

No Parity At the Polls: Four Years Later

ACCESSIBILITY SURVEY FOR THE FEBRUARY 12, 2008 PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION



Photo of Brightwood Elementary School (Precinct 53) taken by Jennifer Lav

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INDIVIDUAL PRECINCT RESULTS OF ACCESSIBILITY SURVEY FOR THE FEBRUARY 12, 2008 PRIMARY ELECTION

This report analyzes the results of a survey of polling place accessibility throughout the District of Columbia during the February 12, 2008 Presidential Primary Election. University Legal Services (ULS), the federally designated Protection and Advocacy program for the District of Columbia, surveyed the precincts pursuant to the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA). Protection and Advocacy programs, including ULS, are charged 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, the District of Columbia also agreed to make all of its precincts accessible to people with disabilities by the 2004 Presidential Primary in a Settlement Agreement arising from *AAPD. v. District of Columbia*. ULS has covered every one of the District’s elections since 2004 and has issued reports on accessibility to the staff of the Board of Elections and Ethics (BOEE) as well as its Board of Commissioners and the public. For this election, ULS organized a network of staff, disability rights consumers, advocates and others to assess the accessibility of 105 of the District’s 142 precincts. This report discusses each precinct surveyed where problems arose relating to accessibility such as structural barriers, dysfunctional touch screen voting equipment, signage,¹

METHODOLOGY

This report lists precincts as *structurally inaccessible* when voters with mobility disabilities cannot enter the building to vote due to steps, narrow doorways or other issues that cannot be remedied by poll workers. This report lists precincts as *operationally inaccessible* when poll workers failed to take the necessary steps to ensure accessibility or equipment malfunctioned and was not repaired in a timely manner. As a result, voters with mobility disabilities could not enter what was otherwise structurally accessible facilities or could enter, but could not vote. All of the inaccessible precincts are designated with an asterisk (*) and are in bold print.

SUMMARY OF MAJOR FINDINGS

According to the BOEE list of polling places, all polling sites are structurally accessible except for St. Monica’s Episcopal Church (Precinct 88). According to our monitors, this was not the case in the February 2008 election.

- **9.5% of the 105 surveyed precincts were structurally inaccessible.**
 - George Washington University (600 22nd Street, NW)- Precinct 2
 - West End Public Library (1101 24th St, NW)- Precinct 4
 - MPD Boys and Girls Club (2500 14th Street, NW)- Precinct 23
 - Wesley United Methodist Church (5312 Connecticut Avenue, NW)- Precinct 32
 - MPD-Regional Operation Command (801 Shepherd St, NW)- Precinct 45
 - Rabaut Junior High (100 Peabody St, NW)- Precinct 64
 - LaSalle Elementary School (501 Riggs Road, NE)- Precinct 65

¹ A chart of all precincts surveyed is included at the end of this report as Appendix A and the breakdown of the precincts by accessibility issues is included as Appendix B

- Taft School (1800 Perry Street, NE)- Precinct 69
- St. Monica's Episcopal Church (1340 Massachusetts Avenue, SE)- Precinct 88
- Tyler Elementary School (1001 G St, SE)-Precinct 90
- **5.7% of the precincts were operationally inaccessible.**
 - Metropolitan Memorial United Methodist Church (3401 Nebraska Avenue NW) - Precinct 9
 - 4th District Police Station (6001 Georgia Avenue, NW)- Precinct 58
 - Bunker Hill Elementary School- (1401 Michigan Avenue, NE)- Precinct 67
 - Ketcham Elementary (1919 15th Street, SE)- Precinct 114
 - 7th District Police Station (2455 Alabama Avenue, SE)- Precinct 115
 - New Image Community Baptist Church (1839 Alabama Avenue, SE)- Precinct 116

A breakdown of the major issues is as follows:

- 10.4% of the precincts had an inaccessible route to reach the entrance
- 5.7% of the precincts had an inaccessible entrance
- 6.6% precincts had doors that were too narrow or not propped open
- 57% of precincts with elevators had inaccessible or broken elevators
- 10% of the precincts did not have the voting machines turned for voter privacy and/or did not have the proper turn radius
- 11.4% of the precincts had no signage or improper signage
- 12.3% of the precincts did not have designated accessible parking

In 2006, BOEE put doorbells in place at each polling site to address the lack of accessibility and prompt poll workers to be more responsive to voters in need of assistance to enter the polling sites to vote. The doorbells proved to be ineffective as they did not work, were not installed or poll workers failed to respond to them.

- 26.4% of the precincts had problems with the doorbells

The provision of curbside voting, even when it is prompt, does not make a polling place accessible because curbside voting requires people to divulge their voting preference to BOEE staff and poll workers. Voters with disabilities should be able to choose to vote curbside, but should not be forced to do so or urged to do so because they cannot enter the building or use the voting machines inside the polling place.

PRECINCT-BY- PRECINCT FINDINGS

1. Walker Jones Elementary School (100 L Street, NW)- Precinct 1

The accessible entrance to this precinct is the main entrance to the school and is at ground level. There is a parking lot and the poll workers designated accessible parking spots. The walkway pavement to the entrance is a bit uneven, which might make it difficult for a wheelchair rider or a cane or walker user to navigate, but the route is otherwise accessible. There was a doorbell placed at the front of the building to alert poll workers that a person needed assistance, but the doorbell did not work.

- **ISSUE- Poll workers must ensure that the doorbell is working at all times while the polls are open and that they respond to it promptly.**

2. George Washington University (600 22nd Street, NW)- Precinct 2*

This precinct is structurally inaccessible. This precinct entrance has stairs and thus is only accessible via a *mechanical lift which was not working on Election Day*. Because the stair glide was broken, the poll workers stated that people with mobility disabilities had to vote curbside. There was a doorbell for use but the doorbell did not work, and in any case, the precinct was inaccessible. The location of the “accessible” entrance via lift given on the BOEE website was not correct. The accessible entrance is actually on G Street, NW and there were no signs to that effect. The polling precinct did not have a parking lot; there was street parking only but there was no accessible parking designated for people with disabilities.

- **ISSUE- The wheelchair lift must be checked and operational prior to Election Day and maintained to ensure that people with mobility disabilities can enter the polling place to vote throughout the day.**
- **ISSUE- Poll workers must ensure that the doorbell is working at all times while the polls are open and that they respond to it promptly.**
- **ISSUE- Poll workers need to be made aware of accessibility requirements and that curbside voting is not a substitute for an accessible polling place.**
- **ISSUE- Poll workers must place signs to direct voters from the street in front of main entrance to the accessible parking and to designated parking.**

3. West End Public Library (1101 24th St, NW)- Precinct 4*

This precinct is structurally inaccessible. In order for a person in a wheelchair to get to the voting area, s/he would have to navigate an interior narrow pathway with many sharp turns to get to an elevator that has controls that are too high for a person with a mobility disability to access. Moreover, the elevator had no Braille characters, no audible floor indicators and the elevator *is not wide enough to allow clearance for a wheelchair rider*. The polling precinct has a parking lot with two (2) designated spaces for people with disabilities. The accessible entrance is the same as the main entrance. The accessible voting machine area did not allow private voting and did not have a five foot turning radius in front of the machine to enable access by wheel chair riders. There was a doorbell provided and it was working.

- **ISSUE- The elevator must be wide enough ensure that people with mobility disabilities can enter the polling place to vote.**
- **ISSUE- The elevator must also have controls that a wheelchair rider can reach as well as Braille characters and audible floor indicators.**

- **ISSUE-Poll workers must make sure that the accessible voting booth allows a five foot turning radius and privacy for wheelchair riders.**
4. Palisades Recreation Center (5200 Sherier Place, NW)- Precinct 8
 The polling precinct has a parking lot with four designated spaces for people with disabilities. The main entrance is the accessible entrance and there was proper signage in place. The accessible route to the voting area was icy, but there was salting in progress at the time of the monitor's visit. There was a doorbell available, but the poll workers did not respond when the monitor used it.
- **ISSUE- Poll workers must ensure that the doorbell is working at all times while the polls are open and that they respond to it promptly.**
5. Metropolitan Memorial United Methodist Church (3401 Nebraska Avenue, NW) Precinct 9*
 ULS monitored this precinct in 2004 and noted that it was difficult to access the touch screen voting machines.²
 This precinct was operationally inaccessible. This precinct was not accessible because there were steps at the entrance of the building. There is an accessible entrance leading from the parking lot and an elevator to the voting area, but the poll workers did not have any signage informing voters of this entrance. The polling precinct has a parking lot with four (4) designated spaces for people with disabilities. There was no doorbell at this voting precinct.
- **ISSUE-The entrance must be accessible and signage must direct voters to the accessible entrance so voters can have access to the polls.**
 - **ISSUE- Poll workers must be provided with a doorbell and they must ensure that the doorbell is working at all times while the polls are open.**
6. St. Sophia's Church (3600 Massachusetts Avenue, NW)- Precinct 12
 ULS monitored this precinct in 2004 and noted that it had no signs posted or signs were posted improperly. *See* 2004 Report, p. 4.
 The polling precinct has a parking lot with five (5) designated accessible parking spots. The location of the main entrance was not clear, but the accessible entrance is just near the parking lot. There was proper signage to guide voters from the street to the accessible entrance which is at ground level. The route was accessible and free from obstructions. Voting is on the second floor and the elevator was in working order and had Braille characters, but no audible floor indicators. There was a doorbell provided, but the doorbell was not working. The touch screen machine was placed to provide a five foot turning radius for wheelchair access, but was turned so the screen was visible to other voters.
- **ISSUE-Poll workers must make sure that the accessible voting booth allows voter privacy.**
 - **ISSUE- Poll workers must ensure that the doorbell is working at all times while the polls are open and that they respond.**

²See No Parity at the DC Polls: Report on Accessibility of Polling places and Voting Equipment for People with Disabilities During the November 2, 2004 General Election (hereinafter "2004 Report"), p. 4.

