

**DC VOTING ACCESS REPORT
THE JUNE 14, 2016 PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION**



Photo of Smothers Elementary School on June 14, 2016

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RESULTS OF ACCESSIBILITY SURVEYS

This report analyzes surveys of polling precinct accessibility conducted by Disability Rights DC at University Legal Services (DRDC) throughout the District of Columbia during the June 14, 2016 Presidential Primary Election. DRDC is the protection and advocacy (P&A) agency federally mandated to represent people with disabilities and ensure their access to facilities, services, and programs in DC. The Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA) charged P&As throughout the nation, including DRDC, with “ensuring the full participation in the electoral process of individuals with disabilities, including registering to vote, casting a vote and accessing polling places.” 42 U.S.C. § 15461 *et. seq.* (2002). Along with compliance with HAVA, DC agreed to make all of its precincts accessible to persons with disabilities by the 2004 Presidential Primary in a settlement agreement arising from *AAPD v. District of Columbia*.

DRDC has surveyed polling precincts during DC’s major elections and reported on polling place accessibility to the DC Board of Elections (BOE) and the public since 2004.¹ In addition to conducting surveys and producing reports, DRDC testifies before the DC Council about accessibility issues, meets with BOE officials, and assists with accessibility training for poll workers. For example, DRDC provides BOE a checklist that lists the steps polling staff can take to make the precincts accessible (e.g., posting signs directing voters with disabilities to the accessible entrances). DRDC’s accessibility checklist has been adopted as a national model by Project Vote, a national disability voting rights organization. DRDC also advocates to resolve barriers to accessibility on Election Day and recommends solutions tailored to ongoing and ever-evolving problems.

DRDC documents and reports accessibility barriers to promote 100% accessibility for DC voters with disabilities. This report discusses the precincts DRDC and its volunteers surveyed on June 14, 2016, and identifies issues that hindered the ability of voters with disabilities to enter voting areas and cast their ballots. It was authored by Ian Roy (DRDC Law Clerk) and Kristina Majewski (DRDC Staff Attorney), who organized the survey effort and analyzed the data collected.

¹ See, e.g., “DC Voting Access: The November 4, 2014 Mayoral Election,” *available at* <http://www.uls-dc.org/DC%20Voting%20Access%20Report%20The%20November%204,%202014%20Mayoral%20Election.pdf>; “DC Voting Access: The April 1, 2014 Mayoral Primary,” *available at* <http://www.uls-dc.org/HAVA%20ULS%204%201%2014%20Mayoral%20Primary%20Report%20Final.pdf>; “DC Voting Access: The April 23, 2013 Special Election” *available at* <http://www.uls-dc.org/HAVA%20ULS%204.23.13%20Special%20Election%20Final%20Report.pdf>; “DC Voting Access during the April 3, 2012 Presidential Primary,” *available at* <http://www.uls-dc.org/Accessibility%20Survey%20Results%20April%203%202012%20FINAL.pdf>; “DC Voting Access during the April 26, 2011 Special Election,” *available at* [www.uls-dc.org/Accessibility Survey Results April 26 2011.pdf](http://www.uls-dc.org/Accessibility%20Survey%20Results%20April%2026%202011.pdf); “DC Voting Access: Still Beyond Reach during the 2010 Primary Election,” *available at* <http://www.uls-dc.org/HAVA-2520REPORT-2520on-2520Sept-25202010-2520Primary.FINALNOV-252016-25202010.pdf>.

Acknowledgements

Disability Rights DC greatly appreciates the volunteers who surveyed the polls on Election Day. Over 30 people volunteered their time in traveling to polling locations and conducting accessibility surveys. Volunteers are essential to DRDC's work to improve access to the electoral system for all voters in the District.

Survey Methodology

Precincts were labeled *structurally inaccessible* when voters with disabilities could not get to the voting area or vote due to *issues that poll workers could not have remedied* (e.g., steps, broken elevators, and/or narrow doorways). Structurally inaccessible precincts are denoted with an asterisk (*). Precincts are labeled *operationally inaccessible* when voters with disabilities could not get to the voting area or vote due to *issues that poll workers could have remedied* (e.g., obstructions in the path to the accessible entrance that were not removed, incorrect or missing signage, broken doorbells, and/or no available assistive equipment).

SUMMARY OF MAJOR FINDINGS

During the June 14, 2016 Presidential Primary Election, DRDC and a multitude of volunteers surveyed 88 polling precincts (62% of the total precincts). Nineteen percent (**19%**) of the surveyed precincts (**17 locations**) were *structurally inaccessible*—the same rate as the November 4, 2014 Mayoral General Election.² Nearly half (**48%**) of the surveyed precincts (**42 locations**) were *operationally inaccessible*. This rate of operational inaccessibility is higher than the 2014 Mayoral Election, during which 34% of the surveyed precincts were operationally inaccessible. In total, **54%** of the surveyed precincts (**48 precincts**) were **operationally inaccessible, structurally inaccessible, or both**. It is notable that, in response to **DRDC surveyors' recommendations**, poll workers removed barriers at **several precincts which then became fully operationally accessible**.

Barriers to Accessing the Main Voting Area

DRDC documented several problems that made it difficult or impossible for people with disabilities to enter the precincts and reach the voting areas on Election Day. Some problems, such as the lack of an accessible entrance, constitute a complete barrier to access for people with mobility disabilities. Other problems, including locked, heavy doors, effectively deny people with disabilities access to the voting area. Notably, during this June election, Eastern Market, which is the polling location for precinct 88 and most recently precinct 89 as well, did not allow a DRDC surveyor to enter the polling site to perform the survey claiming a DRDC letter was insufficient proof of authority. This incident was reported to BOE staff on Election Day, but unfortunately not resolved in time to enable DRDC to survey the site.

