



SAN FRANCISCO HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
**Department of Disability
and Aging Services**

Office on Disability and Accessibility



Image: Wheelchair users protesting outside of San Francisco City Hall in 1977. One protester has a hand-made “We Shall Overcome” sign on the back of his wheelchair (black and white. Credit: Anthony Tusler)

Eli Gelardin, Director

Office on Disability and Accessibility

September 18th, 2026

ODA's Purpose

The San Francisco **Office on Disability & Accessibility (ODA)** helps ensure that the City's programs, services, facilities and digital information are accessible to people with disabilities of all ages and backgrounds. As the City's overall ADA Coordinator, ODA leads compliance with **Title II of the ADA** and other federal, state, and local disability access laws.

Key Functions:

- Oversees the City's **ADA Transition Plan**, including capital planning and the City's ADA grievance and appeals procedures
- Provides **technical assistance** and **policy guidance** to City leadership and departments
- Supports the **Mayor's Disability Council**
- Serves as a **liaison to the disability community**
- Advises the **Mayor, Board of Supervisors, and City departments** on disability rights and accessibility

Demographics (1 of 2)

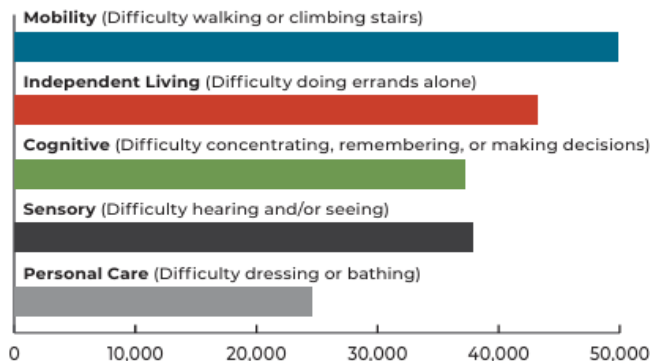
Disability in San Francisco

One in ten San Franciscans reports a disability (96,000 people). Almost half of people with disabilities are under age 65.¹ Investing in this community is important for the future of our City.



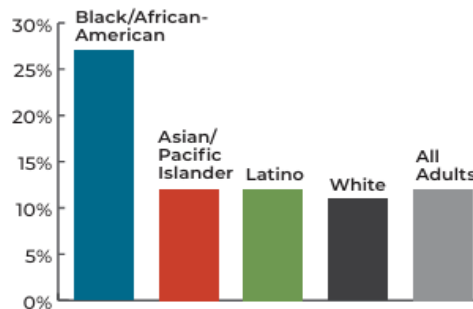
San Francisco Residents Report Many Types of Disability

Some report multiple disabilities.¹



Disability Rates Vary by Ethnicity

African-Americans are twice as likely to experience disability.¹



Demographics (2 of 2)

Challenges and Priorities

City living can be challenging for people with disabilities but also provides great opportunity for culture, connection, and enrichment. Working with and on behalf of people with disabilities to support engaged and fulfilling community living is a shared responsibility for us all.

Income, Poverty, and Employment



1 in 4 people with disabilities live in poverty.¹

Even adults with disabilities who are employed are more than twice as likely to experience poverty.¹

Housing



60% of adults with disabilities are renters.¹

The majority of San Francisco's housing (82%) pre-dates state and federal requirements for accessibility.²

Home Care



26,000 people live in their communities with help through Medi-Cal's In-Home Supportive Services program.⁴

Transportation



22% of people with disabilities ride public transportation daily.⁴

Safety



1 in 3 people with disabilities feel unsafe traveling alone in their neighborhood at night.³

Policy Updates

State

Senate Bill 84 – Disability Access: Construction-Related Accessibility Claims (active)

Assembly Bill 649 – Disability Access: Construction-Related Accessibility Claims (inactive)

