

City of Buford

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Transition Plan



2300 Buford Highway
Buford, Georgia 30518
Tel: (770) 945-6761
Fax: (678) 889-4649
www.cityofbuford.com

City of Buford ADA Transition Plan Review Sheet

The ADA Transition Plan shall be reviewed and updated at least once each calendar year.

[illegible]

Table of Contents

Introduction.....	1
City Background.....	1
Transition Plan Need and Purpose.....	1
ADA and its Relationship to Other Laws	1
Agency Requirements.....	2
Designation of Responsibility	3
Self-Evaluation	3
Overview	3
Process & Findings.....	3
City Schools, Public Facilities, and Parks	4
Pedestrian Facilities / Public Rights-of-Way.....	5
Methodology.....	5
Policy.....	6
Priority Areas.....	6
External Agency Coordination	7
Public Outreach.....	7
Public Notice of ADA Requirements and Grievance Procedure	7
Progress Monitoring and Transition Plan Management.....	7
Appendices.....	8
Appendix A –Agency ADA Design Standards and Improvement/Compliance Procedures.....	9
Appendix B – Public Notice of ADA Requirements and Grievance Procedure	11
Public Notice	12
Grievance Procedure.....	13
Appendix C – ADA Coordinator Contact Information.....	16
Buford ADA Transition Plan Implementation Coordinator	17
Appendix D – Glossary of Terms	19
Appendix E – Self-Evaluation	22

Introduction

City Background

The “Town of Buford” was incorporated by Act of legislature August 24, 1872 and began as a railway depot between Atlanta and Charlotte, North Carolina. The name was changed to the “City of Buford” in 1896. For more than 60 years, Buford was the largest city in Gwinnett County and during most of that time it had the only significant industrial development in the county. During this period it exerted a powerful, many times dominant influence upon county politics. For most of its history, Buford’s schools were widely recognized for quality education. For several decades, students came from other areas of the county and from adjoining counties to acquire the prestigious diploma from Buford High School.

The City of Buford has a total area of 18.2 square miles and is located inside Gwinnett and Hall Counties. The City’s government is comprised of a Board of Commissioners, with Phillip Beard currently serving as Commission Chairman. The City Manager is Bryan Kerlin, who handles the day-to-day operations of the City and serves at the pleasure of the Board of Commissioners.

Transition Plan Need and Purpose

The [Americans with Disabilities Act \(ADA\)](#) is a civil rights law prohibiting discrimination against individuals on the basis of disability. It was enacted on July 26, 1990, and was amended in 2008 with the ADA Amendments Act. The ADA consists of five titles outlining protections in the following areas:

- I. Employment
- II. State and local government services
- III. Public accommodations
- IV. Telecommunications
- V. Miscellaneous Provisions

Title II of ADA pertains to the programs, activities and services provided by public entities. The City of Buford must comply with this section of the Act, as it specifically applies to public service agencies. Title II of ADA states that “no qualified individual with a disability shall, by reason of such disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs, or activities of a public entity, or be subjected to discrimination by any such entity.” ([42 USC Sec. 12132](#); [28 CFR Sec. 35.130](#))

As required by Title II of ADA ([28 CFR Part 35 Sec. 35.105 and Sec. 35.150](#)), the City of Buford has conducted a self-evaluation of its services, programs, activities, and facilities on public property and within public rights-of-way; and has developed this Transition Plan detailing the methods to be used to ensure compliance with ADA accessibility requirements.

ADA and its Relationship to Other Laws

Title II of ADA is companion legislation to two previous federal statutes and regulations: the [Architectural Barriers Act \(ABA\) of 1968](#) and [Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973](#).

The Architectural Barriers Act of 1968 is a Federal law that requires facilities designed, built, altered or leased with Federal funds to be accessible. The Architectural Barriers Act marks one of the first efforts to ensure access to the built environment.

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 is a Federal law that protects qualified individuals from discrimination based on their disability. The nondiscrimination requirements of the law apply to employers and organizations that receive financial assistance from any Federal department or agency. Title II of ADA extended this coverage to all state and local government entities, regardless of whether they receive federal funding or not.

Agency Requirements

Under Title II, the City of Buford must meet these general requirements:

- Must operate their programs so that, when viewed in their entirety, the programs are accessible to and useable by individuals with disabilities [[28 CFR Sec. 35.150](#)].
- May not refuse to allow a person with a disability to participate in a service, program or activity simply because the person has a disability [[28 CFR Sec. 35.130\(a\)](#)].
- Must make reasonable modifications in policies, practices and procedures that deny equal access to individuals with disabilities unless a fundamental alteration in the program would result [[28 CFR Sec. 35.130\(b\)\(7\)](#)].
- May not provide services or benefits to individuals with disabilities through programs that are separate or different unless the separate or different measures are necessary to ensure that benefits and services are equally effective [[28 CFR Sec. 35.130\(b\)\(iv\) & \(d\)](#)].
- Must take appropriate steps to ensure that communications with applicants, participants and members of the public with disabilities are as effective as communications with others [[29 CFR Sec. 35.160\(a\)](#)].
- Must designate at least one responsible employee to coordinate ADA compliance [[28 CFR Sec. 35.107\(a\)](#)]. This person is typically referred to as the ADA Coordinator. The public entity must provide the ADA Coordinator's name, office address, and telephone number to all interested individuals [[28 CFR Sec. 35.107\(a\)](#)].
- Must provide notice of ADA requirements. All public entities, regardless of size, must provide information about the rights and protections of Title II to applicants, participants, beneficiaries, employees, and other interested persons [[28 CFR Sec. 35.106](#)]. The notice must include the identification of the employee serving as the ADA Coordinator and must provide this information on an ongoing basis [[28 CFR Sec. 104.8\(a\)](#)].
- Must establish a grievance procedure. Public entities must adopt and publish grievance procedures providing for prompt and equitable resolution of complaints [[28 CFR Sec. 35.107\(b\)](#)]. This requirement provides for a timely resolution of all problems or conflicts related to ADA compliance before they escalate to litigation and/or the federal complaint process.

Designation of Responsibility

The City of Buford has designated the following person to serve as ADA Transition Plan Implementation Coordinator, to monitor the City's progress and manage review and updates of this document:

Name: Jason Higgins Job Title: Program Coordinator

Contact information is provided in Appendix C.

Training is an important tool for ensuring compliance with ADA requirements. The ADA Coordinator will identify resources and opportunities for agency employees at various levels to receive ADA-related training appropriate to their job functions.

Self-Evaluation

Overview

The City of Buford is required, under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and 28CFR35.105, to perform a self-evaluation of its current transportation infrastructure policies, practices, and programs. This self-evaluation will identify what policies and practices impact accessibility and examine how the City implements these policies. The goal of the self-evaluation is to verify that, in implementing the City policies and practices, the department is providing accessibility and not adversely affecting the full participation of individuals with disabilities.