Obstructed Paths to the Voting Areas

DRDC documented **14 precincts with obstructed paths to the voting area**. These obstructions included objects that blocked the path as well as structural hindrances like uneven sidewalks. At some sites, poll workers failed to remove obstructions, such as chairs, large signs, and a metal rod, prior to Election Day. At several precincts, BOE poll workers responded to DRDC surveyors' requests to remove the obstructions. In conjunction with the accessibility checklist devised and shared with BOE over the years, DRDC continues to urge poll workers to walk the path from their precincts' parking lots to the voting areas to remove objects from the path, tape down mats, and ensure signs directing voters to accessible entrances are both visible and unobtrusive. For structural obstructions, like bumpy sidewalks or sharp changes in slope, BOE must mitigate the barriers by installing temporary ramps, if permanent access is not achieved prior to Election Day. The DRDC checklist provides thorough guidance to poll worker and BOE staff to eliminate barriers.

Lack of Signage

DRDC documented **10 precincts with either no signage, insufficient, or misplaced signs that failed to direct people with disabilities to accessible entrances**. At some locations, the accessible entrance is over 100 feet away from the main entrance and is very difficult to find from the street and/or main entrance. Some polling places are large schools that take up entire city blocks. Providing adequate signage to indicate the location of the accessible entrance is

² The November General Election was the last major DC election which DRDC surveyed.

crucial to ensuring that voters with mobility and/or visual disabilities can safely and efficiently reach the voting area.

Lack of any Accessible Entrance

DRDC documented **20 precincts without accessible entrances**. A precinct is considered inaccessible if any voter with a disability (mobility or otherwise) would not be able to access the voting area independently.³ Precincts are considered inaccessible if: a) the ramp/route to the entrance is too steep to be considered compliant with ADA standards (8 precincts with abrupt rise); b) the doorway is not at least 32-inches wide to ensure that a voter using a wheelchair can fit through the door (3 precincts); or c) staff is not posted at the doorway and/or the doorbell does not function, is not accessibly located, or staff does not respond to it (5 precincts). Moreover, if a voter with a disability must take an elevator to access the voting area and the elevator is broken, the precinct is considered inaccessible (see “Inaccessible Ramps and Elevators” below).

Closed Doors, Malfunctioning Doorbells, and a Lack of Available Workers

Heavy, closed doors and the lack of poll workers available to open them continued to be a significant barrier to access by people with disabilities during the June Primary Election, as it has been for over a decade. Many voters with disabilities and seniors cannot open heavy doors without assistance. For years, DRDC has urged the District to prop open heavy doors, particularly at schools operating as polling places, to no avail. If the entrance to a precinct is closed and there is no available assistance to open the door, the precinct is considered inaccessible. Alternatively, if an entrance is closed but there is a working backup system—*i.e.*, a working doorbell or poll worker stationed at the entrance—DRDC deems those entrances accessible. Heavy and/or too-narrow double-doors⁴ must be propped open so that voters with mobility disabilities may enter the voting area independently without relying on poll workers (who are sometimes unavailable), and doorbells (that do not always work). Furthermore, the District must remove the vertical bars on entry doors to precincts⁵ in order to provide sufficient space for voters in wheelchairs to enter.

DRDC documented **5 precincts without doors propped open or immediately available staff**. **DRDC noted a total of 9 precincts without a functioning doorbell**. Upon request, some of these precincts posted staff to attend to voters needing assistance. Other precincts had doors propped open or functioning automatic door activation and were considered accessible. Precinct captains should designate workers to respond to the doorbells when the assigned poll workers are otherwise busy. Some precinct captains did so by designating two consistently positioned staff; other locations informed DRDC surveyors that they did not have a staff person on hand to assist with the closed doors at all times.

Inaccessible Ramps and Elevators

DRDC documented **5 precincts with non-ADA-compliant ramps and 9 precincts with inaccessible elevators, including 2 precincts with broken elevators**. One ramp had

³ In addition to the standard definition of “independent”, as used in this report, the term includes whether a voter is able to reach a permanent or portable BOE doorbell and/or automatic door without assistance and enter the voting area by virtue of responsive precinct staff or functioning automatic door activation.

⁴ Narrow double-doors are entrances with two doors abutting each-other that only allow wheelchair clearance when both doors are open.

⁵ *E.g.*, Precincts 98/99, Smothers Elementary School, pictured on this report’s cover page.

insufficient landing space for a voter in a wheelchair to safely use it. Another ramp had a crack so large that it created an uneven surface on which a voter risked injury and, without assistance, completely prevented voters using wheelchairs from entering the precinct. Three ramps lacked handrails and/or a thirty-six-inch width.

The **elevators at 8 precincts had no audible floor indicators and 4 of those also lacked Braille control indicators for floor numbers.** At all of these precincts, voters with physical disabilities had to take the elevator to reach the voting area.

Barriers to Voting in the Voting Area

DRDC also documented problems that hindered voters with disabilities' ability to vote once they reached the voting area. These problems included the lack of assistive technology (*e.g.*, available magnifying glasses at check-in tables or headsets at voting machines) and voting machines situated such that it was difficult or impossible for voters with disabilities to use them.

Lack of Assistive Technology

DRDC documented **4 total precincts that had no audio headsets at voting machines for voters with visual disabilities, no available magnifying glasses, or both.** At DRDC's request, poll workers made the equipment available. Without magnifying glasses and audio headsets, voters with vision and/or auditory disabilities are not able to vote independently.

Lack of Privacy and/or Sufficient Turning Radius at Voting Machines

DRDC documented **16 precincts that provided insufficient privacy or turning radiuses to voters using voting machines.** Section 304.3 of the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design requires BOE to provide at least a five-foot-radius around voting machines to ensure voter maneuverability. If a precinct does not have enough room to provide requisite turning space, the location should be moved. There were **11 locations where the machines did not meet the 5-foot-radius minimum and 6 locations where other voters could see the touch-screen** while a voter was casting their ballot. Although the lack of privacy at voting machines discourages people with disabilities from using the touch-screen machines, DRDC did not count precincts as operationally inaccessible because of the lack of privacy alone. Notably, precinct 16 was cited for arranging machines without the mandatory radius and for its machines' lack of privacy.⁶

Lack of Accessible Parking

DRDC documented **11 precincts that failed to provide accessible parking.** These precincts either had a parking lot available to voters with no or insufficient reserved accessible parking, or offered only street parking without designating accessible street spaces. This included precincts with only one designated accessible space in violation of the ADA, which requires a minimum of two. Most non-accessible parking spaces do not provide enough space for a vehicle with a wheelchair lift to set out a ramp or for someone using a walker to safely exit the vehicle. This could impede voter access at these precincts.