7. St. Margaret's Episcopal Church (1820 Connecticut Avenue, NW)- Precinct 13

ULS monitored this precinct in 2004 and noted that there were no signs posted or signs were improperly posted. *See* 2004 Report, p. 5. ULS monitored the precinct again in 2006 and found it to be inaccessible due to operational issues.³

This polling precinct has a parking lot but it is not accessible because there are stairs from the parking lot to the building. There is a separate accessible entrance on Bancroft Street that is at ground level. There was proper signage on one side of the main entrance guiding voters to the accessible entrance from the street. The route from the entrance to the voting area was obstructed by some furniture and three (3) doorways with turns in order to get to the ground floor voting area. These doors were not propped open to ensure wheelchair riders and cane and walker users could pass through freely. The doorbell was in good working order. The monitor spoke to the precinct captain who seemed eager to comply and wanted to know how to make accessibility even better.

- **ISSUE – The “accessible” door must be propped open and interior path from the door to the voting machine must be accessible, unobstructed and clearly marked.**

8. St. Thomas Episcopal Church (1772 Church Street, NW) – Precinct 14

ULS monitored this precinct in 2006 and found there to be no problems. *See* 2006 Report, p. 2.

During the 2008 election, the precinct has an accessible parking lot, but no spaces are designated for people with disabilities. In addition, there were no spaces designated on the street for people with disabilities. The main voter entrance is accessible and there is proper signage directing voters from the accessible parking lot to the entrance. The route is accessible and the voting is conducted on the ground floor. There was a working doorbell and poll workers responded when it was pressed. The monitor also noted that the poll workers had difficulties setting up the audio headsets for the voting machine, but were able to get them up and running.

- **ISSUE – Parking in the parking lot near the accessible entrance and on an accessible route should be designated for people with disabilities and clearly marked.**
- **ISSUE- If no parking is designated in the parking lot, there should be at least one parking space on the street that is designated for people with disabilities.**

9. Shiloh Baptist Church (1509 9th St)- Precinct 18

The precinct has a parking lot with designated accessible parking, but it is inaccessible because there is a raised curb that would make it difficult for a person with a mobility disability to navigate. The main entrance is accessible and there was proper signage guiding voters from the parking lot to the entrance. The voting area is on the ground floor. There is a back door, but the monitor got no response when he pressed the doorbell. The voting machine was turned for privacy, but there was not enough space to provide a five foot turning radius at the machine. The poll workers stated that they wanted more people to use absentee ballots and thereby reduce the number of voters with disabilities entering the polling place.

- **ISSUE- The precinct must have an accessible route which is free of obstructions which may make it difficult for wheelchair riders to navigate the path.**

³See Individual Precinct Results of Accessibility Survey for the September 12, 2006 Primary Election (hereinafter “2006 Report”), p. 2.

- **ISSUE- Poll workers must ensure that the doorbell is working at all times while the polls are open and that they respond.**
- **ISSUE-Poll workers need to be made aware of accessibility requirements and that voting by absentee ballot and curbside voting is not a substitute for an accessible polling place.**

10. Dunbar Senior High School (1301 New Jersey Avenue, NW)- Precinct 19

ULS monitored this precinct in 2006 and noted problems with signage and accessible paths to the voting machines. *See* 2006 Report, p. 3.

The precinct only has street parking and there was no signage designating accessible parking. The main entrance is accessible and there was proper signage directing voters from the street to the entrance. The voting area is on the ground floor. There was a doorbell but it was not working. The touch screen machine was placed for privacy and there was a five foot turning radius at the machine. Curbside voting was apparently an option, but voters would have to enter the polling precinct and request it, according to the poll workers.

- **ISSUE – Parking near the accessible entrance and on an accessible route should be designated for people with disabilities and clearly marked.**
- **ISSUE- Poll workers must ensure that the doorbell is working at all times while the polls are open and that they respond to it promptly.**
- **ISSUE-Poll workers need to be made aware of accessibility requirements and that voting by absentee ballot and curbside voting is not a substitute for an accessible polling place.**
- **ISSUE- If a voter chooses to vote curbside, there must be a way for the voter to request services without having to come inside, perhaps via the doorbell.**

11. Gage –Eckington School (2025 3rd Street, NW)- Precinct 20

The precinct has an accessible parking lot that has no designated spaces for people with disabilities. The main entrance is the accessible entrance and there is proper signage guiding voters to the entrance from the parking lot. The ramp along the accessible route was extremely long and very steep which may make it difficult to for a wheelchair rider to navigate into the precinct. The voting area is on the ground floor. There was a working doorbell and poll workers responded to it. The voting machines afforded privacy and a five foot turning radius.

- **ISSUE- The ramp must be modified to allow voters with mobility disabilities to enter the precinct. Alternatively the precinct should be relocated to an accessible site.**

12. MPD Boys and Girls Club (2500 14th Street, NW)- Precinct 23*

This precinct is structurally inaccessible. The route to the entrance is obstructed by a *cement barrier that is blocking the curb cut*. There was a car parked next to the barrier on Election Day that would not allow wheelchair riders to go around the barrier. The doorbell was placed on the other side of the barrier, making it inaccessible to people with disabilities. The interior entrance to the voting area has doors that must be propped open but were not and thus, wheelchair riders were not able to pass through. There were no designated accessible street parking spaces. The voting area was too small to afford enough room for a wheelchair

rider to maneuver through if other people were in the room. The touch screen machine did not afford privacy and did not have a five foot radius.

- **ISSUE- The precinct must have an accessible route which is free of obstructions which may make it difficult for wheelchair riders to navigate the path to the entrance.**
- **ISSUE-The “accessible” door must be propped open and the interior path from the door to the voting machine must be accessible, unobstructed and clearly marked.**
- **ISSUE-Poll workers must make sure that the accessible voting booth allows a five foot turning radius and privacy for wheelchair riders.**
- **ISSUE-Parking near the accessible entrance and on an accessible route should be designated for people with disabilities and clearly marked.**

13. Marie Reed Learning Center (2200 Champlain Street, NW) Precinct 24
ULS monitored this polling precinct in 2006 and found no problems. *See* 2006 Report, p. 3.

The precinct has street parking only and there were no signs designating accessible parking. The main voter entrance is accessible and there is proper signage guiding voters to the entrance. The route was accessible and the voting was on the ground floor. There was a working doorbell and poll workers responded when the bell was rung. The voting machine was placed for privacy and there was a five foot turning radius at the machine.

- **ISSUE – Street parking near the accessible entrance and on an accessible route should be designated for people with disabilities and clearly marked.**

14. Oyster Elementary School (2801 Calvert Street, NW)- Precinct 26
ULS monitored this precinct in 2006 and found there were problems with signage and the accessibility of touch screen machines for wheelchair riders. *See* 2006 Report, p. 4.

In February 2008, this precinct had an accessible entrance but no signs to direct voters to it from the street. There is street parking only and poll workers did not designate any accessible street parking spaces. The route was also obstructed by children playing along the path. There was a working doorbell and poll workers responded to it. The voting machine was placed to afford privacy, but there was not a five foot turning radius at the machine.

- **ISSUE- Street parking near the accessible entrance and on an accessible route should be designated for people with disabilities and clearly marked.**
- **ISSUE- The precinct must have an accessible route which is free of obstructions which may make it difficult for wheelchair riders to navigate the path.**
- **ISSUE-Poll workers must make sure that the accessible voting booth allows a five foot turning radius and privacy for wheelchair riders.**

15. Janney School (4130 Albemarle St, NW)-Precinct 30
In 2006 ULS found that there were no designated accessible parking spaces for people with disabilities and the double doors were too narrow to accommodate a wheelchair rider. *See* 2006 Report, p. 4-5.

The same issues were apparent again in February 2008. The route from the street to the entrance is not accessible because the doorway to the voting area is not wide enough. The monitor measured the door at twenty-six (26) inches wide. The ADA standard requires thirty-

two (32) inches. In order for the entrance to be accessible, poll workers must prop both the doors open. The precinct has street parking only and again, there were no designated accessible parking spaces. The main entrance is the accessible entrance but there were no signs directing voters toward the entrance. The doorbell in front of the building worked and the poll workers responded to it. The touch screen voting machine afforded voter privacy and there was a five foot turning radius at the machine.

- **ISSUE-Poll workers must prop open the double doors at all times to give the requisite 32 inches of clearance for wheelchair riders to pass through the doors.**
- **ISSUE – Parking near the accessible entrance and on an accessible route should be designated for people with disabilities and clearly marked.**

16. St. Columba's Episcopal Church (4201 Albemarle St, NW)- Precinct 31

In 2006, ULS found that this precinct had problems with signage, no designated accessible parking spaces and inaccessible touch screen voting machines. See 2006 Report, p. 5.

In 2008, the precinct has street parking only and the poll workers designated an accessible street parking space, but the monitor noted that it was about one-third of a block away from a curb cut. This makes it difficult for people with mobility disabilities to navigate themselves safely to the entrance of the polling place. The route was not accessible at first due to a screen that reduced the size of the path to the elevator to twenty-two inches. The monitor asked that it to be removed and the precinct captain moved it. The monitor then overheard two people who worked at the church state that they would move the screen back after the monitor left. The monitor confronted them and was told that the screen was used to separate the children at the church from “another group” and that someone would be there to move the screen if necessary for wheelchair riders.