This self-evaluation also examines the condition of the City's pedestrian access routes and identifies the potential need for pedestrian infrastructure improvements. This will include the sidewalks, curb ramps, and bicycle/pedestrian trails located within the city limits of Buford. Any barriers to accessibility identified in the self-evaluation and the remedy to the identified barrier are set out in this transition plan.

The transition plan is intended to be an evolving plan. As such, the City of Buford will annually review this plan and ensure that it is up to date with current standards. The plan will also incorporate improvements completed on the ADA features.

Process & Findings

In 2012, the City of Buford completed an initial self-evaluation of its services, programs, activities, and facilities on public property and within public rights-of-way with regard to accessibility. In 2018, the City's Engineer, Keck & Wood, Inc., completed a follow-up self-evaluation to account for facilities that had been constructed since 2012 and to determine all of the ADA improvements that had been made between 2012 and 2018. In 2018, the City's Engineer, Keck & Wood, Inc., completed a self-evaluation of the City's services, programs, activities, and facilities on public property and within public rights-of-way with regard to accessibility. In 2023, the City's Engineer, Keck & Wood, Inc., completed a follow-up self-evaluation to account for facilities that have been constructed since 2018 and to determine all of the ADA improvements that have been made between 2018 and 2023. Detailed inventories and findings from this review are provided in Appendix E, under the headings Building Facilities (E-1) and Pedestrian Facilities (E-2).

An important component of the self-evaluation process is the identification of obstacles or barriers to accessibility, and the corresponding modifications that will be needed to remedy these items. The following sections in the Appendix provide a summary of improvements that have already been made, and obstacles that the City plans to address as part of this Transition Plan.

City Schools, Public Facilities, and Parks

The City of Buford is responsible for the following schools, public facilities, and parks:

- School 1 – Buford City Schools Central Office (2625 Sawnee Avenue, Buford, GA 30518)
- School 2 – Buford Elementary School (2500 Sawnee Avenue, Buford, GA 30518)
- School 3 – Buford Academy (2705 Robert Bell Parkway, Buford, GA 30518)
- School 4 – Buford Senior Academy (2700 Robert Bell Parkway, Buford, GA 30518)
- School 5 – Buford Middle School (2750 Sawnee Avenue, Buford, GA 30518)
- School 6 – Buford High School (2455 Buford Highway, Buford, GA 30518)
- Facility 1 – Buford City Hall (2300 Buford Highway, Buford, GA 30518)
- Facility 2 – Buford Community Center and Theatre (2200 Buford Highway, Buford, GA 30518)
- Facility 3 – Buford Tennis Facility (2700 Sawnee Avenue, Buford, GA 30518)
- Facility 4 – Buford Arena (2795 Sawnee Avenue, Buford, GA 30518)
- Facility 5 – Buford City Gymnasium (625 E. Shadburn Avenue, Buford, GA 30518)
- Facility 6 – Buford Parking Deck (70 E. Moreno Street, Buford, GA 30518)
- Facility 7 – Buford Youth Community Center (171 Bona Road, Buford, GA 30518)
- Facility 8 – Buford Public Works Department (1895 Peachtree Industrial Boulevard, Buford, GA 30518)
- Facility 9 – Buford Sewer Treatment Plant (1201 Chatham Road, Buford, GA 30518)
- Facility 10 – Buford Water Treatment Plant (3370 North Waterworks Road, Buford, GA 30518)
- Facility 11 – Buford Bus Barn (2750 Sawnee Avenue, Buford, GA 30518)
- Facility 12 – Phillip Beard Stadium (2440 Buford Hwy, Buford, GA 30518)
- Park 1 – Buford City Park – Baseball/Softball HS, Youth (2750 Sawnee Avenue, Buford, GA 30518)
- Park 2 – Buford Youth Sports Complex – (MS, Youth Football) (565 Sawnee Avenue, Buford, GA 30518)
- Park 3 – Buford Community Center Town Park (2200 Buford Highway, Buford, GA 30518)
- Park 4 – Main Street Park and Amphitheater (400 East Main Street, Buford, GA 30518)
- Park 5 – Buford City Gymnasium Park (625 E. Shadburn Avenue, Buford, GA 30518)
- Park 6 – Garnett Street Multi-use Trail (Garnett Street @ Hutchins Street)
- Park 7 – Buford Passive Park (70 E. Moreno Street, Buford, GA 30518)

The City has conducted a detailed accessibility evaluation of each of its building facilities, and related parking lots/areas, based on the [*ADA Checklist for Existing Facilities*](#) publication. The findings from this evaluation are provided in Appendix E-1. The accessibility barriers/issues identified as currently existing have been ranked in order of priority for improvement.

Improvement Schedule

The City of Buford has set the following schedule goals for improving the accessibility of its buildings and public facilities within the City jurisdiction:

- After 10 years, 100% of accessibility features that were constructed after January 26, 1991, will be ADA compliant.
- After 20 years, 80% of accessibility features within the priority areas identified by the City staff will be ADA compliant.
- After 30 years, 80% of accessibility features within the jurisdiction of the City will be ADA compliant.

Pedestrian Facilities / Public Rights-of-Way

As part of the self-evaluation process, the City of Buford has conducted an inventory and evaluation of pedestrian facilities within its public rights-of-way, which consist of the following:

- Sidewalk within the city limits of Buford
- Curb ramps within the city limits of Buford
- Crosswalks within the city limits of Buford
- Traffic control signals within the city limits of Buford

A detailed evaluation of these facilities with regard to accessibility compliance is provided in Appendix E-2, and will be updated annually.

Improvement Schedule

The City of Buford has set the following schedule goals for improving the accessibility of its pedestrian facilities within the City jurisdiction:

- After 10 years, 100% of accessibility features that were constructed after January 26, 1991, will be ADA compliant.
- After 20 years, 80% of accessibility features within the priority areas identified by the City staff will be ADA compliant.
- After 30 years, 80% of accessibility features within the jurisdiction of the City will be ADA compliant.

Methodology

The City of Buford will utilize two methods for upgrading pedestrian facilities to current ADA standards. The first and most comprehensive method is through scheduled street and utility improvement projects. All pedestrian facilities impacted by these projects will be upgraded to current ADA accessibility standards. Since 2012, several streetscape projects have been implemented that have improved ADA deficient sites. Examples include the South Lee Street LCI project, a stormwater improvement project at the Church Street and West Park Street intersection, and an intersection improvement project at the intersection of Church Street and South Alexander Street.