⁶A sample of structurally and operationally inaccessible precincts is provided below, along with precinct-specific recommendations for improved accessibility. A chart of all precincts surveyed is included in Appendix A and a breakdown of the precincts by accessibility issue is outlined in Appendix B.

Precinct Staff's Compliance with DRDC's Recommendations

On Election Day and during the Early Voting period, DRDC surveyors made on-the-spot recommendations to BOE Precinct staff, and called complaints into BOE directly, with the goal of resolving barriers. As a result of DRDC's interventions, BOE installed a portable ramp at the Metropolitan Police Department Headquarters (No. 45) to provide access that was denied due to a broken elevator, requiring voters with mobility disabilities to vote elsewhere. DRDC was informed the elevator had not been functioning properly *prior to* Election Day, but the District failed to repair it properly. After DRDC raised the issue on Election Day, BOE provided a temporary ramp to the main entrance, averting the need for the elevator to reach the voting area. At another precinct, BOE relocated an entrance at a DC charter school to avert a large ditch that obstructed the path into the polling place (No. 69). At other precincts, BOE corrected missing or misplaced signage; taped loose mats down; removed obstructions in pathways; and propped open or added poll workers to assist voters open closed, heavy doors.

Prior to the June Presidential Primary Election, DRDC staff persistently brought to BOE's attention, through its testimony before the DC Council, accessibility reports, in-person discussions, and email correspondence, the existence of prevalent and long-standing barriers to access experienced by voters with disabilities on Election Day and urged BOE to resolve the barriers in time for Election Day. Most recently, DRDC complained to BOE about ongoing concerns regarding illegal security and ID checks of voters at government polling places (including early voting sites). In the District, there is no ID requirement for voters, let alone mandatory security screenings. In response, BOE rerouted voters' entry to bypass ID and security screening protocol at one early voting site in a government building, and propped open accessible side doorways to alleviate the need for security screenings and ID checks at a second early voting site. Also, as a result of our ongoing advocacy efforts, BOE relocated several polling precincts for the June Primary, (denoted with the symbol (^) in Appendix A), to address ongoing accessibility concerns raised by DRDC, in addition to construction impediments. These included Precinct 13 (Our Lady of Queen of the Americas) and Precinct 88 (Thankful Baptist Church), which DRDC has complained about for years.

INACCESSIBLE PRECINCTS

Walker-Jones EC (1125 New Jersey Avenue NW, 20001) – Precinct 1

This precinct was *operationally inaccessible* because there was insufficient turning space in front of the voting machines for a wheelchair user, the doors to enter were locked, and there was no doorbell. DRDC staff called this issue into BOE and as a result BOE added a doorbell.

- Ensure that there is sufficient turning space in front of the voting machines.
- Prop open locked, heavy doors.
- Ensure there is a functioning doorbell prior to/on Election Day.

School without Walls at Francis Stevens* (2425 N Street NW, 20037) – Precinct 4

This precinct was *structurally inaccessible* because the slope of the ramp was too steep.

- Ensure that ramps are ADA-compliant.

Recent Past Reports that Noted the Same/Similar Problem[s] at this Precinct:

November 4, 2014 Election Report	Insufficient turning space in front of machines.
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Christ Episcopal Church Georgetown* (3150 O Street NW, 20007) – Precinct 5

This precinct was *structurally and operationally inaccessible*. It was *structurally inaccessible* because the slope of the ramp was too steep. It was *operationally inaccessible* because voters did not have adequate privacy at the voting machines.

- Ensure that ramps are ADA-compliant.
- Ensure voters have privacy at voting machines.

Georgetown Neighborhood Library (3260 R Street NW, 20007) – Precinct 6

This precinct was *operationally inaccessible* because voters did not have adequate privacy at the voting machines nor were the machines positioned to ensure an adequate turning radius for a wheelchair user.

- Ensure voters have privacy at voting machines.
- Ensure that there is sufficient turning space in front of the voting machines.

Hardy Recreation Center (4500 Q Street NW, 20007) – Precinct 7

This precinct was *operationally inaccessible* because there was no doorbell and insufficient turning radius in front of the voting machines.

- Ensure there is a functioning doorbell prior to/on Election Day.
- Ensure that there is sufficient turning space in front of the voting machines.

Palisades Recreation Center* (5100 Sherrier Place NW, 20016) – Precinct 8

This precinct was *structurally inaccessible* because the doorway was not 32-inches wide.

- Ensure the accessible entrance's doorway is at least 32-inches wide to allow wheelchair users to freely enter.

Metropolitan Memorial United Methodist Church (3401 Nebraska Avenue NW, 20016) – Precinct 9

This precinct was *operationally inaccessible* because there was insufficient turning radius in front of the voting machines.

- **Ensure that there is sufficient turning space in front of the voting machines.**

Horace Mann Community Center (4430 Newark Street NW, 20016) – Precinct 10

This precinct was *operationally inaccessible* because the heavy entrance doors were not propped open.

- **Prop open heavy doors.**

Recent Past Reports that Noted the Same/Similar Problem[s] at this Precinct:

November 4, 2014 Election Report	Inaccessible voting machine. Obstructions in path to voting area. No accessible parking reserved.
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Guy Mason Recreation Center (3600 Calvert Street NW, 20007) – Precinct 11

This precinct was *operationally inaccessible* because voters did not have privacy at the voting machines and the elevator did not have any braille control indicators.

- **Ensure that elevators are accessible to voters with disabilities.**
- **Ensure voters have privacy at voting machines.**

St. Sophia's Greek Orthodox Cathedral Church (3600 Massachusetts Avenue NW, 20007) – Precinct 12

This precinct was *operationally inaccessible* because the elevator did not have any braille control nor audio floor indicators to assist voters with vision impairments.