The accessible entrance is to the immediate left of the main entrance and there was proper signage directing voters to the entrance. The voting area was on the second floor and the elevator was working and had Braille characters and audible floor indicators. The monitor noted that the elevator was big enough to accommodate a wheel chair ride but the doorway of the elevator was only thirty-four (34) inches and not the recommended thirty-six (36) inches. There was a doorbell provided that was placed next to the accessible parking space and the poll workers answered it. The touch screen machine was placed for voter privacy and there was a five foot turning radius at the machine.

- **ISSUE- – The interior pathway from the accessible doorway to the voting machine must be accessible, unobstructed, and clearly marked.**

17. Wesley United Methodist Church (5312 Connecticut Avenue, NW)- Precinct 32*

In 2006, the ULS monitors found that this precinct had problems with designated accessible parking. See 2006 Report, p. 5.

This precinct is structurally inaccessible. In 2008, the voting area was not located on the ground floor and the *elevator was not working*. When asked about the elevator, the poll workers stated that they had placed a call to the maintenance staff. The route to the entrance is accessible and the building entrance is on the ground level. The precinct had no designated street parking for people with disabilities. The main entrance is accessible but there was no signage directing voters where to enter. There was no doorbell in place when the monitor arrived, but the poll workers assembled it and put it at the main entrance before the monitor

finished the survey. The touch screen machine did not afford voter privacy but there was a five foot turning radius at the machine.

- **ISSUE- Poll workers must check all elevators to ensure that they are working prior to Election Day and poll workers must call designated maintenance staff for emergency repairs in case of problems on Election Day.**
- **ISSUE- Street parking near the accessible entrance and on an accessible route should be designated for people with disabilities and clearly marked.**
- **ISSUE- Poll workers must place proper signage to direct the voters to the accessible entrance.**

18. Murch Elementary School (4810 36th St, NW) –Precinct 33

In both 2004 and 2006, monitors found issues with signage at this precinct. *See* 2004 Report, p. 5 and 2006 Report, p. 6.

In 2008, the precinct has a parking lot with spaces designated for people with disabilities. The accessible entrance is in the rear of the building and there was proper signage directing voters to the entrance. The route from the parking lot to the entrance is accessible and the voting area was on the ground floor. There was a doorbell provided but no batteries were apparently provided so it was inoperable. The poll workers took turns observing the entrance for people who may have needed assistance. The touch screen voting machine was placed for voter privacy and there was a five foot turning radius at the machine.

- **ISSUE- BOEE must provide working doorbells and poll workers must ensure that the doorbells are working at all times while the polls are open and that they respond promptly.**
- **ISSUE-Poll workers should designate and clearly mark accessible parking spaces near the accessible entrance and along the accessible entrance.**

19. Edmund Burke School (2955 Upton St, NW)- Precinct 34*

ULS found this precinct inaccessible in 2004. *See* 2004 Report, p. 7.

In 2008, ULS found this precinct to be operationally inaccessible. The route was not accessible due to inaccessible interior double doors at the entrance of the voting area. The double doors cannot be opened by a wheelchair rider. One door is thirty-two inches (32) wide and there is a one (1) inch curb “lip.” Both doors would need to be propped open to accommodate a larger person with a wheelchair. The precinct had street parking only with designated accessible parking spaces near the curb cut. The main entrance was accessible and there was proper signage directing voters to the entrance. A doorbell was placed in the street and could be easily missed by voters.

- **ISSUE – The door must be propped wide enough to admit a person in a wheelchair (at least 32 inches).**
- **ISSUE – The doorbell must be properly placed so voters will be able to access it and poll workers must respond to it.**

20. Latin American Youth Center (1419 Columbia Road, NW)- Precinct 36

ULS monitored this precinct in 2006 and found no problems. *See* 2006 Report, p. 6.

In 2008, the precinct has street parking only and the main entrance is accessible. The route is accessible and there was proper signage directing voters from the street to the entrance. The voting area was not on the ground floor but the working elevator had wide

doors, Braille characters, and buttons at a height that a voter in a wheelchair could reach. However, there were no audible floor indicators. There was a doorbell placed at the front entrance of the building and the poll workers responded to it. The monitor was not allowed into the voting area so there is no information regarding the touch screen voting machines.

- **ISSUE- The BOEE should allow accessibility monitoring at all polling precincts.**

21. Meyer School (2501 11th St, NW)- Precinct 37

The precinct has street parking only, and the poll workers had designated accessible parking. The main entrance is accessible and there was proper signage directing voters from the street to the entrance. The route was accessible and the entrance and voting areas were on the ground floor. There was no doorbell when the monitor arrived and he was told it was on its way. The touch screen machine afforded voter privacy and there was a five foot turning radius at the machine.

- **ISSUE- The polling precinct must have a doorbell and poll workers must ensure that the doorbell is working at all times while the polls are open and that they respond to it promptly.**

22. Bruce Monroe School (3012 Georgia Avenue, NW)- Precinct 38

The precinct has street parking only and the poll workers had designated accessible parking close to the curb cut. The main entrance is accessible and there was proper signage directing voters from the street to the entrance. The route is accessible and the voting area is on the ground floor. There was a doorbell placed near the entrance but it was not audible inside the building. The touch screen voting machine was placed for voter privacy and there was five foot turning radius at the machine.

- **ISSUE- Poll workers must ensure that the doorbell is working at all times while the polls are open and that they respond to it promptly.**

23. Mt. Pleasant Library (1606 Lamont Street, NW)- Precinct 39

This precinct had street parking only and poll workers designated accessible street parking close to the curb cut. The main voter entrance is accessible and there were signs directing voters from the street to the entrance. The route to the voting area was accessible and the voting area was on the ground floor. There was a doorbell but poll workers did not respond to it. There were no magnifying glasses available to facilitate voting. The touch screen machine was placed to afford voter privacy and it had a five foot turning radius.

- **ISSUE- Poll workers must ensure that the doorbell is working at all times while the polls are open and that they respond to it promptly.**
- **ISSUE-Poll workers must have all necessary equipment including magnifying glasses and headsets.**

24. Ukrainian Catholic National Shrine (4250 Harewood Rd, NE)- Precinct 44

In 2006, ULS monitored this precinct and found that it was accessible. *See* 2006 Report, p. 7.

In February 2008, there was a doorbell placed outside near the street, but it did not work. The precinct captain said that there was no parking because the parking lot has been leased to the National Rehabilitation Hospital. The precinct has street parking only and there is no designated accessible parking. The main entrance is accessible and there is proper

signage to guide voters to the entrance. The route was accessible and the voting area is on the ground floor. The precinct captain also noted that curbside voting is available if someone can come in and request it.

- **ISSUE- Poll workers need to be made aware of accessibility requirements and that voting by absentee ballot and curbside voting is not a substitute for an accessible polling place.**
- **ISSUE- Poll workers must ensure that the doorbell is working at all times while the polls are open and that they respond to it promptly.**
- **ISSUE- If a voter chooses to vote curbside, there must be a way for the voter to request services without having to come inside, such as a doorbell.**

25. **MPD-Regional Operation Command (801 Shepherd St, NW)- Precinct 45***

There is one accessible entrance on the side of the building, but that is only for police officers to use. Because voters with disabilities are not allowed to use the accessible entrance, this precinct is structurally inaccessible to them. If voters are allowed to use that entrance, the precinct would be accessible. The route to the entrance is accessible and there was proper signage directing voters to the entrance. Voters must use an elevator to get to the voting area. The elevator was in good working order and was big enough to accommodate a wheel chair rider, but did not have Braille characters or audible floor indicators. The precinct has a parking lot with one designated accessible parking space. There was no doorbell provided and while the touch screen machine afforded voter privacy, there was not a five foot turn radius at the machine.

- **ISSUE-The accessible entrance is not for the voting public's use which renders this precinct structurally inaccessible.**
- **ISSUE-Poll workers must ensure that the doorbell is working at all times the polls are open and that they respond.**
- **ISSUE- Touch screen voting machines should have a five foot turn radius for wheel chair riders.**

26. **Lafayette School (5701 Broad Branch Rd, NW)- Precinct 51**

This precinct has street parking only and the poll workers designated an accessible parking space. The accessible parking space was far from the curb cut. In addition, able-bodied voters and parents of the school children were parking in the accessible space. The main entrance was accessible but there were no signs directing voters from the street to the entrance. There was a doorbell placed at the entrance and the workers responded to it. The touch screen machine was placed for voter privacy and there was a five foot turn radius at the machine.

- **ISSUE- Poll workers must clearly mark the route from the street in front of main entrance to the accessible entrance and to designated parking with signs.**
- **ISSUE- Poll workers must ensure that parking is designated for people voters with disabilities is accessible and available. They should monitor misuse of the designated spaces by calling the police to ticket non-disabled parkers.**

27. **St. John's College High School (2607 Military Rd, NW)- Precinct 52**

In 2004 ULS found that this precinct had problems with signage and we found no problems in 2006. See 2004 Report, p. 5. and 2006 Report, p. 9.

In February 2008, the precinct had a parking lot with four (4) accessible parking spaces. The route from the lot to the entrance was clearly marked to guide voters to the entrance. There was a doorbell placed in between two parking spaces at the curb, but the poll workers apparently could not hear the bell inside the precinct and failed to respond. The touch screen machine was placed for voter privacy and there was a five foot turn radius at the machine.

- **ISSUE- Poll workers must ensure that the doorbell is placed within their hearing radius, is working at all times the polls are open and that they respond.**

28. Brightwood Elementary School (1300 Nicholson St, NW)- Precinct 53

The precinct has a parking lot but there was a large dumpster taking up all of the accessible spaces. The main entrance is accessible, but there were no signs directing voters to the entrance. There was a doorbell provided, but it was broken and thus, not being used. The touch screen voting machine was placed for voter privacy and there was a five foot turning radius at the machine.