The second method is through specific sidewalk and ADA accessibility improvement projects that are identified individually. These projects will be incorporated into the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) on a case-by-case basis as determined by the City of Buford staff. In 2016, the City of Buford implemented a citywide ADA improvement project that resolved 25 of the 138 ADA deficient areas noted for pedestrian facilities from the 2012 self-evaluation.

The City of Buford has utilized several funding methods to install ADA improvements between 2012 and 2018, which included the City's General Fund, Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), and Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) program. The City is currently improving ADA accessibility through upcoming LCI projects on Moreno Street. The City will continue to pursue a variety of funding methods in order to achieve ADA compliance within the City's limits.

Policy

The City of Buford's goal is to continue to provide accessible pedestrian design features as part of its capital improvement projects. The City has adopted ADA design standards and procedures as listed in Appendix A. These standards and procedures will be kept up-to-date with nationwide and local best management practices.

The City will consider and respond to all accessibility improvement requests. All accessibility improvements that are deemed reasonable will be scheduled consistent with transportation priorities. The City will coordinate with external agencies to ensure that all new or altered pedestrian facilities within the City jurisdiction are ADA compliant to the maximum extent feasible.

Maintenance of pedestrian facilities within the public rights-of-way will continue to follow the policies set forth by the City. Examples of typical maintenance items relating to accessibility include: sidewalk repairs, renewal of crosswalk markings, and ADA ramp maintenance. Detailed information is provided in Appendix E-2.

Requests for accessibility improvements can be submitted to the ADA Transition Plan Implementation Coordinator. Contact information is provided in Appendix C.

Priority Areas

The City of Buford has identified specific locations as priority areas for planned accessibility improvement projects. These areas have been selected due to their proximity to specific land uses. This includes areas within the vicinity of public facilities, such as schools, government offices, parks and recreational facilities, public transit facilities, and medical facilities.

1. Areas within proximity of city schools
2. Areas within proximity of city facilities (ex: City Hall)
3. Areas within proximity of city parks
4. Pedestrian facilities within residential areas
5. Pedestrian facilities within commercial/industrial areas

Additional priority will be given to any location where an improvement project or alteration was constructed after January 26, 1991, and accessibility features were omitted.

External Agency Coordination

Several agencies are responsible for pedestrian facilities within the jurisdiction of the City of Buford. The City will coordinate with those agencies (Gwinnett County Department of Transportation and GDOT) to assist with identifying and facilitating elimination of accessibility barriers along their routes.

Public Outreach

The City of Buford recognizes that public participation is an important component in the development of this transition plan. As such, the ADA Transition Plan has been posted to the City's website for public review and comment. Comments can be submitted to the ADA Transition Plan Implementation Coordinator. Contact information is provided in Appendix C.

Public Notice of ADA Requirements and Grievance Procedure

Under the Americans with Disabilities Act, each agency is required to publish its responsibilities with regard to ADA compliance. A draft of this public notice is provided in Appendix B. If users of the City of Buford facilities and services believe the City has not provided a reasonable accommodation, they have the right to file a grievance. In accordance with [28 CFR Sec. 35.107\(b\)](#), the City has developed a grievance procedure for the purpose of the prompt and equitable resolution of citizens' complaints or concerns. This grievance procedure is outlined in Appendix B.

Progress Monitoring and Transition Plan Management

This Transition Plan is considered to be a living document that will continue to be updated as conditions within the City evolve. The initial schedule is to formally review the complete document (main body and appendices) at least once per year, to identify any need for updates. Updates to the appendices or attachments may be made more frequently as needed. Any substantive updates to the main body of this document will be posted on the City's website for public review.

The City recognizes that ADA compliance is an ongoing responsibility which will require monitoring to identify future accessibility issues that may be encountered. For example, facilities that currently meet ADA requirements could fall out of compliance in the future due to factors such as damage, disrepair, or changes within public rights-of-way that could create new accessibility obstacles. Therefore, the ADA Transition Plan Implementation Coordinator will establish an ongoing monitoring/inspection process to ensure that facilities continue to comply with ADA requirements. Agency employees will also be encouraged to report any accessibility concerns or deficiencies that are identified.

Appendices

- A. Agency ADA Design Standards and Improvement/Compliance Procedures**
- B. Public Notice of ADA Requirements and Grievance Procedure**
- C. ADA Transition Plan Coordinator Contact Information**
- D. Glossary of Terms**
- E. Self-Evaluation**
 - E-1. City Schools, Public Facilities, and Parks**
 - E-2. Pedestrian Facilities / Public Rights-of-Way**

Appendix A – Agency ADA Design Standards and Procedures

Design Procedures

Intersection Corners

Curb ramps or blended transitions will attempt to be constructed or upgraded to achieve compliance within all capital improvement projects. There may be limitations which make it technically infeasible for an intersection corner to achieve full accessibility within the scope of any project. Those limitations will be noted and those intersection corners will remain on the transition plan. As future projects or opportunities arise, those intersection corners shall continue to be incorporated into future work. Regardless on if full compliance can be achieved or not, each intersection corner shall be made as compliant as possible in accordance with the judgment of City staff.

Sidewalks / Trails

Sidewalks and trails will attempt to be constructed or upgraded to achieve compliance within all capital improvement projects. There may be limitations which make it technically infeasible for segments of sidewalks or trails to achieve full accessibility within the scope of any project. Those limitations will be noted and those segments will remain on the transition plan. As future projects or opportunities arise, those segments shall continue to be incorporated into future work. Regardless on if full compliance can be achieved or not, every sidewalk or trail shall be made as compliant as possible in accordance with the judgment of City staff.

Traffic Control Signals

Traffic control signals will attempt to be constructed or upgraded to achieve compliance within all capital improvement projects. There may be limitations which make it technically infeasible for individual traffic control signal locations to achieve full accessibility within the scope of any project. Those limitations will be noted and those locations will remain on the transition plan. As future projects or opportunities arise, those locations shall continue to be incorporated into future work. Regardless on if full compliance can be achieved or not, each traffic signal control location shall be made as compliant as possible in accordance with the judgment of City staff.

Other policies, practices and programs

Policies, practices and programs not identified in this document will follow the applicable ADA standards.

Design Standards

The City of Buford complies with the design standards established by the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) and the Gwinnett County Department of Transportation.

Appendix B – Public Notice of ADA Requirements and Grievance Procedure

As required by the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Buford has posted the following notice outlining its responsibilities with regard to ADA compliance.

Public Notice

In accordance with the requirements of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the City of Buford will not discriminate against qualified individuals on the basis of disability in the City's services, programs or activities.