- **Ensure that elevators are accessible to voters with disabilities.**

Recent Past Reports that Noted the Same/Similar Problem[s] at this Precinct:

November 4, 2014 Election Report	Inaccessible elevator. Obstructions in path to voting area.
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St. Margaret's Episcopal Church* (1820 Connecticut Avenue NW, 20009) – Precinct 13

This precinct was *structurally inaccessible* because the door threshold was too high for a wheelchair user to enter without assistance.

- **Ensure that entrances are wheelchair accessible.**

St. Thomas' Episcopal Church* (1772 Church Street NW, 20036) – Precinct 14

This precinct was *structurally inaccessible* because the door threshold was too high for a wheelchair user to enter without assistance.

- **Ensure that entrances are wheelchair accessible.**

Fifteenth Street Presbyterian Church (1701 15th Street NW, 20009) – Precinct 16

This precinct was *operationally inaccessible*. The precinct was *operationally inaccessible* because there were no signs directing people from the parking lot to the separate accessible entrance. In addition, there was no voter privacy at the voting machine. This year, while the doors remained closed, there were staff present at the door.

- **Use signs to indicate the location of the accessible entrance.**

- **Ensure voters have privacy at voting machines.**

Recent Past Reports that Noted the Same/Similar Problem[s] at this Precinct:

November 4, 2014 Election Report	Inaccessible elevator. Lack of signage directing voters to accessible entrance. No voter privacy. Closed, heavy doors.
April 1, 2014 Election Report	Inaccessible elevator. Closed, heavy doors and no backup system.
November 6, 2012 Election Report	Inaccessible elevator.
April 3, 2012 Election Report	Inaccessible elevator. Closed, heavy doors.

Ellington at Garnett-Patterson (2001 10th Street NW, 20001) – Precinct 22

This precinct was *operationally inaccessible* because chairs were placed at the end of the access ramp obstructing the path.

- **Remove obstructions from the path to the voting area.**

Goodwill Baptist Church* (1862 Kalorama Road NW, 20009) – Precinct 25

This precinct was *structurally inaccessible* because the ramp to the entrance had a large crack in addition to a steep slope so as to render it nearly, if not completely, impossible to use for voters with mobility disabilities.

- **Ensure that ramps are ADA-compliant.**

H.D. Cooke Elementary School (2525 17th Street NW, 20009) – Precinct 35

This precinct was *operationally inaccessible* because a large construction cone used to prop open the door impeded the entrance to the voting area.

- **Ensure the accessible entrance’s doorway is at least 32-inches wide to allow wheelchair users to freely enter.**

Columbia Heights Community Center (1480 Girard Street NW, 20009) – Precinct 36

This precinct was *operationally inaccessible* because there was no parking lot nor any reserved accessible parking on the street.

- **Designate at least two accessible parking spaces.**

Cesar Chavez Prep Charter Middle School* (770 Kenyon Street NW, 20010) – Precinct 38

This precinct was *structurally and operationally inaccessible*. The precinct was *structurally inaccessible* because the ramp’s slope was too steep. The precinct was *operationally inaccessible* because the doors were not propped, a security guard was posted in such a position so as to obstruct the doorway, and voters did not have privacy at the voting machines.

- **Ensure that ramps are ADA-compliant.**
- **Prop open heavy doors.**
- **Ensure voters have privacy at voting machines.**

Recent Past Reports that Noted the Same/Similar Problem[s] at this Precinct:

November 4, 2014 Election Report	Inaccessible elevator. The tarp on the gym floor obstructed the path to the voting area.
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April 1, 2014 Election Report	Inaccessible elevator. The tarp on the gym floor obstructed the path to the voting area.
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MPD Regional Operation Command * (801 Shepherd Street NW, 20011) – Precinct 45

This precinct was *structurally and operationally inaccessible*. It was *structurally inaccessible* because the elevator was broken, the slope of the ramp is too steep, and there is a step at the entrance. It was *operationally inaccessible* because the bell to call for assistance was malfunctioning. This precinct has a history of unaddressed inaccessibility as indicated in the chart below.

- **Ensure elevators are functioning properly prior to/on Election Day.**
- **Remove or provide ramps over steps impeding the entrance.**
- **Ensure that ramps are ADA-compliant.**
- **Ensure that back-up systems are accessible.**

Recent Past Reports that Noted the Same/Similar Problem[s] at this Precinct:

November 4, 2014 Election Report	Inaccessible elevator. Insufficient turning space in front of machines.
April 1, 2014 Election Report	Inaccessible elevator. Insufficient turning space in front of machines.
April 23, 2013 Election Report	Inaccessible elevator. Insufficient turning space in front of machines.
November 6, 2012 Election Report	Inaccessible elevator. Insufficient turning space in front of machines.

Brightwood Education Campus (1300 Nicholson Street NW, 20011) – Precinct 53

This precinct was *operationally inaccessible* because of inadequate signage and the doors at the entrance were neither propped nor automatic.

- **Use signs to indicate the location of the accessible entrance to voters.**
- **Prop open heavy doors.**

Recent Past Reports that Noted the Same/Similar Problem[s] at this Precinct:

November 4, 2014 Election Report	Closed heavy doors. Non-responsive staff. Unavailable headsets.
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Truesdell Elementary School (800 Ingram Street NW, 20011) – Precinct 56

This precinct was *operationally inaccessible* because signs to the accessible entrance were not posted, doors were not propped open, and the back-up system was non-existent/ineffective.

- **Use signs to indicate the location of the accessible entrance to people on the street.**
- **Prop open heavy doors.**
- **Ensure there is a functioning back-up system in place.**

Takoma Education Campus* (7010 Piney Branch Road NW, 20012) – Precinct 63

This precinct was *structurally and operationally inaccessible*. The precinct was *structurally inaccessible* because the ramp slope is too steep. The precinct was *operationally inaccessible*

because doors were only semi-propped, and given they were not automatic nor fully propped, it is likely a voter with a mobility disability would require assistance to enter the voting area.

