

Co-op Coalition Survey: Physical Access

Thanks to the 13 members who took the time to respond to this survey. Following is the original question and the table of responses. Once again, thanks for helping your other co-op Coalition members!

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In a message dated 10/25/2016 9:39 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, CooperativesDC@aol.com writes:

A member co-op is reviewing access in their complex for mobility-challenged residents and visitors. Because access covers many different issues (steps, doors, ramps, pools, curbs, etc.), the number of questions needed to adequately address the issues are too many for an e-survey. Hence, the two questions below and the hope some of you who have already addressed access issues will talk with representatives of the co-op.

1. What has your community done to facilitate access to areas in your complex?
2. Would you be willing to talk with the requesting co-op so they could learn more about how you addressed access issues?

Thanks for helping another cooperator and, as always, I will summarize the results and share them shortly after the deadline. Please respond by 5pm, Friday, November 4.

Best,

Mike O'Dell, Director
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<50 units	We are so small access has not been a problem.
<50 units	We have not made any changes. We have a rear door from the basement at ground level to a driveway that can be accessed with a wheel chair.
<50 units	We haven't done anything, we're sorry to say, to address this issue. We are a small coop in a building from the 1920s. We have 3 floors and no elevator. The only floor that is accessible (somewhat) by a wheelchair is the first floor. Our front entrance has a dozen steps so even the first floor is not accessible from the front; our side entrance (off of the driveway) only has three low steps, so it's possible for someone in a wheel chair or a walker--with some help--to access the first floor through the side door. We have not had any request, so far, to make the building wheelchair accessible.
<50 units	To the best of my knowledge, we have never been asked to review anything involving physical access to our cooperative. As an older building (built in 1904), we are clearly not accessible (stairs are necessary to get into any of the three entrances/exits to the building and to get between the sidewalk and the building...our elevator is not wide enough for a wheelchair, etc.), and I think we have always assumed that we would somehow be grandfathered into any requirements. We have never explored this question legally, but on the other hand, no one has ever asked either.

<50 units	[Our co-op] has wheelchair accessibility from our service entrance. A ramp leads to the entrance and once in the building the service elevator is accessible. What we do not have is easy access to our garage. There are steps so a wheelchair must go outside and around to the garage and someone must open the garage door from the inside. Hope this helps!
<50 units	The one thing we did, which was not a part of our original building, was to add a ramp along one side, leading to the front door. Inside, we have two elevators -- passenger and freight -- both of which are large enough to accommodate wheelchairs. The one area that is not easily accessible is the laundry room in the basement, but many of our residents have installed washing machines in their own apartments. There is not much to discuss, but I would be happy to respond to any DC/CHC member who has a question or two.
<50 units	<p>1) We have not done much to facilitate access. There was already an existing door at mezzanine level from the side driveway, and elevator at mezzanine level. All the doors in our building could definitely be more wheelchair friendly. We removed a threshold "lip" in the basement to allow easier access to wheelchairs into our community room.</p> <p>2) I doubt they will want talk with us since we haven't done anything, but they can contact me if they like!</p>
<50 units	<p>Our Coop was built in the 1940s.. we have 2 flights of stairs at the front entrance and no easy solution to remedy that. Our rear entrance, which many residents use as their primary entrance due to rear parking access, had multiple steps and curbs. Several years ago we did a major project, removing all curbs and steps and pouring a new concrete back entrance .. leveling it to the street level. Resident can now enter the building and access all common areas through the rear entrance except the roof garden, ie: they have easy access to the elevator, all resident floors, the mailboxes, laundry facilities, as well as the Resident Manager's unit.</p> <p>Yes, we are happy to talk to other members, as well as they can tour the building.</p>
50 – 99 units	<p>1. Our building is fully accessible from the parking lot to the elevators in the lobby.</p> <p>2. We haven't had to address access issues.</p>
50 – 99 units	<p>1. Since becoming a Cooperative, [our co-op] has done nothing to facilitate access except to maintain our elevator, which goes from the first floor to the fourth floor. However, our building is not accessible in the ADA-sense of the word due to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · There is a step up to enter the building. · The community laundry room is located in the basement. Stairs are the only access to this area. <p>One year ago, we hired an architect to oversee a portion of our capital improvement program. He designed a ramp to access the front door. However, other capital projects have priority over the ramp at the present time.</p> <p>2. Based on our response above, I doubt that we have anything of value to provide. However, the requesting coop may contact me if they so desire.</p>
100 – 199 units	CAC has only installed a ramp in the front of the building. There are existing ramps to the garages.
200+ units	<p>1. Power door openers and ramps where necessary.</p> <p>2. Yes</p>
200+ units	<p>1. Many years ago we made curb cuts in all of our sidewalks for wheel chairs. Sometime in the '90s, we made adjustments to our pool to enable mobility-challenged people to enter the pool. Several years ago, we installed automatic door openers on our lobby doors as well as main entrances from our garage. We still have one public area that is inaccessible by wheelchair, but we recently have talked about addressing that problem. However, individual co-owner units have access problems that can only be addressed by owners.</p> <p>2. Yes</p>