- **ISSUE- Poll workers must ensure that obstructions are removed prior to Election Day to ensure that accessible parking is available.**
- **ISSUE- Poll workers must ensure that the doorbell is working at all times the polls are open and that they respond.**
- **ISSUE- Signage must direct voters with disabilities to the entrance.**

29. West Elementary (1338 Farragut Street, NW)- Precinct 54

In 2006, ULS found this precinct accessible. *See* 2006 Report, p. 9.

In February 2008, this precinct had a parking lot but there were no designated accessible spaces. The main entrance is accessible and there was proper signage directing voters to the entrance. There was a doorbell placed outside the main door and poll workers responded to it. There were magnifying glasses available as well as an audio headset. The touch screen machine afforded voter privacy and there was a five foot turn radius at the machine.

- **ISSUE-Poll workers should designate and clearly mark accessible parking spaces near the accessible entrance and along the accessible entrance.**

30. Barnard Elementary School (430 Decatur Street, NW)- Precinct 55

This precinct has a parking lot but it was not open to the voting public. The poll workers had designated accessible street parking. There is a separate accessible entrance a few yards from the main entrance and there was proper signage directing voters from the street to the accessible entrance. There was a doorbell and the poll workers responded to it. There were no magnifying glasses and no audio headset available to facilitate voting at the touch screen machines. The machine was placed for voter privacy and there was a five foot turning radius.

- **ISSUE-Poll workers must have all necessary equipment including magnifying glasses and headsets**

31. Truesdell Elementary School (800 Ingraham St, NW)- Precinct 56

In 2004, ULS found this precinct had issues with proper signage. *See* 2004 Report, p.

4. The precinct was found to be inaccessible due to operational issues in 2006. *See* 2006 Report, p. 9.

In February 2008, the precinct had a parking lot but it was not accessible because it is located behind the building with no accessible route leading to it. The poll workers designated accessible parking on the street that was close to the curb cut. The accessible entrance is at the front of building and is separate from the main entrance. There was proper signage directing voters from the street to the entrance. There was no doorbell in use at all. There was no headset or magnifying glass to facilitate the use of paper ballots and the touch screen machine, but the machine afforded voter privacy and had a five foot turning radius.

- **ISSUE- Poll workers must have all equipment including magnifying glasses and headsets to facilitate the use of the touch screen machines.**
- **ISSUE- Poll workers must ensure that the doorbell is working at all times the polls are open and that they respond.**

32. **4th District Police Station (6001 Georgia Avenue, NW)- Precinct 58***

In 2006 ULS found this precinct was inaccessible due to the entrance. See 2006 Report, p. 10.

In February 2008, this precinct was operationally inaccessible. There was police tape across the accessible entrance at 4:15 pm on Election Day. The monitor addressed the issue with the poll workers and the police tape was removed. The obstruction of the accessible entrance rendered this precinct inaccessible for voters with disabilities who arrived before 4:15 pm. Had the main entrance not been taped off, it would have been accessible, and there was proper signage guiding voters from the street to the entrance. The precinct has street parking only and the poll workers designated an accessible parking space. There was a doorbell placed by the wheelchair ramp and poll workers responded to the chime. There was no magnifying glass available for voters to use in conjunction with the paper ballots and the touch screen machine. The touch screen machine was placed for voter privacy and had a five foot turn radius.

- **ISSUE-This polling precinct was totally inaccessible to a wheelchair rider who arrived before 4:15 pm.**
- **ISSUE- The BOEE must ensure an accessible entrance is available for voters with mobility disabilities to use at all times that the polls are open.**
- **ISSUE-Poll workers must have all necessary equipment including doorbells, magnifying glasses and headsets.**

33. **Coolidge Senior High (6315 5th Street, NW)- Precinct 59**

There were no problems with this precinct in 2006. See 2006 Report, p. 10.

In February 2008, the precinct had street parking and there was no signage designating an accessible parking space or directing voters to the accessible entrance. The main entrance is accessible and it is located at ground level. There was no doorbell. The touch screen was placed for voter privacy and there was a five foot turning radius.

- **ISSUE- Poll workers should designate an accessible parking space close to a curb cut to facilitate voting.**
- **ISSUE- Poll workers must clearly mark the route from the street in front of main entrance to the accessible entrance and to designated parking with signs.**
- **ISSUE- BOEE must provide doorbells to each precinct and poll workers must ensure that the doorbell is working at all times the polls are open and that they respond.**

34. Nativity Youth Center (6000 Georgia Avenue, NW)- Precinct 60

This precinct has street parking only. The poll workers had designated accessible street parking. There is a separate accessible entrance at the front of the building and there was proper signage directing voters from the street to the accessible entrance. There was a doorbell placed at the bottom of the ramp at the entrance and the poll workers responded to it. There were no magnifying glasses and no audio headsets available to facilitate voting at the touch screen machines. The machine was placed for voter privacy and there was a five foot turning radius.

- **ISSUE-Poll workers must have all necessary equipment including magnifying glasses and headsets**

35. Shepherd Elementary School (7800 14th Street, NW)- Precinct 62

The precinct has street parking and the poll workers had designated an accessible parking space located close to the curb cut. The main accessible entrance is at the side of the building and proper signage directed voters to the accessible entrance. The route is accessible and the voting area is located at the ground level. There was no doorbell provided and the monitor noted that people who needed assistance were relying on able-bodied voters who were entering the polling site to notify poll workers.

- **ISSUE- BOEE must provide doorbells to each precinct and poll workers must ensure that the doorbell is working at all times the polls are open and that they respond.**

36. Rabaut Junior High (100 Peabody St, NW)- Precinct 64*

In both 2004 and 2006, this precinct was found to be inaccessible. *See* 2004 Report, p. 7 and 2006 Report, p. 12.

In February 2008, the precinct was again structurally inaccessible because the door at the rear of the building that is designated “accessible” is not wide enough for a wheelchair rider to pass through and there is one step that prohibits wheelchair access. The precinct has a parking lot with two designated accessible parking spaces. There was proper signage to direct the voters to the entrance and the route is accessible. There was a doorbell placed by the wheelchair ramp, and workers responded to its chime. There also were no magnifying glasses available at the polling site.

- **ISSUE- This polling precinct is structurally inaccessible to wheelchair riders and it must be relocated.**
- **ISSUE – The poll workers must prop open the door and ensure it is thirty-two (32) inches wide to allow access by wheelchair riders.**

37. LaSalle Elementary School (501 Riggs Road, NE)- Precinct 65*

This precinct is structurally inaccessible. There is a riser at the entrance that would make it impossible for a wheelchair rider to enter the building. The poll workers, when questioned by the monitor “don’t appear cognizant or care about the need for people who might need help.” Voting for those with mobility disabilities is via curbside. There were no poll workers to aid with curbside voting and *voters were turned away*. The precinct is located at the top of a steep hill which makes it difficult for a wheelchair rider to navigate their way to the precinct. There was no doorbell, magnifying glasses or audio headset provided to facilitate

voting. There is a parking lot and poll workers designated two accessible spaces, but the parking lot is located atop a steep hill and is not for the voters' use.

- **ISSUE- This polling precinct is structurally inaccessible to wheelchair riders and it must be relocated.**
- **ISSUE-Poll workers need to be made aware of accessibility requirements and that voting by absentee ballot and curbside voting is not a substitute for an accessible polling place.**
- **ISSUE- BOEE must provide doorbells to each precinct and poll workers must ensure that the doorbell is working at all times the polls are open and that they respond.**
- **ISSUE-Poll workers must have all necessary equipment including magnifying glasses and headsets.**

38. Backus Middle School (5171 South Dakota Avenue, NE)- Precinct 66

The precinct has a parking lot which was entirely designated as accessible parking. There are two accessible entrances, the main entrance and the entrance at the rear of the building. There was proper signage at the rear entrance that directed voters to the voting area. The route was accessible and the voting area was on the ground floor. There was a doorbell placed at the rear entrance and the poll workers responded to its chime. There were no magnifying glasses available at the polling precinct. Apparently, there was frequent curbside voting at this precinct.

- **ISSUE- Poll workers must have necessary equipment such as magnifying glasses and headsets.**
- **ISSUE-Poll workers must be aware of accessibility requirements and that voting by absentee ballot and curbside voting is not a substitute for an accessible polling place.**

39. Bunker Hill Elementary School- (1401 Michigan Avenue, NE)- Precinct 67*

In 2006, this precinct had problems with the lack of accessible parking and the poll workers held the misguided belief that curbside voting is a substitute for providing an accessible polling site.

In February 2008, this precinct was operationally inaccessible. The precinct has a parking lot, but it was inaccessible due to a locked gate. There was no proper signage directing the voters toward the accessible main entrance. The signs pointed in opposite directions but the poll workers corrected the signs at the monitor's request. There was a doorbell placed inside the gate to the parking lot, precluding access by voters. The poll workers reportedly could not hear the bell inside the building. The poll workers assisted at least six (6) voters with mobility disabilities to vote by curbside voting.

- **This polling precinct was totally inaccessible to wheelchair riders. Poll workers must ensure that all gates are unlocked and propped open to ensure voters can enter the polling place.**
- **ISSUE- The poll workers should designate accessible parking and the poll workers and voters must be able to access the parking lot.**
- **ISSUE- Poll workers must be made aware of accessibility requirements and that voting by absentee ballot and curbside voting are not a substitute for maintaining an accessible polling place.**

40. **Taft School (1800 Perry Street, NE)- Precinct 69***

In 2006, the monitors found numerous problems with this precinct. See 2006 Report, p. 13.