- **Ensure that ramps are ADA-compliant.**
- **Prop open heavy doors.**

Lamond Recreation Center* (20 Tuckerman Street NE 20011) – Precinct 64

This precinct was *structurally and operationally inaccessible*. The precinct was *structurally inaccessible* because the elevator did not function and the ramp rise was too steep. It was *operationally inaccessible* because the parking lot only had one designated space.

- **Ensure elevators are functioning properly prior to/on Election Day.**
- **Ensure that ramps are ADA-compliant.**
- **Designate at least two accessible parking spaces.**

Recent Past Reports that Noted the Same/Similar Problem[s] at this Precinct:

November 4, 2014 Election Report	Closed heavy doors and no back-up system.
November 6, 2012 Election Report	Closed heavy doors and no back-up system.

La Salle Education Campus (501 Riggs Road NE, 20011) – Precinct 65

This precinct was *operationally inaccessible* because the doors at the entrance were neither propped not automatic and there was working back-up system.

- **Ensure that there is a functioning doorbell.**
- **Prop open heavy doors.**

Perry St. Preparatory PCS at Taft* (1800 Perry Street NE, 20018) – Precinct 69

This precinct was *structurally and operationally inaccessible*. The doorbell was broken (staff were stationed to assist in lieu of the broken doorbell) and only after intervention by DRDC surveyor did the BOE ADA Coordinator provide a route whereby the voter would have had to cross over sunken and rocky ground to access the voting area. As such, the precinct was *structurally inaccessible* because there was no accessible entrance from the street/parking lot. The precinct was *operationally inaccessible* because the doorbell was broken and there was no accessible parking prior to 11:30am since the lot was limited to school personnel and street parking was only available after 11:30am.

- **Prop open heavy doors.**
- **Ensure the doorbell is functioning prior to/on Election Day.**
- **Ensure there are at least two accessible parking spots.**

Recent Past Reports that Noted the Same/Similar Problem[s] at this Precinct:

November 4, 2014 Election Report	Closed heavy doors. No signs. Ineffective back-up system.
April 1, 2014 Election Report	No signage.
April 23, 2013 Election Report	No signage.

Burroughs Elementary School (1820 Monroe Street NE, 20018) – Precinct 70

This precinct was *operationally inaccessible* because the doors were neither propped open nor automatic activation.

- **Prop open heavy doors.**

Recent Past Reports that Noted the Same/Similar Problem[s] at this Precinct:

November 4, 2014 Election Report	Closed heavy doors and no back-up system.
November 6, 2012 Election Report	Closed heavy doors and no back-up system.

Mt. Horeb Baptist Church Annex (3015 Earl Place NE, 20018) – Precinct 71

This precinct was *operationally inaccessible* because precinct staff failed to designate any accessible parking spaces and heavy, non-automatic doors were not propped open.

- **Ensure there are at least two accessible parking spots.**
- **Prop open heavy doors.**

Model Cities Senior Wellness Center (1901 Evarts Street NE, 20018) – Precinct 72

This precinct was *operationally inaccessible* because there was only one designated accessible parking spot and the entrance to the voting area had two sets of non-automatic doors, the exterior pair was closed while the interior doors were propped open.

- **Ensure there are at least two accessible parking spots.**
- **Prop open heavy doors.**

J.O. Wilson Elementary School* (660 K Street NE, 20002) – Precinct 83

This precinct was *operationally and structurally inaccessible*. It was *structurally inaccessible* because the ramp to the accessible entrance does not have the requisite landing space at the top of the ramps (only 2 ½ to 3 feet vs. 5 feet). It was *operationally inaccessible* because there was no voter privacy nor five feet of turning space in front of the voting machine and the doors were not propped open during school hours.

- **Prop open heavy doors.**
- **Ensure there is voter privacy at the voting machines.**

Recent Past Reports that Noted the Same/Similar Problem[s] at this Precinct:

November 4, 2014 Election Report	Non-ADA compliant ramp. Inadequate signage. Closed heavy doors with no back-up system. Insufficient turning radius around voting machines.
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Eastern Market (225 7th Street SE, 20003) – Precincts 88 & 89

This precinct did not allow DRDC surveyor to enter the polling site to perform the survey claiming a DRDC letter was insufficient proof of authority.

Watkins Elementary School (420 12th Street SE, 20003) – Precinct 91

This precinct was *operationally inaccessible* because there was insufficient turning space in front of the voting machines, audio headsets were not initially available at voting machines (remedied upon DRDC surveyor’s request), and signs directing voters to the accessible entrance were lying flat.

- **Ensure proper signage to direct voters to the accessible entrance.**
- **Provide sufficient turning space in front of the machine.**

- Ensure that audio headsets are available at every precinct.

Houston Elementary School (1100 50th Place NE, 20019) – Precinct 93

This precinct was *operationally inaccessible* because the doors to access the voting area were neither propped open nor automatic.

- Prop open heavy doors.

Burrville Elementary School* (801 Division Avenue NE, 20019) – Precinct 94

This precinct was *structurally and operationally inaccessible*. It was *structurally inaccessible* due to the steepness of the access ramp and as such did not have an accessible entrance. It was *operationally inaccessible* due to the doors being neither propped open nor automatic activation with no back-up system in place.

- Prop open heavy doors.
- Ensure that ramps are ADA-compliant.
- Provide a working doorbell or station a worker near the entrance to assist voters.

Smothers Elementary School* (4400 Brooks Street NE, 20019) – Precinct 98 & 99

This precinct was *structurally and operationally inaccessible*. It was *structurally inaccessible* because the door's width was not 32-inches wide due to a metal bar that divided the entry way and there was an abrupt rise at the doorway. It was *operationally inaccessible* because there was only one designated parking spot, no doorbell, and there was inadequate turning space in front of the voting machines.

- Designate at least two accessible parking spaces.
- Ensure doorways are at least 32-inches wide to ensure adequate space for wheelchair users to pass through.
- Ensure that back-up systems are functioning/accessible.
- Ensure 5-foot turning radius in front of the voting machine.