Employment: The City of Buford does not discriminate on the basis of disability in its hiring or employment practices and complies with all regulations promulgated by the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission under Title I of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Effective Communication: The City will generally, upon request, provide appropriate aids and services leading to effective communication for qualified persons with disabilities so they can participate equally in the City's programs, services and activities, including qualified sign language interpreters, documents in Braille, and other ways of making information and communications accessible to people who have speech, hearing or vision impairments.

Modifications to Policies and Procedures: The City will make all reasonable modifications to policies and procedures to ensure that people with disabilities have an equal opportunity to enjoy all City programs, services and activities. For example, individuals with service animals are welcomed in City offices, even where pets are generally prohibited. Anyone who requires an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication, or a modification of policies or procedures to participate in a City program, service or activity, should contact the office of the ADA Coordinator as soon as possible but no later than 48 hours before the scheduled event.

The ADA does not require the City to take any action that would fundamentally alter the nature of its programs or services, or impose an undue financial or administrative burden. The City will not place a surcharge on a particular individual with a disability or any group of individuals with disabilities to cover the cost of providing auxiliary aids/services or reasonable modifications of policy, such as retrieving items from locations that are open to the public but are not accessible to persons who use wheelchairs.

Grievance Procedure

This grievance procedure is established to meet the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA). It may be used by anyone who wishes to file a complaint alleging discrimination on the basis of disability in the provision of service, activities, programs, or benefits by the City of Buford Board of Commissioners. The City of Buford Personnel Policies and Procedures govern employment related complaints of disability discrimination. The application form is included. Grievances should be filed with the ADA Coordinator at:

City of Buford
2300 Buford Highway
Buford, GA 30518

The Grievance Procedure consists of the following:

1. A complaint should be filed in writing (but can be submitted in alternate format due to the needs on an individual's disability), containing the name and address of the person filing it, and briefly describing the alleged violation of the regulations or discriminatory act.
2. A complaint should be filed within 30 calendar days after the complainant becomes aware of the alleged violation. Complaints for alleged violations prior to the adoption of this plan shall be determined on a case by case basis by the ADA Coordinator.
3. An investigation, as may be appropriate, will follow the filing of a complaint and will be conducted by the City's ADA Coordinator. Technical and legal expertise will be consulted as needed. A thorough investigation will be conducted, affording all interested parties and their representatives a chance to submit evidence relevant to the complaint.
4. The City's ADA Coordinator, or his designee, will provide a written report to the City Manager of the complaint. This will include a recommendation on the appropriate way to respond to the complaint.
5. The Board of Commissioners will determine which action, if any, the City of Buford will take.
6. The City's ADA Coordinator will maintain the files and records relating to all ADA Coordinator will maintain the files and records relating to all ADA grievances/complaints filed.
7. The right of a person to a prompt and equitable resolution of the complaint filed thereunder will not be impaired by the person's pursuit of other remedies such as the filing of an ADA complaint with the responsible federal department or state department or agency. This grievance process is not a prerequisite to the pursuit of other remedies.

8. These rules will be construed to protect the substantive rights of interested persons to meet appropriate due process standards, and to assure the City of Buford complies with the ADA and implementing regulations.

This information can be made available in an alternate format and the grievance can be submitted in an alternate format.

City of Buford ADA Grievance Form

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

LOCATION OF
PROBLEM: _____

DESCRIPTION OF
PROBLEM: _____

**Please attach additional pages if needed.*

The complaint should be submitted by the grievant and/or his/her designee as soon as possible but no later than 30 days after the alleged violation to:

City of Buford
ATTN: Jason Higgins, City ADA Coordinator
2300 Buford Highway
Buford, GA 30518
jhiggins@cityofbuford.com
770-945-6761

Appendix C – ADA Coordinator Contact Information

Buford ADA Transition Plan Implementation Coordinator

Name: Jason Higgins

Job Title: Program Coordinator

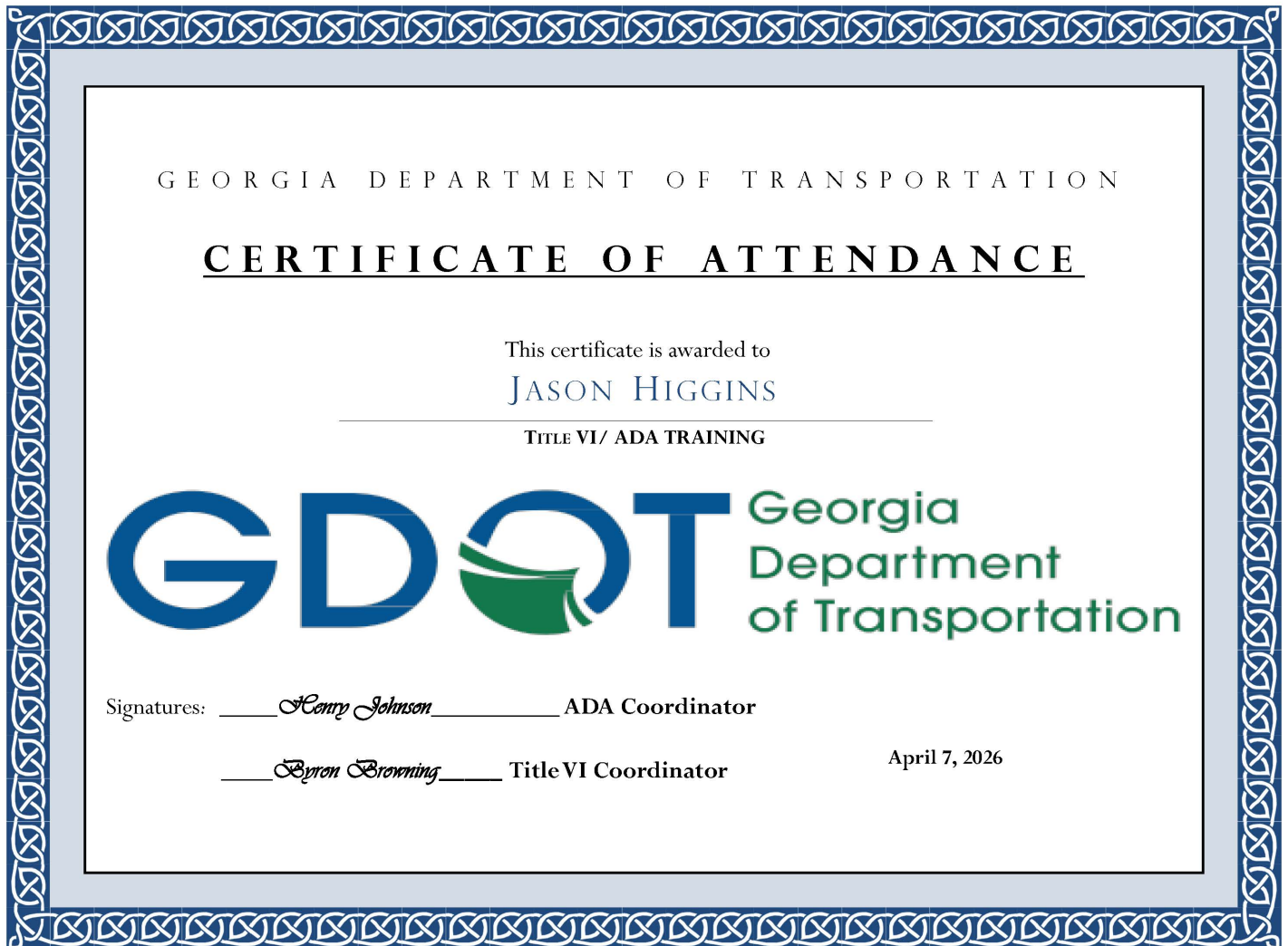
Office Address: 2300 Buford Highway, Buford, Georgia 30518