In February 2008, this precinct was structurally inaccessible. The main entrance is not accessible as *there are ten (10) steps leading up to the entrance*. People with disabilities in wheelchairs had no choice but to vote curbside at this precinct. The precinct has street parking only and there were signs directing voters to the inaccessible entrance.

- **ISSUE- This polling precinct is structurally inaccessible to wheelchair riders and it must be relocated.**
- **ISSUE- Poll workers need to be made aware of accessibility requirements and that voting by absentee ballot and curbside voting is not a substitute for an accessible polling place.**

41. **Langdon Park Recreation Center (2901 20th Street, NE)- Precinct 72**

In 2004, this precinct had no signs posted or signs posted incorrectly. See 2004 Report, p. 4.

In February 2008, this precinct had street parking only. The poll workers designated accessible street parking for voters. The main entrance is accessible and there was proper signage directing voters from the street to the entrance. There was a doorbell at the front entrance and the poll workers responded to it. There were no magnifying glasses at the check-in table and no audio headset available to facilitate voting at the touch screen machines. The machine was placed for voter privacy and there was a five foot turning radius.

- **ISSUE-Poll workers must have all necessary equipment including magnifying glasses and headsets**

42. **McKinley Technical High School (151 T St, NE)- Precinct 75**

The precinct has a parking lot with five (5) designated accessible spaces. The route from the parking lot was not clearly marked to direct voters to the accessible entrance. The doorbell was placed up a flight of steps next to the main entrance, which was not accessible to wheelchair riders. The accessible entrance was to the right of the main entrance and the monitor states that “it would easier if signs pointed people directly to the accessible entrance rather than to a doorbell they can’t reach after which they have to wait for someone to come out and point them to the accessible entrance.”

- **ISSUE- Poll workers must clearly mark with signs the route from the street in front of main entrance to the accessible entrance and to designated parking.**
- **ISSUE- Poll workers must place the doorbell in a position where people in wheelchairs can access it in order to ring for assistance.**

43. **Delta Towers Apartments (1400 Florida Avenue, NE)-Precinct 77**

The polling site has a parking lot but it was inaccessible due to major sidewalk and road construction. The poll workers did not designate any accessible street parking. The route was clearly marked to the main accessible entrance. The construction might make it difficult for wheelchair riders to navigate their way to the entrance. There was a doorbell placed by the front door and the poll workers responded to it. The monitor noted the touch screen voting

machine was not hooked up and when asked, the poll workers said that they did not know how to operate the machine.

- **ISSUE- The poll workers must be trained and fully able to hook up and operate the touch screen voting machines and to call for maintenance in the event that they malfunction.**

44. Sherwood Recreation Center (640 10th St, NE)- Precinct 82

The precinct has a parking lot with two (2) designated accessible parking spaces. The main voter entrance is the accessible entrance but there were no signs directing voters to the accessible entrance. There was no doorbell, but the building has a front desk attendant who assisted people with disabilities in opening the doors. The monitor noted that there were no magnifying glasses available until she asked the monitor for them. The touch screen machine did not afford voter privacy.

- **ISSUE- Poll workers must know how to operate the touch screen machines and place them to afford wheel chair access by providing a five foot turning radius.**

45. J.O. Wilson Elementary School (660 K St, NE)- Precinct 83

In 2004 we found that this precinct had no signs or had posted signs improperly. *See* 2004 Report, p. 5. In 2006, this precinct was inaccessible due to the accessible door being locked and poll workers not responding to the doorbell placed outside the door. *See* 2006 Report, p. 15.

In February 2008, the precinct had street parking only and while there was a sign designating accessible parking, it was pointed the wrong way. The accessible entrance is at the side of the building and there were signs posted to guide voters, but they were all pointing the wrong way. The monitor pointed this out to the poll workers and was told that the issue would be corrected. There was no doorbell. The monitor spoke to the precinct captain who said that a call had been put in to BOEE, but the doorbell had not arrived. There was no five foot turning radius at the touch screen voting machine, but the monitor suggested that the poll workers move the machine and the precinct captain seemed to be willing to make the change.

- **ISSUE - BOEE must provide doorbells to each precinct and poll workers must ensure that the doorbell is working at all times the polls are open and accessible, and that they respond.**
- **ISSUE- Poll workers must clearly mark the route from the street in front of main entrance to the accessible entrance and to designated parking with signs.**

46. Stuart Hobson Middle School (410 E St, NE)- Precinct 84

The polling precinct has a parking lot, but no accessible spaces were designated. The main entrance is accessible and there were signs directing the voters to the accessible entrance. Although there is an accessible entrance, the interior accessible door to the voting area was blocked by a book display and locked. The monitor pointed this out to the precinct captain who promised to rectify the situation. A doorbell was placed at the base of the wheelchair ramp and the poll workers responded to it. There were no magnifying glasses available and the touch screen voting machine was not placed for voter privacy. The monitor helped the precinct captain move the voting machine for voter privacy and learned that a call had been made to the BOEE regarding the glasses.

- **ISSUE – The accessible door must be open and the internal path from the door to the voting machine must be accessible, unobstructed and clearly marked.**
- **ISSUE – Poll workers must have necessary equipment such as magnifying glasses and headsets.**

47. Specialty Hospital (700 Constitution Ave, NE)- Precinct 85

The BOEE calls this precinct “Medlink,” but the name has been changed to Specialty Hospital for over a year. The precinct has street parking only and poll workers had designated accessible parking close to the curb cut. The main entrance is accessible and there was proper signage directing voters to the entrance. The route was accessible and the elevator to the voting area was in good working order. There was no doorbell. When asked about it, the precinct captain told the monitor that the doorbell was currently being repaired because it was malfunctioning.

- **ISSUE- BOEE must provide doorbells to each precinct and poll workers must ensure that the doorbell is working at all times the polls are open and that they respond.**

48. St. Monica’s Episcopal Church (1340 Massachusetts Avenue, SE)- Precinct 88*

This polling precinct has been inaccessible since ULS started monitoring the polls. ULS has continuously urged BOEE to identify a new accessible site.

There are *several flights of stairs* that make it impossible for people with mobility disabilities to enter the building. The BOEE is aware that this precinct is inaccessible and has done nothing to rectify the situation. Voters at this polling site are informed by mail that the precinct is inaccessible and that they may vote at an alternate accessible polling site by special ballot or if they notify BOEE in advance to have their ballot sent to the alternate polling precinct. However, this is not an adequate solution.

- **This polling precinct is structurally inaccessible to wheelchair riders and it must be relocated. The BOEE must make sure that all precincts are accessible for all people.**

49. Tyler Elementary School (1001 G St, SE)-Precinct 90*

This precinct is structurally inaccessible. The voting area is not on the ground floor and there are *four (4) steps leading to the elevator* which prohibits voters with disabilities from voting inside the precinct. The precinct has a parking lot with two (2) designated accessible spaces. The route from the parking lot was not clearly marked with signs. The side entrance is the accessible entrance and while signs were provided, the monitor noted that they were not clear. There was a doorbell placed to the left of the door but it was not working.

- **ISSUE- This polling precinct is structurally inaccessible to wheelchair riders and it must be relocated.**
- **ISSUE- BOEE must provide doorbells to each precinct and poll workers must ensure that the doorbell is working at all times the polls are open and that they respond.**

50. Smothers Elementary School (4400 Brooks St, NE)- Precinct 98*

In 2006, ULS found this precinct was inaccessible. *See 2006 Report, p. 19.*

In February, 2008 this precinct was operationally inaccessible. There is an accessible entrance at the back of the building but it was not marked and the *door was locked*. Moreover, there are five (5) stairs leading to the main entrance where the doorbell was located. The monitor spoke to the precinct captain about the inaccessible entrance and he said he would unlock the door to the accessible entrance and put up signs. The precinct has no parking lot, but poll workers had designated accessible street parking close to a curb cut. The doorbell was in good working order and the poll workers responded to it. The monitor then saw people with mobility disabilities voting both inside the precinct and curbside.

- **ISSUE- Poll workers must clearly mark the route from the street in front of main entrance to the accessible entrance and to designated parking with signs.**

51. River Terrace Elementary School (420 34th St, NE)- Precinct 101

In 2006, ULS found that there was an issue with signage at this precinct. *See* 2006 Report, p. 19.

In February 2008, the precinct had street parking only and the poll workers designated accessible parking close to the curb cut near the entrance. The main entrance is accessible and the route was accessible and clearly marked. There was a doorbell placed outside by the curb but it was not working because of its placement. The transmitter inside the precinct was too far from the doorbell. Access to the doorbell may have been obstructed by parked cars. The monitor noted that there were a number of people with mobility disabilities voting at this precinct.

- **ISSUE- BOEE must provide doorbells to each precinct and poll workers must ensure that the doorbell is working at all times the polls are open and that they respond.**

52. Ketcham Elementary (1919 15th Street, SE)- Precinct 114*

In 2006, ULS found this precinct operationally inaccessible. *See* 2006 Report, p. 22. This precinct is again operationally inaccessible. In order for voters with mobility disabilities to get to the voting area, they must go through the rear entrance of the building and wait for someone to send an elevator down so they can access it. The voters cannot call the elevator from the ground floor because there are no controls. The elevator is in good working order and the buttons are accessible, the controls are marked with raised or Braille characters and the elevator is big enough to accommodate a wheelchair rider. The doorbell was placed by the accessible door and the poll workers responded. There is only street parking and poll workers designated accessible parking spaces close to the curb cut.