Recent Past Reports that Noted the Same/Similar Problem[s] at this Precinct:

November 4, 2014 Election Report	No accessible parking. No magnifying glasses available. Voters in wheelchairs could not reach voting machines.
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St. Timothy's Episcopal Church (3601 Alabama Avenue SE, 20020) – Precinct 110

This precinct was *operationally inaccessible* because there were no signs posted for those parking on the street highlighting the accessible entrance to the voting area.

- Use signs to indicate the location of the accessible entrance to people on the street.

St. Francis Xavier Church (2800 Pennsylvania Avenue SE, 20020) – Precinct 111

This precinct was *operationally inaccessible* because there was insufficient turning space in front of voting machines to permit a wheelchair user independent access.

- Ensure 5-foot turning radius in front of the voting machine.

Recent Past Reports that Noted Problem[s] at this Precinct:

November 4, 2014 Election Report	Abrupt rise on pathway to voting area.
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E. River Wash. Senior Wellness Center (3001 Alabama Avenue SE, 20020) – Precinct 113

This precinct was *operationally inaccessible* because there was initially no doorbell placed in an accessible area for a voter with a mobility disability to call for assistance (remedied upon DRDC surveyor’s request by placing a bell at the door and curbside).

- **Ensure that back-up systems are functioning/accessible.**

Union Temple Baptist Church (1225 W Street SE, 20020) – Precinct 114

This precinct was *operationally inaccessible* because the door was not propped nor automatic and the bell to call for assistance was located inside of the main entrance, rendering its ability to assist moot. Additionally, the elevator did not have audible floor indicators and there was insufficient space in front of the voting machines.

- **Ensure that doors are propped if not automatic.**
- **Ensure that back-up systems are functioning/accessible.**
- **Ensure 5-foot turning radius in front of the voting machine.**

Recent Past Reports that Noted Problem[s] at this Precinct:

November 4, 2014 Election Report	Closed, heavy doors; ineffective backup system.
November 6, 2012 Election Report	Inaccessible elevator.

Moten Elementary School (1565 Morris Road SE, 20020) – Precinct 118

This precinct was *operationally inaccessible* because the elevator controls were not marked with braille and there were no audible floor indicators. School management also expressed frustration to DRDC staff that the schools were open on Election Day; as such, to reduce security concerns and disruption, children were sent outside to play in order to avoid interaction with voters.

- **Ensure elevators are accessible to voters with disabilities.**

Recent Past Reports that Noted Problem[s] at this Precinct:

November 4, 2014 Election Report	Abrupt rise on pathway to voting area.
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Barry Farms Recreation Center (1230 Sumner Road SE, 20020) – Precinct 119

This precinct was *operationally inaccessible* because the route from the lot to the entrance had multiple potholes and voters did not have privacy at the voting machines.

- **Ensure there is voter privacy at the voting machines.**
- **Ensure there is an accessible route from the parking area.**

Malcolm X Elementary School (1351 Alabama Road SE, 20032) – Precinct 120

This precinct was *operationally inaccessible* because there was insufficient signage directing voters to the accessible voter entrance (remedied upon DRDC surveyor’s request).

- **Use signs to indicate the location of the accessible entrance.**

Martin Luther King Elementary School (3200 6th Street SE, 20032) – Precinct 123

This precinct was *operationally inaccessible* because large signage obstructed the accessible route (remedied upon DRDC surveyor's request) and poll staff only responded to the doorbell after two attempts to ring doorbell.

- **Ensure there is an accessible route from the parking area.**
- **Ensure that there is an effective backup system at accessible entrances.**

Recent Past Reports that Noted Problem[s] at this Precinct:

November 4, 2014 Election Report	Closed heavy doors with no working doorbell.
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Covenant Baptist United Church of Christ (3845 S. Capitol Street SW, 20032) – Precinct 124

This precinct was *operationally inaccessible* because there were no signs indicating the location of the accessible entrance (remedied upon DRDC surveyor's request), and the doors were not propped nor automatic.

- **Use signs to indicate the location of the accessible entrance to people on the street.**
- **Prop heavy doors open.**

Recent Past Reports that Noted Problem[s] at this Precinct:

November 4, 2014 Election Report	Closed heavy doors with no working doorbell.
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Hendley School (425 Chesapeake Street SE, 20032) – Precinct 125

This precinct was *operationally inaccessible* because there was inadequate signage indicating the location of the accessible entrance (remedied upon DRDC surveyor's request) and the doors were not propped though the automatic activation button was broken.

- **Use signs to indicate the location of the accessible entrance.**
- **Prop heavy doors open.**

Recent Past Reports that Noted Problem[s] at this Precinct:

November 4, 2014 Election Report	Lack of magnifying glasses and headsets.
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W.B. Patterson Elementary School* (4399 S. Capitol Terrace SW, 20032) – Precinct 126

This precinct was *structurally inaccessible* because the alternative entrance required a voter to traverse the school playground that had a large dip in the concrete.

- **Ensure there is an accessible route from the parking area.**

King Greenleaf Recreation Center (201 N Street SW, 20024) – Precinct 127

This precinct was *operationally inaccessible* because the doors to the voting area were neither propped nor automatic, magnifying glasses were not initially available at the check-in and demonstration tables (remedied upon DRDC surveyor's request), and there was insufficient turning space in front of the voting machines.

- **Prop heavy doors open.**
- **Provide magnifying glasses at check-in and demonstration tables.**
- **Ensure 5-foot turning radius in front of the voting machine.**

Recent Past Reports that Noted Problem[s] at this Precinct:

November 4, 2014 Election Report	No working doorbell.
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Friendship Baptist Church (900 Delaware Avenue SW, 20024) – Precinct 128

This precinct was *operationally inaccessible* because the doors to access the voting area were locked and precinct staff did not always respond to the doorbell. Magnifying glasses were also not available at either the check-in and demonstration tables (remedied upon DRDC surveyor’s request).