Phone: 770-945-6761

E-mail: jhiggins@cityofbuford.com

Attended GDOT ADA Training: November 2, 2017 / July 22, 2020

April 11, 2023 / April 7, 2026



Appendix D – Glossary of Terms

Glossary of Terms

ABA: See Architectural Barriers Act.

ADA: See Americans with Disabilities Act.

ADA Transition Plan: Transportation system plan that identifies accessibility needs, the process to fully integrate accessibility improvements, and aims to ensure that all transportation facilities, services, programs, and activities are accessible to all individuals.

ADAAG: See Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines.

Accessible: A facility that provides access to people with disabilities using the design requirements of the ADA.

Accessible Pedestrian Signal (APS): A device that communicates information about the WALK phase in audible and vibrotactile formats.

Alteration: A change to a facility in the public right-of-way that affects or could affect access, circulation, or use. An alteration must not decrease or have the effect of decreasing the accessibility of a facility or an accessible connection to an adjacent building or site.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA): Civil rights legislation passed in 1990 and effective July 1992. The ADA sets design guidelines for accessibility to public facilities, including sidewalks and trails, by individuals with disabilities.

Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG): Contains scoping and technical requirements for accessibility to buildings and public facilities by individuals with disabilities under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990.

APS: See Accessible Pedestrian Signal.

Architectural Barriers Act (ABA): Federal law that requires facilities designed, built, altered or leased with Federal funds to be accessible. The Architectural Barriers Act marks one of the first efforts to ensure access to the built environment.

Capital Improvement Program (CIP): The CIP for a public agency typically includes an annual capital budget and a five-year plan for funding the new construction and reconstruction projects on the agency's transportation system.

Detectable Warning: A surface feature of truncated domes, built in or applied to the walking surface to indicate an upcoming change from pedestrian to vehicular way.

DOJ: See United States Department of Justice.

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA): A branch of the U.S. Department of Transportation that administers the federal-aid Highway Program, providing financial assistance to states to construct and improve highways, urban and rural roads, and bridges.

FHWA: See Federal Highway Administration.

GDOT: Georgia Department of Transportation.

Pedestrian Access Route (PAR): A continuous and unobstructed walkway within a pedestrian circulation path that provides accessibility.

Pedestrian Circulation Route (PCR): A prepared exterior or interior way of passage provided for pedestrian travel.

PROWAG: An acronym for the *Guidelines for Accessible Public Rights-of-Way* issued in 2005 by the U.S. Access Board. This guidance addresses roadway design practices, slope and terrain related to pedestrian access to walkways and streets, including crosswalks, curb ramps, street furnishings, pedestrian signals, parking and other components of public rights-of-way.

Right-of-Way: A general term denoting land, property, or interest therein, usually in a strip, acquired for the network of streets, sidewalks and trails creating public pedestrian access within a public entity's jurisdictional limits.

Section 504: The section of the Rehabilitation Act that prohibits discrimination by any program or activity conducted by the federal government.

Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards (UFAS): Accessibility standards that all federal agencies are required to meet; includes scoping and technical specifications.

United States Access Board: An independent federal agency that develops and maintains design criteria for buildings and other improvements, transit vehicles, telecommunications equipment, and electronic and information technology. It also enforces accessibility standards that cover federally-funded facilities.

United States Department of Justice: Federal executive department responsible for enforcement of the law and administration of justice (also referred to as the Justice Department or DOJ).

Appendix E – Self-Evaluation

Self-Evaluation

A public entity that employs 50 or more persons is required, for at least three years following the completion of the self-evaluation, to maintain on file and make available for public inspection:

- A description of areas examined and any problems identified;
- Cost to remove the ADA barrier; and,
- A description of any modifications made and the date the modification was made.

Descriptions of areas examined, problems identified and any modifications made are listed in the following sections E-1 and E-2.

E-1. City Schools, Public Facilities, and Parks

The City has conducted a detailed accessibility evaluation of each of its buildings, based on the ADA Checklist for Existing Facilities publication. The results are listed below:

CITY OWNED FACILITY	ADDRESS	RAMPS OUT OF COMPLIANCE	BATHROOMS OUT OF COMPLIANCE	DETECTABLE WARNING STRIPS OUT OF COMPLIANCE	ELEVATORS, DOORS OUT OF COMPLIANCE	SIGNS, PARKING, PAINT OUT OF COMPLIANCE	COMMENTS	DATE OF BARRIER REMOVAL	ESTIMATED COST
School 1- Buford City Schools Central Office	2625 Sawnee Avenue, Buford, GA 30518	All Compliant	2	All Compliant	All Compliant	1	Toilet at 19.5' height. Maximum required height of 19'. Single restroom sink had 0" between floor and bottom of sink. Minimum of 29" required. Note - Between two bathrooms inspected, one had a sink out of compliance, with an in-compliance toilet, yet the other bathroom had an out of compliance toilet with an in- compliance sink. Recommend barrier removal in the bathroom with the out of compliance sink, as this is a less costly repair.	TBD	\$1,525.00
School 2- Buford Elementary School	2500 Sawnee Avenue, Buford, GA 30518	All Compliant	All Compliant	All Compliant	All Compliant	8	One van accessible parking sign missing. Signage and striping for two additional accessible parking stalls. Minimum 5' wide hatch area for two additional accessible parking stalls.	TBD	\$785.00
School 3- Buford Academy	2705 Robert Bell Parkway, Buford, GA 30518	1	All Compliant	All Compliant	All Compliant	3	Signage and striping for one additional accessible parking stall. Minimum 5' wide hatch area for one additional accessible parking stall.	TBD	\$355.00
School 4 – Buford Senior Academy	2700 Robert Bell Parkway, Buford, GA 30518	1	All Compliant	All Compliant	All Compliant	All Compliant	Sidewalk Entrance cross slope of 4.2%, maximum allowed is 2%. Recommended to arrange coordination for access to alternate accessible entrances, such as the ADA spaces in the main lot. Will reduce cost to avoid replacing entrance sidewalks. 5' diameter circle for turning not provided in inspected bathroom entrance hallway.	TBD	\$1,250.00