- **ISSUE- This polling precinct is inaccessible to wheelchair riders. The BOEE must make identify a new accessible building and relocate this precinct.**

53. 7th District Police Station (2455 Alabama Avenue, SE)- Precinct 115*

In 2006, ULS found no designated accessible parking at this precinct and doors that were not propped open to allow wheelchair riders to enter. *See* 2006 Report, p. 23.

In February 2008, this precinct was operationally inaccessible. Voters must ring the doorbell for assistance when they approach the front entrance so someone can come and open the doors for them to enter. There is also a gravel walkway that makes the path difficult to navigate for wheelchair users and cane and walker users. The poll workers designated street

parking and there were signs directing voters to the entrance from the street. The voting machines were placed to afford privacy and allowed a five foot turning radius.

- **ISSUE – The poll workers must prop open the doors and ensure they are thirty-two (32) inches wide to allow access by wheelchair riders.**

54. New Image Community Baptist Church (1839 Alabama Avenue, SE)- Precinct 116 *

In 2006, ULS found that this precinct had issues with accessible doorways, designation of accessible parking, proper signage and overuse of curbside voting. *See* 2006 Report, p. 23.

In February 2008, this precinct was found to be operationally inaccessible. Voters must ring the doorbell placed outside the main entrance for assistance when they approach the front entrance so someone can come and open the doors for them to enter. There is a parking lot and the poll workers designated five (5) accessible spaces. There is proper signage directing voters from the parking lot to the entrance. The voting machines were placed to afford privacy and allowed a five foot turning radius.

- **ISSUE – The poll workers must prop open the doors and ensure they are thirty-two (32) inches wide to allow access by wheelchair riders.**

55. Birney Elementary School (2501 Martin Luther King Avenue, SE)- Precinct 119

In 2006, ULS found this precinct had issues with signage. *See* 2006 Report, p. 24.

In February 2008, this precinct had street parking, but there were no designated accessible spaces. The main entrance is accessible and there was proper signage directing voters to the entrance.

- **ISSUE-Poll workers should designate and clearly mark accessible parking spaces near the accessible entrance and along the accessible entrance.**

56. Friendship Baptist Church (900 Delaware Avenue, SW)- Precinct 128

The precinct has a parking lot with four (4) designated accessible spaces. The route from the parking lot to the accessible main entrance was clearly marked and signs directed the voters where to go. There was a doorbell placed in front of the main entrance and poll workers responded to its chime. The voting area was generally accessible except for a lack of the five foot turning radius at the touch screen voting machine. The monitor spoke to the precinct captain about this and the issue was resolved.

- **ISSUE- Poll workers must place the touch screen machines to allow a five foot turning clearance for wheelchair riders to access it.**

57. Martin Luther King Jr. Library (901 G Street, NW)- Precinct 129

The precinct has street parking only and the poll workers had designated accessible parking close to the curb cut. The main entrance is accessible and there was proper signage directing the voters where to go. The voting area was not on the ground floor but the elevator used to transport the voters was in good working order and had Braille characters, audible floor indicators and was big enough to accommodate a wheelchair user. There was no doorbell provided and there were no magnifying glasses in the voting area.

- **ISSUE- BOEE must provide doorbells to each precinct and poll workers must ensure that the doorbell is working at all times the polls are open and that they respond.**

- **ISSUE- Poll workers must have necessary equipment such as magnifying glasses and headsets.**

58. Mt. Bethel Baptist Church (1901 1st Street, NW)- Precinct 135

This precinct has street parking only, but there were no designated accessible spaces. The main entrance is accessible and there was proper signage directing voters to the entrance. There was a doorbell placed outside the main door and poll workers responded to it. There were magnifying glasses available as well as an audio headset. The touch screen machine afforded voter privacy and there was a five foot turn radius at the machine.

- **ISSUE-Poll workers should designate and clearly mark accessible street parking spaces near the accessible entrance and along the accessible entrance.**

59. Thurgood Marshall Elementary School (3100 Ft. Lincoln Drive, NE) Precinct 139

The precinct has a parking lot with two (2) designated accessible parking spaces. The poll workers designated eight (8) more spaces for those who needed them. There is an accessible entrance at the side of the building but there were no signs to direct voters to the accessible entrance. The monitor also noted that there were cars that were double parked which might make it difficult for voters with mobility disabilities to navigate the path to the accessible entrance. The doorbell placed at the front door was responded to by poll workers.

- **ISSUE- Poll workers must clearly mark the route from the street in front of main entrance to the accessible entrance and to designated parking with signs.**

SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS

The accessibility issues that arose during the February 2008 elections were caused by structurally inaccessible precincts, insufficient or inoperable equipment (especially the doorbells) and poll workers that were either not aware of the HAVA requirements or felt no need to comply with the HAVA requirements.

The BOEE must relocate the structurally inaccessible precincts in order to achieve 100% accessibility in the District of Columbia. ULS has brought these precincts to the BOEE's attention repeatedly, but the BOEE has still not designated accessible sites. ULS recommends that if accessible buildings are not available these voting precincts, the BOEE must combine these with other precincts that have accessible buildings to ensure that people with mobility disabilities have the opportunity to enter the precincts and vote privately. The BOEE has authority to do this under the DC Official Code §1-1001.05 (a) (8) which states that the Board may "divide the District into appropriate voting precincts, each of which shall contain at least 350 registered persons; draw precinct lines within election wards created by the Council, subject to the approval of the Council, in whole or in part, by resolution"

- **RECOMMENDATION- Relocate all structurally inaccessible voting precincts**

In 2006, the BOEE provided doorbells to help alert poll workers to voters who need assistance. The doorbells are an ineffective means of affording access into the precinct to allow voting in confidence. Moreover, the doorbells do nothing to remedy operational inaccessibility, and in fact, add to the problem. ULS found that about 27% of the precincts had problems with the doorbells such

as doorbells not provided to precincts, a lack of batteries, improperly placed transmitters, and doorbells that did not work. Some precincts were not provided with doorbells at all. These problems can be rectified by providing batteries in each Election Day Kit, training poll workers about exactly how far the transmitter should be placed from the doorbells to ensure that they work, and testing all of the doorbells prior to Election Day to ensure that they are in good working order. If the doorbell issue cannot be resolved, the BOEE must find another method to alert poll workers to voters who need assistance.

In 2006 ULS and BOEE worked together to create a Polling Place Accessibility Checklist for the precinct captains to use to ensure accessibility.⁴ This checklist was supposed to be used during the inspection that the precinct captains conduct the night before Election Day. The checklist was devised to prevent most of the operational issues encountered. The BOEE claims it has incorporated this checklist into Election Day preparation, yet there are still operationally inaccessible precincts. ULS recommends that precinct captains be required to use the checklist, note any problems on the checklist and report those problems to the BOEE the night before and during Election Day.

- **RECOMMENDATION- Precinct captains are required to use the Polling Place Accessibility Checklist for the inspection on the night before Election Day. Any problems must be noted on the checklist and reported to the BOEE prior to the opening of the polls on Election Day and throughout the election.**

In addition to the inaccessible precincts and the doorbell issue, a blatant disregard for HAVA requirements and the *AAPD* Settlement Agreement is contributing to precinct inaccessibility. Among other issues, the lack of clear sign placement and designation of accessible parking, inadequate turn radius at touch screen machines, and the belief that curbside voting is a substitute for accessible voting precincts, among other issues are all concerns that ULS has raised with the BOEE in previous reports and correspondence and during numerous meetings, but to no avail. BOEE must ensure its poll workers will address the needs of people with disabilities in keeping with HAVA and the Settlement Agreement in *AAPD. v. District of Columbia*. Because the poll workers are not addressing these needs, they are hindering equal access to the polls and discriminating against those with mobility disabilities. ULS recommends that the BOEE increase its oversight and hold precinct captains accountable for maintaining accessible sites throughout the Election Day. The BOEE should replace precinct captains in polling sites with repeated operational issues.

- **RECOMMENDATION- The BOEE increases oversight of the polling precinct captains and replaces any precinct captains with repeated operational issues.**

CONCLUSION

The BOEE has failed to fulfill its commitments under the *AAPD* Settlement Agreement to make all the District's voting precincts accessible by May 2004. Moreover, the BOEE has apparently used its HAVA funding for something other than providing physical access to its precincts for people with disabilities. It is the BOEE's responsibility to make sure all voting precincts in the District of Columbia are accessible for *all* of its residents, not just able-bodied people. The BOEE must address the problems that ULS has repeatedly brought to its attention and ensure that all voters with mobility disabilities have access to the polls to vote independently in confidence. The BOEE must modify the

⁴ See Appendix C.

structurally inaccessible precincts relocate them to accessible locations. The BOEE must resolve the operational issues and hold the precinct captains accountable for all lapses in accessibility. The BOEE must not continue to disenfranchise residents of the District of Columbia based on their disabilities.