- Prop heavy doors open.
- Ensure that there is an effective backup system at the accessible entrance.
- Provide magnifying glasses at check-in and demonstration tables.

Lutheran Church of the Reformation* (212 East Capitol Street NE, 20003) – Precinct 130

This precinct was *structurally inaccessible* because the elevator is so small as to prevent a wheelchair user from access to the voting area.

- Ensure elevators are accessible to voters with mobility, auditory, and visual disabilities.

Recent Past Reports that Noted Problem[s] at this Precinct:

November 4, 2014 Election Report	Inaccessible elevator. Inadequate accessible parking. Inadequate signage.
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Allen AME Church* (2498 Alabama Avenue SE, 20020) – Precinct 134

This precinct was *structurally and operationally inaccessible*. It was *structurally inaccessible* because the slope of the ramp was too steep and the doorway was not 32-inches wide. It was *operationally inaccessible* because there was no doorbell placed at the accessible entrance (remedied upon DRDC surveyor’s request by placing bell at entrance and curbside) and there was no voter privacy at the voting machines.

- Ensure that there is an effective backup system at the accessible entrance.
- Ensure there is an accessible route from the parking area.
- Ensure the accessible entrance’s doorway is at least 32-inches wide to allow wheelchair users to freely enter.

Recent Past Reports that Noted Problem[s] at this Precinct:

November 4, 2014 Election Report	Closed heavy doors with no working doorbell.
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Appendix A

PRECINCTS MONITORED DURING THE JUNE 14, 2016 PRIMARY ELECTION

Precinct	Location Name	Address
1	Walker-Jones EC	1125 New Jersey Avenue NW, 20001
2	The School Without Walls	2130 G Street NW, 20037
3	St. Paul's Parish	2430 K Street NW, 20037
4	School without Walls at Francis Stevens	2425 N Street NW, 20037
5	Christ Episcopal Church Georgetown	3150 O Street NW, 20007
6	Georgetown Neighborhood Library	3260 R Street NW, 20007
7	Hardy Recreation Center	4500 Q Street NW, 20007
8	Palisades Recreation Center	5100 Sherrier Place NW, 20016
9	Metro. Memorial United Methodist Church	3401 Nebraska Avenue NW, 20016
10	Horace Mann Community Center	4430 Newark Street NW, 20016
11	Guy Mason Recreation Center	3600 Calvert Street NW 20007
12	St. Sophia's Greek Orthodox Cathedral Church	3600 Massachusetts Avenue NW, 20007
13	St. Margaret's Episcopal Church^	1820 Connecticut Avenue NW, 20009
14	St. Thomas' Episcopal Parish	1772 Church Street NW, 20036
16	Fifteenth Street Presbyterian Church	1701 15th Street NW, 20009
17	Metropolitan AME Church	1518 M Street NW 20005
21	Watha T Daniel-Shaw Community Library	1630 - 7th Street NW, 20001
22	Ellington at Garnet-Patterson	2001 - 10th Street NW, 20001
25	Goodwill Baptist Church	1862 Kalorama Road NW, 20009
28	Church of the Annunciation	3810 Massachusetts Avenue NW, 20016
34	Edmund Burke School	2955 Upton Street NW, 20008
35	H.D. Cooke Elementary School	2525 - 17th Street NW, 20009
36	Columbia Heights Community Center^	1480 Girard Street NW, 20009
38	Cesar Chavez Prep Charter Middle School	770 Kenyon Street NW, 20010
39	Columbia Heights Education Campus	3101 - 16th Street NW, 20010
40	Bancroft School	1755 Newton Street NW, 20010
45	MPD - Regional Operation Command (North)	801 Shepherd Street NW, 20011
50	Chevy Chase Community Center	5601 Connecticut Avenue NW, 20015
51	St. John's College High School^	2607 Military Road NW, 20015
52	St. John's College High School	2607 Military Road NW, 20015
53	Brightwood Education Campus	1300 Nicholson Street NW, 20011
56	Truesdell Elementary School	800 Ingraham Street NW, 20011
58	Fourth District Police Station	6001 Georgia Avenue NW, 20011
59	Coolidge Sr. High School	6315 - 5th Street NW, 20011
62	Shepherd Elementary School	7800 - 14th Street NW, 20012
63	Takoma Education Campus	7010 Piney Branch Road NW, 20012
64	Lamond Recreation Center	20 Tuckerman Street NE, 20011

Appendix A

67	Bunker Hill Elementary School	1401 Michigan Avenue NE, 20017
68	St. Francis Hall	1340 Quincy Street NE, 20017
69	Perry St Prep PCS @ Taft	1800 Perry Street NE, 20018
70	Burroughs Elementary School	1820 Monroe Street NE, 20018
71	Mt. Horeb Baptist Church Annex	3015 Earl Place NE, 20018
72	Model Cities Senior Wellness Center	1901 Evarts Street NE, 20018
75	McKinley Technology High School	151 T Street NE, 20002
76	Bethesda Baptist Church	1808 Capitol Avenue NE, 20002
77	Joseph H. Cole Recreation Center	1299 Neal Street NE, 20002
78	Trinidad Recreation Center	1310 Childress Street NE, 20002
79	Browne Education Campus	850 - 26th Street NE, 20002
80	St. Benedict the Moor Church	320 - 21st Street NE , 20002
82	Sherwood Recreation Center	640 - 10th Street NE, 20002
83	J.O. Wilson Elementary School	660 K Street NE, 20002
84	Stuart-Hobson Middle School	410 E Street NE, 20002
85	Bridgepoint Hospital Capitol Hill	700 Constitution Avenue NE, 20002
87	Payne Elementary School	1445 C Street SE, 20002
88	Eastern Market^	225 - 7th Street SE 20002
89	Eastern Market	225 - 7th Street SE 20002
90	Tyler Elementary School	1001 G Street SE, 20003
91	Watkins Elementary School	420 - 12th Street SE, 20003
92	Zion Baptist Church-Eastland^	1234 Kenilworth Avenue NE, 20002
93	Houston Elementary School	1100 - 50th Place NE, 20019
94	Burrville Elementary School	801 Division Avenue, NE
97	Kelly Miller Middle School	301 - 49th Street NE, 20019
98	Smothers Elementary School	4400 Brooks Street NE, 20019
99	Smothers Elementary School	4400 Brooks Street NE, 20019
101	River Terrace Education Campus^	420 - 34th Street NE, 20019
106	Davis Elementary School	4430 H Street SE, 20019
108	Pennsylvania Avenue Baptist Church	3000 Pennsylvania Avenue SE, 20020
110	St. Timothy's Episcopal Church	3601 Alabama Avenue SE, 20020
111	St. Francis Xavier Church	2800 Pennsylvania Avenue SE, 20020
113	E. River Washington Senior Wellness Center	3001 Alabama Avenue SE, 20020
114	Union Temple Baptist Church	1225 W Street SE, 20020
118	Moten Elementary School	1565 Morris Road SE, 20020
119	Barry Farms Recreation Center^	1230 Sumner Road SE, 20020
120	Malcolm X Elementary School	1351 Alabama Avenue SE, 20032
121	Ferebee-Hope Recreation Center	3999 - 8th Street SE, 20032
123	Martin Luther King Elementary School	3200 - 6th Street SE, 20032