School 5- Buford Middle School	2750 Sawnee Avenue, Buford, GA 30518	1	7	1	All Compliant	17	At school - Existing aisle in front lot is 5'- 5" wide. 8' minimum required for van accessible space. At school - Restriping parking aisle to be van accessible will require restriping of 8 existing pavement symbols. At school - Ramp at stadium admissions gate needs to be reconstructed due to disjoints at road grade. At School - Detectable warning strip needed for ramp reconstruction at stadium admissions gate. At School - Restriping parking aisle to be van accessible will require restriping of 7 existing adjacent handicap spaces. At school - Two accessible-height sinks in separate restrooms have missing under lavatory protection. At high school football stadium - Under lavatory protector needed under 8 sinks At school - No van accessible signs currently present at front lot (1).	TBD	\$4,440.00
School 6- Buford High School	2455 Buford Highway, Buford, GA 30518	All Compliant	All Compliant	All Compliant	All Compliant	All Compliant	All items are compliant	Not Applicable	
Facility 1- Buford City Hall	2300 Buford Highway, Buford, GA 30518	All Compliant	All Compliant	All Compliant	6	All Compliant	All 4 interior bathroom entrance doors averaged 9 lbf (pound force). Maximum of 5 lbf allowed on interior doors. Adjust door hinges/ hydraulics. Elevator on first and second floor are missing the audible door opening / closing tone (one tone = up, two tones = down).	TBD	\$520.00
Facility 2- Buford Community Center and Theatre	2200 Buford Highway, Buford, GA 30518	All Compliant	All Compliant	All Compliant	4	1	All 4 interior bathroom entrance doors averaged 10 lbf (pound force). Maximum of 5 lbf allowed on interior doors. Adjust door hinges/ hydraulics. No van accessible signs currently present at front lot (1).	TBD	\$195.00

Facility 3- Buford Tennis Facility	2700 Sawnee Avenue, Buford, GA 30518	All Compliant	2	All Compliant	All Compliant	All Compliant	Building currently contains one 42" high water fountain. Provide 30" high ADA compliant water fountain next to existing water fountain. Grab bars are needed next to and behind women's restroom toilet. Mirrors are needed above lavatories in men's and women's restrooms. Existing Men's and Women's restroom signs are door mounted. Replace with ADA compliant signs located on wall next to the latch side of the door. Middle School side of Tennis Facility parking - It is not feasible to provide handicap parking stalls on this side of the facility. The parking lot has a slope of 5% and the sidewalk connecting the parking lot to the perimeter sidewalk around the tennis courts varies from 14% to 25%. Handicap access is provided on the Legion Field side of the facility	TBD	\$2,525.00
Facility 4- Buford Arena	2975 Sawnee Avenue, Buford, GA 30518	All Compliant	All Compliant	All Compliant	All Compliant	17	The handicap symbol is faded or missing on all 16 of the handicap accessible parking spots. Repainting is necessary to meet ADA standards.	TBD	\$3,315.00
Facility 5- Buford City Gymnasium	625 East Shadburn Ave, Buford, GA 30518	All Compliant	2	All Compliant	All Compliant	All Compliant	Two accessible-height sinks in separate restrooms have missing under lavatory protection.	TBD	\$200.00
Facility 6- Buford Parking Deck	70 East Moreno Street, Buford, GA 30518	All Compliant	All Compliant	All Compliant	1	7	One van accessible sign currently present on the second level, the other required sign is missing for the level one required van spot. Existing hatched area is 5' wide. 8' minimum required for van accessible spaces. Restriping parking aisle to be van accessible will require restriping of two existing pavement symbols. Restriping parking aisle to be van accessible will require restriping of two adjacent handicap spaces. Elevator was not in operating condition on day of inspection.	TBD	\$2,675.00

Facility 7- Buford Youth Community Center	171 Bona Road, Buford, GA 30518	All Compliant	2	All Compliant	All Compliant	1	No van accessible sign currently present in parking lot (1). Existing Men's and Women's restroom (firsts set on the left at main entrance) signs are door mounted. Replace with ADA compliant signs located on wall next to the latch side of the door. Three sinks in separate restrooms have missing under lavatory protection	TBD	\$525.00
Facility 8- Buford Public Works Department	1895 Peachtree Industrial Boulevard, Buford, GA 30518	All Compliant	All Compliant	All Compliant	2	5	Note - Access to the Public Works building is permitted for City employees only. Signage for new handicap parking stall required (1). Adding new handicap space will require restriping of parking stall. Handicap symbol is completely gone. Needs replacement for two existing spots and one new spot. Both interior bathroom entrance doors averaged 8 lbf (pound force). Maximum of 5 lbf allowed on interior doors.	TBD	\$815.00
Facility 9- Buford Sewer Treatment Plant	1201 Chatham Road, Buford, GA 30518	All Compliant	1	All Compliant	All Compliant	All Compliant	Note – Access to the Sewer Treatment Plant is permitted for City employees only. Missing under lavatory protector in main office bathroom (first building on the left upon entrance to facility).	TBD	\$100.00
Facility 10- Buford Water Treatment Plant	3370 North Waterworks Road, Buford, GA 30518	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Note – Access to the Water Treatment Plant is permitted for City employees only. Existing building is not ADA accessible in many aspects such as parking requirements and accessibility to ground and second floor. Barrier removal is not required since a new fully ADA compliant facility will open in a few months. The current older building will be decommissioned.	Not Applicable	

Facility 11 – Buford Bus Barn (Recreation Department)	2750 Sawnee Avenue, Buford, GA 30518	1	All Compliant	1	All Compliant	5	Note – Access to the Bus Barn building is permitted for City employees only. Ramp currently not present to travel accessibly from parking lot to the office entrances. Current driveway to garage on left side of building does not act an ADA accessible ramp. Detectable warning strip needed for new ramp. Handicap symbol required for new accessible parking stall. Signage for new handicap parking stall required (1). Adding new handicap space will require striping of parking stall. Van accessible sign required for new van accessible spot (1). 8' striping area required for van accessible spot.	TBD	\$1,840.00
Facility 12 – Phillip Beard Stadium	2440 Buford Hwy Buford, GA 30518	All Compliant	All Compliant	All Compliant	All Compliant	All Compliant	New Facility opened July 2025	Not Applicable	
Park 1- Buford City Park (Youth, High School Baseball & Softball)	565 Sawnee Avenue, Buford, GA 30518	All Compliant	All Compliant	All Compliant	All Compliant	All Compliant	Facility Upgrades 2020	TBD	

