

A key concept that must be kept in mind, is that public programs and services, when viewed in their entirety, must be accessible to people with disabilities, but not all facilities must necessarily be made accessible. For example, if a city has multiple public swimming pools and limited resources, it can decide which pools to make accessible based on factors such as the geographic distribution of the sites, the availability of public transportation, the hours of operation, and the particular programs offered at each site so that the swimming program as a whole is accessible to and usable by people with disabilities.

Another key concept is that public entities have an ongoing obligation to make programs and services accessible to people with disabilities. This means that if many access improvements are needed, and there are insufficient resources to accomplish them in a single year, they can be spread out over time. It also means that rising or falling revenues can affect whether or not an access improvement can be completed in a given year. What might have been seen as an undue burden during an economic downturn could become possible when the economy improves and revenues increase. Thus, public entities

should periodically reassess what steps they can take to make their programs and services accessible. Public entities should also consult with people with disabilities in setting priorities for achieving program access. Please refer to Appendix A to see the ADA issues that should be addressed when any of these parks are added to, infilled with new amenities or upgraded in some manner.

Any time a park is being renovated for any use addition or upgrade, a review of the ADA issues in this park should be conducted and a determination made if ADA improvements that are near the areas of renovation, can be added at the same time. For example, if a parking lot is to be resealed, then ADA striping, parking spaces, path of travel and signage should be added. However, if the adjacent walkway system does not have the appropriate ramps and walkway conditions, then these improvements should be added to the project. If, however, the City cannot afford to do these additional improvements, then the City should not imply that the full path of travel to a park destination is being provided.



ADA parking spaces at Girsh-Hochman Field