Appendix A

124	Covenant Baptist United Church of Christ	3845 South Capitol Street SW, 20032
125	Hendley School	425 Chesapeake Street SE, 20032
126	W.B. Patterson Elementary School	4399 South Capitol Terrace SW, 20032
127	King Greenleaf Recreation Center	201 N Street SW, 20024
128	Friendship Baptist Church	900 Delaware Avenue SW, 20024
130	Lutheran Church of the Reformation	212 East Capitol Street NE, 20003
131	Arthur Capper Community Center [^]	1000 - 5th Street SE, 20003
132	D.C. Center for Therapeutic Recreation	3030 G Street SE, 20019
134	Allen AME Church	2498 Alabama Avenue SE, 20020
136	Leading Age	2519 Connecticut Avenue NW, 20008
141	Frank D. Reeves Municipal Center	2000 - 14th Street NW, 20009
143	Chinese Community Church	500 - I (Eye) Street NW, 20001

Appendix B

PRECINCTS SURVEYED THAT WERE STRUCTURALLY INACCESSIBLE = 19%

	<u>Precinct Name</u>	<u>Precinct Number</u>
1	School Without Walls at Francis Stevens*	4
2	Christ Episcopal Church Georgetown*	5
3	Palisades Recreation Center*	8
4	St. Margaret's Episcopal Church*	13
5	St. Thomas' Episcopal Church*	14
6	Goodwill Baptist Church*	25
7	Cesar Chavez Prep Charter Middle School*	38
8	MPD - Regional Operation Command (North)*	45
9	Takoma Education Campus*	63
10	Lamond Recreation Center*	64
11	Perry St. Prep PCS @ Taft*	69
12	J.O. Wilson Elementary School*	83
13	Burrville Elementary School*	94
14	Smothers Elementary School*	98/99
15	W.B. Patterson Elementary School*	126
16	Lutheran Church of the Reformation*	130
17	Allen AME Church*	134

PRECINCTS SURVEYED THAT WERE OPERATIONALLY INACCESSIBLE DUE TO CLOSED, HEAVY DOORS WITH NO WORKING BACKUP SYSTEM = 6%

	<u>Precinct Name</u>	<u>Precinct Number</u>
1	Columbia Heights Community Center	36
2	Truesdell Elementary School	56
3	Union Temple Baptist Church	114
4	Martin Luther King Elementary School	123
5	Friendship Baptist Church	128

PRECINCTS SURVEYED THAT WERE INACCESSIBLE DUE TO AN ABRUPT RISE OR OBSTRUCTION IN THE PATHWAY TO THE VOTING AREA = 24%

	<u>Precinct Name</u>	<u>Precinct Number</u>
1	School Without Walls at Francis Stevens*	4
2	Christ Episcopal Church Georgetown*	5
3	St. Margaret's Episcopal Church*	13
4	St. Thomas' Episcopal Church*	14
5	Ellington at Garnet-Patterson	22
6	Goodwill Baptist Church*	25
7	Church of the Annunciation	28
8	Cesar Chavez Prep Charter Middle School*	38
9	MPD - Regional Operation Command (North)*	45

Appendix B

10	Coolidge Senior High School	59
11	Takoma Education Campus*	63
12	Lamond Recreation Center*	64
13	Perry St. Prep PCS @ Taft*	69
14	Model Cities Senior Wellness Center	72
15	Bethesda Baptist Church	76
16	Houston Elementary School	93
17	Smothers Elementary School*	98/99
18	East River Washington Senior Wellness Center	113
19	Martin Luther King Elementary School	123
20	W.B. Patterson Elementary School*	126
21	Frank D. Reeves Municipal Center	141

PRECINCTS SURVEYED AT WHICH THE ACCESSIBLE ENTRANCE WAS NOT MARKED = 11%

	<u>Precinct Name</u>	<u>Precinct Number</u>
1	Church of the Annunciation	28
2	Columbia Heights Community Center	36
3	Brightwood Education Campus	53
4	Truesdell Elementary School	56
5	McKinley Technology High School	75
6	Watkins Elementary School	91
7	Malcolm X Elementary School	120
8	Covenant Baptist United Church of Christ	124
9	Hendley School	125
10	Friendship Baptist Church	128

PRECINCTS SURVEYED WITH NO WORKING DOORBELL = 11%

	<u>Precinct Name</u>	<u>Precinct Number</u>
1	Walker-Jones EC	1
2	Columbia Heights Community Center	36
3	MPD - Regional Operation Command (North)*	45
4	Truesdell Elementary School	56
5	E. River Washington Senior Wellness Center	69
6	Union Temple Baptist Church	113
7	Perry St. Prep PCS @ Taft*	114
8	Martin Luther King Elementary School	123
9	Friendship Baptist Church	128
10	Chinese Community Church	143