Park 2- Buford Youth Sports Complex- Youth and Middle School Football	2750 Sawnee Avenue, Buford, GA 30518	3	6	4	All Compliant	1	The cross slopes of the existing TP A ADA ramps located on the HS football stadium side of the parking lot exceed the maximum allowable 12:1 slope. Recommend reconstructing as TP B ADA ramps with detectable warning strips. Detectable warning strip needed for TP A ADA ramp accessing practice football fields from parking lot. Two of the existing handicap parking stalls do not have an aisle. Recommend removing the fourth handicap parking stall from the western end and restriping as a van accessible aisle. Parking lot would still meet minimum number of handicap parking spaces (7). West women's restroom-Visitor's Side: sign is broken and requires replacement. Under lavatory protector needed for the following locations: West Football Field Visitor Men's Restroom (2), West Football Field Visitor Women's Restroom (2), East Football Field Visitor Men's Restroom (2), East Football Field Visitor Women's Restroom (2). Women's Restroom- Football Practice Field: need new toilet seat.	TBD	\$3,400.00
Park 3- Buford City Gymnasium Park- Outdoor Play	625 E. Shadburn Avenue, Buford, GA 30518)	All Compliant	All Compliant	All Compliant	All Compliant	All Compliant	Facility was constructed in 2018 and is ADA compliant.	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Park 4- Buford Community Center Town Park	2200 Buford Highway, Buford, GA 30518	2	All Compliant	2	All Compliant	5	Ramps needed for southern roundabout approach. Detectable warning strips needed for splitter island in southern roundabout approach. Recommend placing one van accessible parking sign on each side of the building. All existing parking aisle widths can accommodate vans. Existing striping is faded and needs replacement. Existing handicap pavement symbols at building rear are faded. Existing decorative post with handicap parking sign at front of building is leaning. Requires adjustment.	TBD	\$3,325.00

Park 5- Main Street Park and Amphitheater	400 East Main Street, Buford, GA 30518	All Compliant	Not Applicable	All Compliant	Not Applicable	1	No van accessible signs currently present at site. Existing aisle is 5' wide. 8' minimum required for van accessible space. Restriping of parking aisle will require relocation of existing pavement marking. Restriping of parking aisle will require restriping of existing adjacent handicap space.	TBD	\$295.00
Park 6- Garnett Street Multi-use Trail	Garnett St. @ Hutchins St.		Not Applicable		Not Applicable				
Park 7- Buford Passive Park	70 East Moreno Street, Buford, GA 30518		Not Applicable		Not Applicable				

E-2. Pedestrian Facilities / Public Rights-of-Way

The City has conducted a detailed accessibility evaluation of pedestrian facilities within the agency's public rights-of-way. The results are listed below:

LOCATION OF DEFICIENT PEDESTRIAN FACILITY	RAMPS OUT OF COMPLIANCE	DETECTABLE WARNING STRIPS OUT OF COMPLIANCE	LENGTH OF SIDEWALK OUT OF COMPLIANCE (FT.)	OTHER ITEMS OUT OF COMPLIANCE	COMMENTS	DATE OF BARRIER REMOVAL	ESTIMATED COST
Shadburn Ave @ 4942 Austin Park Ave.				See comments	Damaged drain cover in sidewalk.	TBD	\$450.00
Shadburn Ave. @ Swimming Pool Rd.		2	8	No crosswalk		TBD	\$1,990.00
Shadburn Ave. @ Drake St.		2		No crosswalk		TBD	\$1,590.00
Shadburn Ave. @ Lawson St.		2		No crosswalk		TBD	\$1,590.00
Shadburn Ave. @ Pugh St.		2		No crosswalk		TBD	\$1,590.00
Shadburn Ave. @ Woodland St.		2		No crosswalk		TBD	\$1,590.00
Shadburn Ave. @ Rowe St.		2		No crosswalk		TBD	\$1,590.00
Shadburn Ave. @ High St.				No crosswalk		TBD	\$750.00
Shadburn Ave. @ North Lee St.				No crosswalk		TBD	\$750.00
Shadburn Ave. @ Little Mill Rd.		2		No crosswalk		TBD	\$1,590.00
Shadburn Ave. @ North Alexander St.				No crosswalk		TBD	\$750.00
Shadburn Ave. @ Silas King St.			372	No crosswalk	Sidewalk east of Silas King St. needs replacement and widening.	TBD	\$19,350.00
Shadburn Ave. @ Spring St.			887	No crosswalk	Sidewalk along Spring St. needs total replacement and sidewalk along Shadburn, west of Spring St, needs widening.	TBD	\$45,100.00
Shadburn Ave. @ North Harris St.				No crosswalk		TBD	\$750.00

172 Shadburn Ave @ N. Gwinnett St.				No crosswalk		TBD	\$750.00
Shadburn Ave. @ N. Gwinnett St.				No crosswalk		TBD	\$750.00
Main St. @ Silas King St.		2		No crosswalk		TBD	\$1,590.00
Moreno St. @ E. Park St.		2		No crosswalk	37 ft crosswalk needs to be added with warning strips.	TBD	\$2,000.00
Moreno St. @ Garnett St.			145		Replace sidewalk on west side of Pentecostal Church and add ramps where there are stairs (two locations).	TBD	\$10,100.00
E. Park St.		5	8		Multiple warning strips missing; ramp needs to be added by building 110; clear debris and possible replacement of sidewalk by building 110.	TBD	\$3,700.00
Moreno St. @ Scott St.		2		Missing two crosswalks	Add 2 crosswalks on south and west edge of intersection.	TBD	\$2,340.00
Moreno St. @ Alexander St.		2		No crosswalk		TBD	\$1,590.00
Moreno St. @ Church St.		2		No crosswalk		TBD	\$1,590.00
Moreno St. east of Kennesaw St.			120		Currently under construction.	Summer 2023	\$6,000.00
Moreno St. @ Kennesaw St.		2			Currently under construction.	Summer 2023	\$840.00
Moreno St. @ Main St.		4			Currently under construction.	Summer 2023	\$1,680.00
Church St. west of Jones Alley		1				TBD	\$1,620.00
Church St. @ W. Park St.		1		No crosswalk	Add crosswalk on east side of intersection.	TBD	\$1,170.00