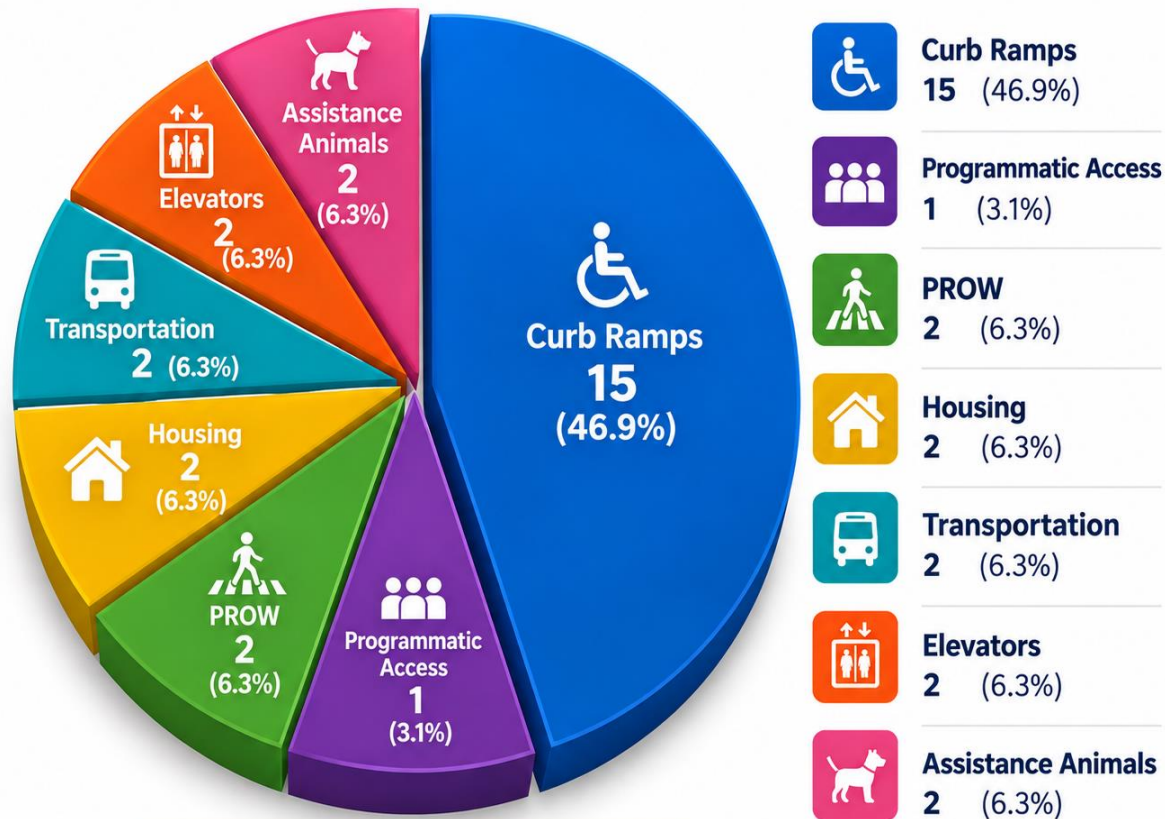
Assembly Bill 780 – Construction-Related Accessibility Claims: Notice & Opportunity to Correct (failed)

AB 2190 – Internet Website Accessibility (inactive)

AB 2607 – ADA Small Business Capital Access Loan Program

ADA Grievances Received by ODA

FY26-27 (July - August)



Expanding Programmatic Access: ADA Coordinator Training Series

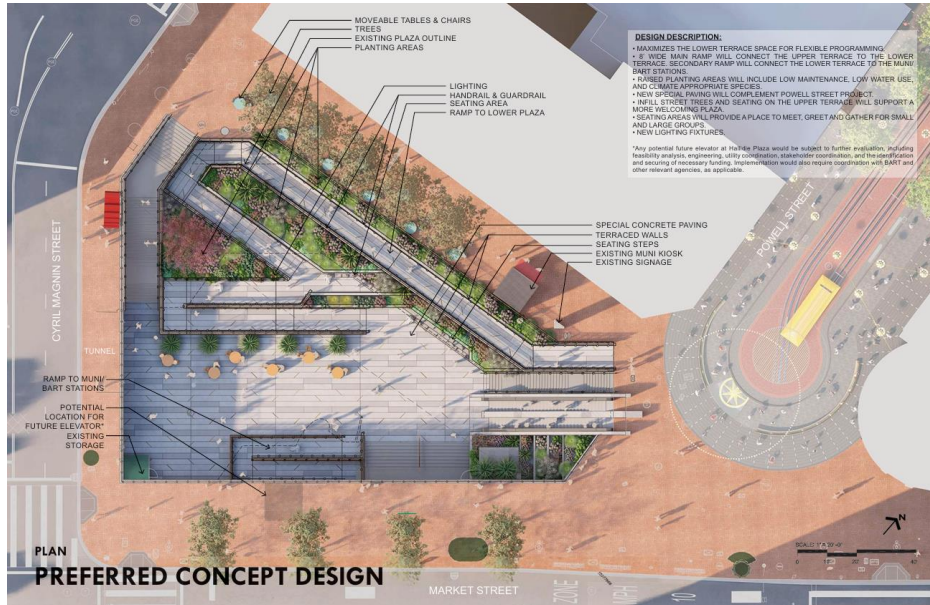
Updates

- The Office on Disability and Accessibility (ODA) is launching a citywide ADA training program and creating an ADA Coordinator Teams channel.
- Monthly virtual trainings began in August, each focused on a single ADA topic.
- Participants complete free online courses from the Rocky Mountain ADA Center anytime during the month.
- ODA will host end-of-month follow-up sessions to review content, provide SF-specific guidance, and support discussion.
- A Teams channel will serve as the ADA Community of Practice, offering training materials, recordings, and a forum for collaboration among ADA Coordinators and accessibility practitioners.

Capital Projects

Updates

Hallide Plaza Redesign- Community Meeting#3 Preferred Concept Design



Capital Projects (2)

Updates

Hallide Plaza Redesign- Preferred Concept Design (Ariel View)



Capital Projects (3)

Updates

Hallide Plaza Redesign- Preferred Concept Design Perspective View from Station



Capital Projects (4)

Updates

Hallide Plaza Redesign- Community Meeting #3 Perspective view from Stairs



Events

Presentation~ Beyond the Front Door, Government and Disability Conference

Presentation~ Aging with Disability: Building Respectful, Welcoming and Accessible Communities, USAging Conference

Planning~ Section 504 50th Anniversary, April 2022



**GOVERNMENT AND
DISABILITY SUMMIT**



SFHSA
Department of Disability
and Aging Services

Questions?





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Thank you



Disability advocates, members of the Mayor's Disability Council and DAS staff gathered at the Disability Cultural Center for the ribbon-cutting ceremony with Mayor Lurie..

www.sfhsa.org