APPENDIX A

POLLING PRECINCTS- FEBRUARY 2008

Pct	Polling Place	Address
1	Walker-Jones Elementary School	100 L street, NW
2	George Washington University	600 22 St, NW
4	West End Public Library	1101 24 th St, NW
5	Christ Episcopal Church	1350 31 st St, NW
7	Hardy Recreation Center	4500 Q St, NW
8	Palisades Recreation Center	5200 Sherier PI, NW
9	Metropolitan Memorial United Methodist Church	3401 Nebraska Ave, NW
10	Horace Mann Community Center	4430 Newark St, NW
11	Intl Union of Operating Engineers	2461 Wisconsin Ave, NW
12	St. Sophia's Church	3600 Massachusetts Ave, NW
13	St. Margaret's Episcopal Church	1820 Conn Ave, NW
14	St. Thomas Episcopal Church	1772 Church St, NW
16	15 th St Presbyterian Church	1701 15 th St, NW
17	Metropolitan AME Church	1518 M St, NW
18	Henry C. Gregory Family Life Ctr	1509 9 th St, NW
19	Dunbar S.H.S.	1301 NJ Ave, NW
20	Gage-Eckington School	2025 3 rd St, NW
21	Metropolitan Baptist Church	1225 R St, NW
22	Garnet-Patterson J.H.S.	2001 10 th St, NW
23	MPD Boys and Girls Club	2500 14 th St, NW
24	Marie Reed Learning Ctr	2200 Champlain St, NW
26	Oyster School	2801 Calvert St, NW
27	Eaton School	3301 Lowell St, NW
28	Church of the Annunciation	3810 Massachusetts Ave, NW
29	Second District Police Station	3320 Idaho Ave, NW
30	Janney School	4130 Albemarle St, NW
31	St. Columba's Episcopal Church	4201 Albemarle St, NW
32	Wesley Methodist Church	5312 Conn Ave, NW
33	Murch School	4810 36 St, NW
34	Edmund Burke	2955 Upton St, NW
36	Latin American Youth Ctr	1419 Columbia Rd, NW
37	Meyer School	2501 11 th St, NW

Pct	Polling Place	Address
38	Bruce-Monroe School	3012 Georgia Ave, NW
39	Mt. Pleasant Library	1606 Lamont St, NW
40	Bancroft School	1755 Newton St, NW
41	Trinity AME Zion Church	3505 16 th St, NW
42	Mt. Rona Baptist Church	3431 13 th St, NW
43	Park View Recreation Center	639 Otis Pl, NW
44	Ukrainian Catholic Natl Shrine	4250 Harewood Rd, NE
45	MPD – Regional Operation Command	801 Shepherd St, NW
46	Clark E.S.	4501 Kansas Ave, NW
47	Powell School	1350 Upshur St, NW
48	Sharpe Health School	4300 13 th St, NW
49	Raymond School	915 Spring Rd, NW
50	Chevy Chase Community Ctr	5601 Conn Ave, NW
51	Lafayette School	5701 Broad Branch Rd, NW
52	St. John's College H.S.	2607 Military Rd, NW
53	Brightwood E.S.	1300 Nicholson St, NW
54	West E.S.	1338 Farragut St, NW
55	Barnard E.S.	430 Decatur St, NW
56	Truesdell E.S.	800 Ingraham St, NW
57	Rudolph E.S.	5200 2 nd St, NW
58	4 th Dist Police Station	6001 Georgia Ave, NW
59	Coolidge S.H.S.	6315 5 th St, NW
60	Nativity Youth Ctr	6000 Georgia Ave, NW
62	Shepherd E.S.	7800 14 th St, NW
64	Rabaut Admin Bldg	100 Peabody St, NW
65	LaSalle E.S.	501 Riggs Rd, NE
66	Backus M.S.	5171 South Dakota Ave, NE
67	Bunker Hill E.S.	1401 Michigan Ave, NE
68	St. Francis Hall	1340 Quincy St, NE
69	Taft School	1800 Perry St, NE
70	Burroughs E.S.	1820 Monroe St, NE
72	Langdon Park Recreation Center	2901 20 th St, NE
74	Shaed E.S.	301 Douglas St, NE
75	McKinley Technology High School	151 T Street, NE
76	Bethesda Baptist Church	1808 Capitol Ave, NE
77	Delta Towers Apartments	1400 Florida Ave, NE
78	Ruth K. Webb E.S.	1375 Mt. Olivet Rd, NE
80	St. Benedict the Moor Church	320 21 st St, NE
82	Sherwood Rec Ctr	640 10 th St, NE
83	J.O. Wilson E.S.	660 K St, NE
84	Stuart-Hobson M.S.	410 E St, NE
85	Specialty Hospital	700 Constitution Ave, NE
88	St. Monica's Episcopal Church	1340 Mass Ave, SE

Pct	Polling Place	Address
89	Hine J.H.S.	335 8 th St, SE
90	Tyler E.S.	1001 G St, SE
96	Hughes Mem United Meth Church	25 53 rd St, NE
97	Peace Lutheran Church	15 49 th Pl, NE
98	Smothers E.S.	4400 Brooks St, NE
101	River Terrace E.S.	420 34 th St, NE
102	Marshall Hgts Comm Devt Ctr	3939 Benning Rd, NE
107	Our Lady Queen of Peace	3740 Ely Pl, SE
110	St. Timothy's Episcopal Church	3601 Alabama Ave, SE
111	St. Francis Xavier Church	2806 Pennsylvania Ave, SE
113	Senior Wellness Ctr	3001 Alabama Ave, SE
114	Ketcham E.S.	1919 15 th St, SE
115	7 th Dist Police Station	2455 Alabama Ave, SE
116	New Image Comm Baptist Church	1839 Alabama Ave, SE
117	Turner E.S.	3264 Stanton Rd, SE
118	Garnet C. Wilkinson E.S.	2330 Pomeroy Rd, SE
119	Birney E.S.	2501 MLK Jr Ave, SE
127	King Greenleaf Rec Ctr	201 N St, SW
128	Friendship Baptist Church	900 Delaware Ave, SW
129	Martin Luther King Library	901 G St, NW
132	DC Ctr for Therapeutic Rec	3030 G St, SE
133	Orr School	2200 Minnesota Ave, SE
134	Allen AME Church	2498 Alabama Ave, SE
135	Mt. Bethel Baptist Church	1901 1 st St, NW
136	Amer Assn of Homes/Svcs for Aging	2519 Conn Ave, NW
137	Garrison E.S.	1200 S St, NW
138	Capitol Mem Adventist Church	3150 Chesapeake St, NW
139	Thurgood Marshall E.S.	3100 Ft Lincoln Dr, NE
140	Anacostia S.H.S.	1601 16 th St, SE
141	Frank D. Reeves Municipal Center	2000 14 th St, NW

APPENDIX B

FULL ACCESSIBLE PRECINCTS

- Christ Episcopal Church (1350 31st Street, NW)- Precinct 5
- Hardy Recreation Center (4500 Q Street, NW)- Precinct 7
- Horace Mann Community Center (4430 Newark Street, NW) Precinct 10
- International Union of Operating Engineers (2461 Wisconsin Avenue, NW)- Precinct 11
- Metropolitan Baptist Church (1225 R Street, NW)- Precinct 21
- Garnett Patterson Junior High School (2001 10th Street, NW)- Precinct 22
- John Eaton School (3301 Lowell Street, NW)- Precinct 27
- Church of the Annunciation (3810 Massachusetts Avenue, NW)- Precinct 28
- Second District Police Station (3320 Idaho Avenue, NW)- Precinct 29
- Bancroft School (1755 Newton Street, NW)- Precinct 40
- Trinity AME Zion Church (3505 16th Street, NW)- Precinct 41
- Mt. Rona Baptist Church (3431 13th Street, NW)- Precinct 42
- Park View Recreation Center (639 Otis Place, NW)- Precinct 43
- Clark Elementary School (4501 Kansas Street, NW)- Precinct 46
- Powell Elementary School (1350 Upshur Street, NW)- Precinct 47
- Sharpe Health School (4300 13th Street, NW)- Precinct 48
- Raymond School (915 Spring Road, NW)- Precinct 49
- Chevy Chase Community Center (5601 Connecticut Avenue, NW)- Precinct 50
- Rudolph Elementary (5200 2nd Street, NW)- Precinct 57
- St. Francis Hall (1340 Quincy Street, NE)- Precinct 68
- Burroughs Elementary School (1820 Monroe Street, NE)- Precinct 70
- Shaed Elementary School (301 Douglas Street, NE)- Precinct 74
- Bethesda Baptist Church (1808 Capitol Street, NE)- Precinct 76
- St. Benedict the Moor Church (320 21st Street, NE)- Precinct 80
- Hine Junior High School (335 8th Street, SE)- Precinct 89
- Hughes United Methodist Church (25 53rd Street, ne)- Precinct 96
- Peace Lutheran Church (15 49th Place, NE)- Precinct 97
- Marshall Heights Community Development Center (3939 Benning Road, NE)- Precinct 102
- Our Lady Queen of Peace (3740 Ely Place, SE)- Precinct 107
- St. Timothy's Episcopal Church (3601 Alabama Avenue, SE)- Precinct 110
- St. Francis Xavier Church (2806 Pennsylvania Avenue, se)- Precinct 111
- Senior Wellness Center (3001 Alabama Avenue, SE)- Precinct 113
- Turner Elementary (3264 Stanton Road, SE)- Precinct 117
- Garnet Elementary (2330 Pomeroy Road, SE)- Precinct 118
- King Greenleaf Rec Center (701 N Street, SW)- Precinct 127
- DC Center for Therapeutic Rec (3130 G Street, SE)- Precinct 132
- Benjamin Orr School (2200 Minnesota Avenue, SE)- Precinct 133

- Allen Chapel AME Church (2498 Alabama Avenue, SE)- Precinct 134
- American Association of Homes/Services for the Aging (2519 Connecticut Avenue, NW)- Precinct 136
- Garrison Elementary (1200 S Street, NW)- Precinct 137
- Capital Memorial Adventist Church (3150 Chesapeake Street, NW)- Precinct 138
- Anacostia High School (1601 16th Street, SE)- Precinct 140
- Frank D. Reeves Community Center (2000 14th Street, NW)- Precinct 141

