson
 - Loop Elevated: Quincy and Washington/Wabash
- Age of the non-accessible stations range from 46 to 120+ years old



▶ HOW ARE STATIONS BEING PRIORITIZED FOR ACCESSIBILITY UPGRADES?

In general, non-accessible stations will be prioritized based on a score stemming from a needs and complexity analysis or in coordination with other anticipated projects (i.e. Red and Purple Modernization, Blue Line Forest Park branch Vision Study, etc.).

The criterion used in determining the needs score is similar to what was used in previous CTA accessibility analyses (i.e. the 2012 Infrastructure Accessibility Task Force (IATF Plan)).

Stations with higher needs and lower complexity scores will be prioritized for near-term improvement plans. Whereas, highly complex stations that will require more time for planning, design, construction, agency coordination and community input will be listed as part of long-term project plans.

▶ WHAT IS THE STATUS OF ASAP?

The ASAP Working Group has identified the first several stations for more detailed analysis. Concepts have been developed and reviewed for each station, in order to determine feasibility. Once confirmed, these stations will proceed to 10% conceptual design. This will allow CTA to develop stronger cost estimates and advance those stations to be constructed within the first five years of the program, depending on funding availability.

CTA has also started working on programming the remaining stations, based on the needs analysis, as well as incorporating schedule information from other capital programs. High-level concepts and costs are being developed for each of these remaining stations. The Working Group has also reviewed programming for elevator rehabilitation and replacement, which will be incorporated into the program. All of this will be reviewed by the Working Group for final recommendation by early 2017.

▶ HOW CAN I SUPPORT THE EFFORTS OF ASAP?

At this time, much of the work outlined in the ASAP plan is currently unfunded. We encourage you to participate in these continued efforts through any of the following:



Sign up **TODAY** to receive program update emails by contacting us at **ASAP@transitchicago.com**



Visit the CTA Accessibility webpage for more information on ASAP and other accessibility initiatives. **transitchicago.com/accessibility**



Attend quarterly CTA ADA Advisory Committee meetings, which include ASAP updates. **transitchicago.com/accessibility**



Contact your local and state representatives to voice your support for CTA's ASAP plan.

STATION PRIORITIZATION CRITERIA

NEEDS:

- Ridership
- Persons with disabilities ridership
- Senior ridership
- Gaps between stations
- Transit connections (e.g. bus)
- Population
- Paratransit users
- Employment
- University
- Points of interest

COMPLEXITY:

- Subway or elevated/at-grade station
- Surrounding building density
- Historical status
- State of good repair
- Rebuild required
- Land acquisition
- Street configuration
- Underground utilities
- Other configuration issues

