

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

February 20, 2026

Assistant Attorney General Harmeet K. Dhillon
Civil Rights Division
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Assistant Attorney General Dhillon:

We write to request an update on the Department of Justice (DOJ) review to adopt Public Right-Of-Way Accessibility Guidelines (PROWAG) issued by the U.S. Access Board in August 2023.¹ The U.S. Access Board issued the guidelines to ensure that individuals with disabilities can access pedestrian facilities in the public right-of-way, including sidewalks, crosswalks, pedestrian signals, and on-street parking. While the Department of Transportation adopted the guidelines in December 2024 to allow for the new standards to be applied to transit projects, it is necessary for the DOJ to adopt the guidelines so they are enforceable under the *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*.²

Accessibility standards for federal facilities have historically focused on buildings rather than the unique travel needs of individuals with disabilities in the public right-of-way. Nearly 80 million Americans—including individuals with disabilities, parents with strollers, and the elderly—would benefit from PROWAG, underscoring the need for improved access to pedestrian facilities.³ Notably, inaccessible sidewalks near roadways can increase the risk of a pedestrian crash by 67%, contributing to pedestrian deaths.⁴ Adopting PROWAG is critical to ensuring equitable access to public spaces and opportunities for millions of individuals with disabilities while making pedestrian facilities safer.

We are concerned the delay in DOJ approval for PROWAG reflects a pattern of inaction or curtailment of the rights of the disability community since the Trump Administration took control of the federal government in January 2025. Specifically, we are concerned by cuts to Medicaid, efforts to eliminate diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) initiatives across government agencies, and actions to dismantle the Office for Civil Rights in the Department of Education and the Administration for Community Living and Office for Civil Rights in the Department of Health and Human Services.⁵ The reduced funding and enforcement of disability laws has

¹ [“Accessibility Guidelines for Pedestrian Facilities in the Public Right-of-Way,”](#) Federal Register, August 8, 2023.

² [“DOT Issues Final Rule Establishing Accessibility Standards for Pedestrian Facilities in the Public Right-of-Way,”](#) U.S. Department of Transportation, December 18, 2024.

³ [“PROWAG Final Regulatory Impact Analysis,”](#) Regulations.gov, July 2023.

⁴ [“Investigating The Correlation Between Sidewalks and Pedestrian Safety,”](#) PubMed, January 8, 2022.

⁵ [“The Trump Administration’s War on Disability,”](#) Center for American Progress, July 28, 2025.

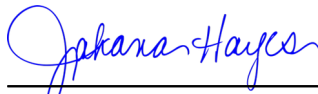
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negatively impacted individuals with disabilities, seniors, and other vulnerable populations across the United States.

The U.S. Access Board worked for more than 20 years to research, develop, and recommend PROWAG in collaboration with state and local governments, the transportation industry, and disability rights advocacy organizations.⁶ It is vital that the DOJ adopt the guidelines to make access to pedestrian facilities more accessible, safer, and help save lives.

Thank you in advance for your prompt response and we look forward to receiving your update on the status of the DOJ review to adopt PROWAG.

Sincerely,



Jahana Hayes
Member of Congress



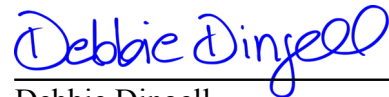
Raja Krishnamoorthi
Member of Congress



Lateefah Simon
Member of Congress



Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress



Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress



Rashida Tlaib
Member of Congress



Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.
Member of Congress

⁶ “[Accessibility Guidelines for Pedestrian Facilities in the Public Right-of-Way](#),” Federal Register, August 8, 2023.