STRUCTURALLY INACCESSIBLE PRECINCTS

- George Washington University (600 22nd Street, NW)- Precinct 2
- West End Public Library (1101 24th St, NW)- Precinct 4
- MPD Boys and Girls Club (2500 14th Street, NW)- Precinct 23
- Wesley United Methodist Church (5312 Connecticut Avenue, NW)- Precinct 32
- MPD-Regional Operation Command (801 Shepherd St, NW)- Precinct 45
- Rabaut Junior High (100 Peabody St, NW)- Precinct 64
- LaSalle Elementary School (501 Riggs Road, NE)- Precinct 65
- Taft School (1800 Perry Street, NE)- Precinct 69
- St. Monica's Episcopal Church (1340 Massachusetts Avenue, SE)- Precinct 88
- Tyler Elementary School (1001 G St, SE)-Precinct 90

OPERATIONALLY INACCESSIBLE PRECINCTS

- Metropolitan Memorial United Methodist Church (3401 Nebraska Avenue NW) - Precinct 9
- 4th District Police Station (6001 Georgia Avenue, NW)- Precinct 58
- Bunker Hill Elementary School- (1401 Michigan Avenue, NE)- Precinct 67
- Ketcham Elementary (1919 15th Street, SE)- Precinct 114
- 7th District Police Station (2455 Alabama Avenue, SE)- Precinct 115
- New Image Community Baptist Church (1839 Alabama Avenue, SE)- Precinct 116

PRECINCTS WITH AN INACCESSIBLE ROUTE

- St. Margaret's Episcopal Church (1820 Connecticut Avenue, NW)- Precinct 13
- Shiloh Baptist Church (1509 9th Street)- Precinct 18
- Gage-Eckington School (2025 3rd Street)- Precinct 20
- MPD Boys & Girls Club (2500 14th Street)- Precinct 23
- St. Columba's Episcopal Church (4201 Albemarle Street, NW)- Precinct 31⁵
- Oyster Elementary School (2801 Calvert Street, NW)- Precinct 26

PRECINCTS WITH DOORS THAT WERE NOT WIDE ENOUGH OR NOT PROPPED OPEN

- St. Margaret's Episcopal Church (1820 Connecticut Avenue, NW)- Precinct 13
- MPD Boys and Girls Club (2500 14th Street, NW)- Precinct 23
- Janney School (4130 Albemarle St, NW)-Precinct 30

⁵ The inaccessibility was corrected at the monitor's request.

- Edmund Burke School (2955 Upton St, NW)- Precinct 34
- 7th District Police Station (2455 Alabama Avenue, SE)- Precinct 115
- New Image Community Baptist Church (1839 Alabama Avenue, SE) Precinct 116

PRECINCTS WITH INACCESSIBLE ELEVATORS

- West End Public Library (1101 24th Street, NW)- Precinct 4
- St. Columba’s Episcopal Church (4201 Albemarle Street, NW) Precinct 31
- Wesley Methodist Church (5312 Connecticut Avenue, NW)- Precinct 32
- Ketcham Elementary School (1919 15th Street, SE)- Precinct 114

PRECINCTS WITH NO SIGNAGE OR SIGNS THAT WERE POSTED IMPROPERLY

- Dunbar Senior High School (1301 New Jersey Avenue, NW)- Precinct 19
- Oyster Elementary School (2801 Calvert Street, NW)- Precinct 26
- Janney School (4130 Albemarle St, NW)-Precinct 30
- Lafayette School (5701 Broad Branch Rd, NW)- Precinct 51
- Brightwood Elementary School (1300 Nicholson St, NW)- Precinct 53
- Coolidge Senior High (6315 5th Street, NW)- Precinct 59
- Sherwood Recreation Center (640 10th St, NE)- Precinct 82
- J.O. Wilson Elementary School (660 K St, NE)- Precinct 83
- Thurgood Marshall Elementary School (3100 Ft. Lincoln Drive, NE) Precinct 139

PRECINCTS WITH NO DESIGNATED ACCESSIBLE PARKING

- St. Thomas Episcopal Church (1772 Church Street, NW) – Precinct 14
- Dunbar Senior High School (1301 New Jersey Avenue, NW)- Precinct 19
- Gage –Eckington School (2025 3rd Street, NW)- Precinct 20
- Marie Reed Learning Center (2200 Champlain Street, NW) Precinct 24
- Oyster Elementary School (2801 Calvert Street, NW)- Precinct 26
- Janney School (4130 Albemarle St, NW)-Precinct 30
- Ukrainian Catholic National Shrine (4250 Harewood Rd, NE)- Precinct 44
- Brightwood Elementary School (1300 Nicholson St, NW)- Precinct 53
- West Elementary (1338 Farragut Street, NW)- Precinct 54
- Coolidge Senior High (6315 5th Street, NW)- Precinct 59
- Delta Towers Apartments (1400 Florida Avenue, NE)-Precinct 77
- Stuart Hobson Middle School (410 E St, NE)- Precinct 84
- Birney Elementary School (2501 Martin Luther King Avenue, SE)Precinct 119
- Mt. Bethel Baptist Church (1901 1st Street, NW)- Precinct135

PRECINCTS WITH NO DOORBELL, A DOORBELL THAT DID NOT WORK OR WHERE THE POLL WORKER WAS UNRESPONSIVE TO THE DOORBELL

- Walker Jones Elementary School (100 L Street, NW)- Precinct 1
- Palisades Recreation Center (5200 Sherier Place, NW)- Precinct 8

- St. Sophia’s Church (3600 Massachusetts Avenue, NW)- Precinct 12
- Shiloh Baptist Church (1509 9th St)- Precinct 18
- Dunbar Senior High School (1301 New Jersey Avenue, NW)- Precinct 19
- Murch Elementary School (4810 36th St, NW) –Precinct 33
- Meyer School (2501 11th St, NW)- Precinct 37
- Bruce Monroe School (3012 Georgia Avenue, NW)- Precinct 38
- Mt. Pleasant Library (1606 Lamont Street, NW)- Precinct 39
- Ukrainian Catholic National Shrine (4250 Harewood Rd, NE)- Precinct 44
- St. John’s College High School (2607 Military Rd, NW)- Precinct 52
- Brightwood Elementary School (1300 Nicholson St, NW)- Precinct 53
- Truesdell Elementary School (800 Ingraham St, NW)- Precinct 56
- Coolidge Senior High (6315 5th Street, NW)- Precinct 59
- Shepherd Elementary School (7800 14th Street, NW)- Precinct 62
- McKinley Technical High School (151 T St, NE)- Precinct 75
- J.O. Wilson Elementary School (660 K St, NE)- Precinct 83
- Medlink (700 Constitution Ave, NE)- Precinct 85
- River Terrace Elementary School (420 34th St, NE)- Precinct 101
- Martin Luther King Jr. Library (901 G Street, NW)- Precinct 129

PRECINCTS WHERE THE POLL WORKER DID NOT KNOW HOW TO OPERATE THE TOUCH SCREEN VOTING MACHINE

- Sherwood Recreation Center (640 10th St, NE)- Precinct 82
- Delta Towers Apartments (1400 Florida Avenue, NE)-Precinct 77

PRECINCTS THAT DID NOT HAVE MAGNIFYING GLASSES OR AUDIO HEADSETS TO FACILITATE VOTING

- Martin Luther King Jr. Library (901 G Street, NW)- Precinct 129
- Stuart Hobson Middle School (410 E St, NE)- Precinct 84
- Langdon Park Recreation Center (2901 20th Street, NE)- Precinct 72
- Backus Middle School (5171 South Dakota Avenue, NE)- Precinct 66
- Nativity Youth Center (6000 Georgia Avenue, NW)- Precinct 60
- Barnard Elementary School (430 Decatur Street, NW)- Precinct 55
- Mt. Pleasant Library (1606 Lamont Street, NW)- Precinct 39

PRECINCTS THAT DID NOT HAVE VOTING MACHINES TURNED FOR VOTER PRIVACY AND/OR A FIVE FOOT TURNING RADIUS

- Friendship Baptist Church (900 Delaware Avenue, SW)- Precinct 128
- Sherwood Recreation Center (640 10th St, NE)- Precinct 82
- Oyster Elementary School (2801 Calvert Street, NW)- Precinct 26
- St. Sophia’s Church (3600 Massachusetts Avenue, NW)- Precinct 12

APPENDIX C

Polling Place Accessibility Checklist

- If your polling place has street parking, post “Accessible Parking” sign as close to the “curb cut” (a curb cut is the little ramp that allows wheelchairs to roll from the street to the sidewalk)
- If your polling place has a parking lot, check to make sure there is handicapped parking available. There should be signs indicating which spaces are handicapped spaces.
- For “curbside voting,” post “Accessible Parking” sign close to the entrance.
- Post “Alternative Voter Entrance” signs to guide voters to the accessible entrance and from the entrance to the voting place. Make sure signs are at a height where a person in a wheelchair will see them.
- Walk the path from the accessible parking space, either on the street or in the parking lot (if there is one) all the way to the accessible voting machine. Check for any obstructions that might make it difficult for someone in a wheel chair to navigate this path.
- If there are mats along the pathway to the accessible entrance or to the accessible voting machine, secure them with grey duct tape provided in the supply box.
- Test the doorbell to make sure it is working properly and can be accessed and used by wheelchair riders to gain entry into the polling station. Make sure that the doorbell is placed immediately outside the door or outdoors on an accessible path. Monitor the doorbell throughout the day to ensure it is working and can be heard inside the building.
- Check to make sure magnifying glasses are available at the voting demonstration table and the check-in table and the audio headset is available at the touch-screen voting machine.

Signature
Voting Demonstration Clerk

Signature
Precinct Captain