284 Church St.			422		Entire block of sidewalk in very poor condition needs to be replaced.	TBD	\$21,100.00
Church St. @ South St.		2		No crosswalk		TBD	\$1,590.00
320 Church St.			477		Replace sidewalk from 320 to 380 Church St, very poor condition.	TBD	\$23,850.00
340 Church St.			15	Backfill		TBD	\$1,080.00
733 Church St. to 753 Church St.		2				TBD	\$3,240.00
S. Alexander @ Jones Alley				Check longitudinal cross slope of ramps		TBD	\$240.00
Scott St. @ the Park				Check longitudinal cross slope of sidewalk by building		TBD	\$240.00
155 Scott St.		5		No crosswalk	Warning strip needs to be added at end of sidewalk across the street by the playground; crosswalk with warning strips need to be added at ends of block where Scott street intersects W. Moreno St.	TBD	\$2,850.00
Scott St. @ W. Park St.		2		No crosswalk	Crosswalk needed on west side of intersection.	TBD	\$1,590.00
Circle View @ Hutchins 1st Cul-de- sac		2	22	Four discontinuities in sidewalks and one crosswalk needs to be added	33 ft crosswalk by building 108, there are four 22 ft discontinuities by buildings 201, 204, 205 and 210.	TBD	\$5,370.00

Buford Housing Authority Building B 201-204		2				TBD	\$3,240.00
Buford Housing Authority 205-210		2	4			TBD	\$3,440.00
Buford Housing Authority 211-216		2				TBD	\$3,240.00
Buford Housing Authority 217-222		2				TBD	\$3,240.00
Buford Housing Authority 223-228		2				TBD	\$3,240.00
Buford Housing Authority On left @ Fire Hydrant			4			TBD	\$200.00
Buford Housing Authority 401 D		1		Backfill		TBD	\$1,950.00
Buford Housing Authority 316-313		1				TBD	\$420.00
Buford Housing Authority Circle View Dr. 305-304 C		1				TBD	\$420.00
Harris St. @ Jones Alley			20		20 ft of sidewalk needs to be added on Bare Bones Steakhouse side.	TBD	\$1,000.00
530 Harris St.				Two catch basins	2 catch basins protrude above sidewalk along road.	TBD	\$960.00
Tannery St. @ Wilson Ave.		1			1 warning strip needs to be added at South end of sidewalk on Wilson St.	TBD	\$420.00
Buford Housing Authority E. Park off Moreno St. #110		2				TBD	\$3,240.00
Robert Bell Pkwy. @ Fine Arts Entrance				Faded crosswalk	55 ft section of crosswalk needs repainting.	TBD	\$1,720.00
Robert Bell Pkwy. @ BMS Entrance				Faded crosswalk	25 ft crosswalk section needs repainting	TBD	\$780.00

Legion Field Main Parking Lot		1			1 warning strip needs to be added near west entrance.	TBD	\$420.00
Crosswalk @ BHS Football Stadium Visitor's Stands				Two faded crosswalks	2 crosswalks need to be repainted.	TBD	\$750.00
BHS Baseball Field (Sawnee Ave.)				Two storm drains	Two storm drains protrude above sidewalk; Two bushes protrude out over sidewalk causing blockage.	TBD	\$960.00
Centerville Dr. @ Carter Dr.		2		No crosswalk	50 ft section of crosswalk needs to be added with warning strips on each side.	TBD	\$2,400.00
Centerville Dr. @ Ripley Court		2		No crosswalk	64 ft section of crosswalk needs to be added with warning strips on each side.	TBD	\$2,840.00
Centerville Dr. @ Ozark Trail		2		No crosswalk	51 ft section of crosswalk needs to be added with warning strips on each side.	TBD	\$2,440.00
Centerville Dr. @ Reynolds Place		4		No crosswalk	A 48 ft section and a 55 ft section of crosswalk need to be added with warning strips on each end of each sidewalk.	TBD	\$4,900.00
Centerville Dr. @ Davis Rd.		2		No crosswalk	A 46 ft section of crosswalk needs to be added with warning strip on each end.	TBD	\$2,280.00
Sudderth Rd. behind GMC Dealership			187		A 120 ft section and a 67 ft section of Sidewalk need to be widened.	TBD	\$9,350.00
Sudderth R. @ Satellite Blvd.			36		36 ft section of sidewalk needs widening.	TBD	\$1,800.00

Sudderth R. @ Horizon Drive		1				TBD	\$420.00
Old Hamilton Mill Road				No crosswalk	59 ft section of crosswalk needs added at intersection of Secret Shoals Way.	TBD	\$1,850.00
Mill Center Pkwy.		20		No crosswalk	Multiple sections of crosswalk need to be added totaling 884 ft with warning strips on each end.	TBD	\$35,990.00
Faith Industrial		8				TBD	\$3,360.00
Bristol Industrial @ Bellewood Court		4		No crosswalk	2 separate 55 ft crosswalks and 4 warning strips need to be added by Starbucks and Wendy's on Bristol Industrial Way.	TBD	\$5,120.00
5210 Palmero Court			382		248 ft section and 134 ft section need widening to 5 ft near 1st cul-de-sac.	TBD	\$19,100.00
Mill Center Pkwy @ Hamilton Mill Rd		1			One warning strip has half a section missing.	TBD	\$420.00

Work Complete List

(Improvements Implemented Since February 2019)

LOCATION	WORK COMPLETED	DATE COMPLETE
South Waterworks, Rd. @ Chevron	Added 2 detectible warning strips and repaired 6 feet of sidewalk to be in compliance	
Main St. in front of Buford First UMC near Hill St.	Added 4 detectible warning strips	
Wilson Ave. across from Mansion	Repaired 60 feet of sidewalk to be in compliance	
Moreno St. @ Elliott St.	Added 3 detectible warning strips	
Scott St. @ Jones Alley	Added 2 detectible warning strips	
Garnett St. @ Jones Alley	Added 2 detectible warning strips	
Washington St. @ Roberts St.	Added 2 detectible warning strips	
4155 Davis Rd.	Repaired 6 feet of sidewalk to be in compliance	
4185 Davis Rd.	Repaired 6 feet of sidewalk to be in compliance	
4190 Davis Rd.	Repaired 6 feet of sidewalk to be in compliance	
4162 Davis Rd.	Repaired 8 feet of sidewalk to be in compliance	
4192 Davis Rd.	Repaired 6 feet of sidewalk to be in compliance	
4202 Davis Rd.	Repaired 6 feet of sidewalk to be in compliance	
1388 Centerville Dr. Highland Creek Subdivision	Repaired 8 feet of sidewalk to be in compliance	
3804 Heritage Crest Dr.	Repaired 8 feet of sidewalk to be in compliance and adjusted drop inlet	
5153 Bellewood Court	Repaired 4 feet of sidewalk to be in compliance	
Summer Oak Dr. @ Summer Oak Pl.	Added 3 detectible warning strips	
3027 Summer Oak Pl.	Repaired 8 feet of sidewalk to be in compliance	