

**Law and Society Association
Disabled Access Information for Meeting Attendees
Hotel and Transportation**

For the meeting in Pittsburgh, LSA has attempted to gather specific information about access and barriers to persons with disabilities. We submitted a questionnaire to the Omni William Penn Hotel. The questionnaire is used by other associations to assess their meeting facilities, and was suggested by LSA's committee on Accessibility. We then asked a Pittsburgh consulting group, Accessibility Development Associates, Inc. (ADA, Inc.), to review the hotel's responses and to visit the site to confirm or correct the information. ADA, Inc. suggests that attendees contact the hotel directly if they need further specific information to meet their own particular accessibility needs. The William Penn also makes this same recommendation.

LSA is also gathering accessibility information to include with the program materials distributed at the meeting.

THE OMNI WILLIAM PENN HOTEL:

(H) designates information provided by the hotel

(C) designates information provided by consultants (ADA, Inc.)

[Note: "*ADA*" in italics indicates *Americans with Disabilities Act.*]

Entrances (including number and location of wheelchair accessible entrances and whether or not the doors include electronic eyes or push-pads).

(H) We have (1) wheelchair accessible entrance on Oliver Avenue which is equipped with an automatic door with electronic eye and push button.

(C) Accurate. There is directional signage at the other entrances directing to the Oliver Street entrance as the accessible entrance.

Lobby and common areas (please indicate whether the type of flooring or floor covering and any obstacles or barriers persons with disabilities might encounter).

(H) The lobby has carpeting and marble floors. The common areas on our guest room floors are carpeted. There is just the normal seating areas in the main lobby and accessible ramps from the lobby for the Terrace Room and Starbucks.

The lobby desk does not have a lowered counter section. The desk agent will come around the desk.

(C) Accurate

Elevators (include information on number and locations; whether control panels and floor signs are in Braille; and whether keys or assistance are required to access the elevators or certain floors)

(H) We have a total of 10 passenger elevators - All are equipped with *ADA* control panels and hall buttons. (2) Freight elevators are also equipped with *ADA* control panels and hall buttons.

(C) Elevators are fine.

Restrooms (include the number and location of restrooms that are accessible-meaning fully *ADA* compliant in the US).

(H) William Penn Level - (1) ladies restroom and (1) men's restroom

(C) All of the rest rooms are located on the level above the William Penn Ballroom which are accessed via the stairs and/or the mini elevator, which is attendant/key operated. [photo 104]

(H) Lobby Level - (1) ladies restroom and (1) men's restroom

(C) The rest rooms at the Lobby Level are actually a half level below. They are accessed via steps, as well as a mechanical, key/attendant operated platform lift [photos 95, 98]. The rest rooms provide for accessibility including 1 standard accessible stall and 1 alternate stall, as well as lavatory, dispensers and doors.

(H) 4th & 5th floors - (1) Unisex restroom

(C) These toilet rooms have the following non accessible elements:
1) Door opening weight; 2) Lack of space at toilet to transfer; 3) Placement of soap dispenser [photos 76, 89]

(H) 17th floor - (1) ladies restroom and (1) men's restroom

(C) The 17th floor bathrooms provide for accessibility, including 1 standard accessible stall and 1 alternate stall, as well as lavatory, dispensers and doors.

Guest Rooms (include the number and types of accessible rooms, detailed information about the accommodations available, and the accommodations that must be requested in advance).

(H) We have a total of (12) wheelchair accessible rooms. (8) dbl/dbl and (3) queens.

(3) rooms have roll-in showers, (1) room has a tub with a shower bench. The remaining rooms have bars in the shower/tub and rails near the commode. All rooms have an accessible peephole. Guests must be specific with their requests when making their reservation.

(C) ADA, Inc. visited the following rooms:

903 double/double with roll in shower [photos 13, 22, 25]

803 double with roll in shower [photo 33]

632 double with tub [photos 43, 45, 46]

633 double with tub

The photos provide a visual of the bathrooms. ADA, Inc. recommends that attendees contact the hotel directly to discuss particular needs. These might include asking the hotel to move and/or remove furniture to provide more maneuvering space within the guest room.

Rooms 632 and 633 are rooms with bathtubs. The tubs have grab bars within them (see photos). Hotel housekeeping will provide portable bath chairs upon request.

The following is a list (not to be construed as an assessment of *ADA* compliance) of items within guest rooms (632 and 633) that are *not* accessible:

- Lack of maneuvering clearance at door to exit
- Furniture limits wheelchair access in sleeping area
- Bathrooms
 - Clear opening width of door
 - Threshold at door
 - Door hardware
 - Toilet grab bars
 - No hand held shower unit

It was reported that room 1103 has a bath bench installed in the tub. However, ADA, Inc. was not able to see that room as a guest was occupying it.

Meeting Rooms (include information on which meeting rooms are wheelchair accessible; the number of wheelchairs a room can accommodate; which rooms do or do not accommodate speakers who have mobility impairments; which rooms offer assistive listening devices). Note: Panels will be held on the Conference Level, William Penn Level, and 17th Floor

(H) All of our meeting rooms are wheelchair accessible - the number of wheelchairs you could accommodate in each room would depend on room set up. Assistive listening devices can be arranged through our in-house audio visual company - Presentation Services.

(C) The Conference Level provides for accessible break out rooms. It was recommended to the hotel that when the rooms are set up (primarily theatre style) that a clear aisle at least 36" wide be made. [Note: William Penn Ballroom is wheelchair accessible via the mini elevator, which is attendant/key operated.]

The Mezzanine level provides limited access (via upper elevator bank only).

Phones (include the number and locations of wheelchair accessible phones, phones with adjustable volume, and phones with TDD devices)

(H) All telephones in the lobby and guest rooms are accessible. TDD devices are available upon request.

(C) There is a bank of telephones on the 17th floor that include lowered shelves. All

phones have volume control. There are no TDD's available at the payphones but the hotel reports they will make them available.

Signage (include the extent to which your facility provides signage indicating wheelchair accessible routes and facilities and Braille signage)

(H) The room numbers outside each guest room are in Braille. There is not any signage indicating wheelchair accessible routes - except on Grant Street - Sign states the wheelchair accessible entrance is located on Oliver Avenue.

(C) Notes that there are no specific requirements under the *ADA* for signage indicating interior wheelchair accessible routes.

Sidewalks (include information about the surfaces and slopes of the sidewalks around or near your facility; the locations of curb ramps; and whether the nearby corners and cross-walks include audio cues for the visually impaired)

(H) All corners of the hotel are equipped with wheelchair ramps. Small grade slope located at the wheelchair accessible entrance on Oliver Avenue.

(C) There are curb ramps at each of the corners surrounding the hotel. The exterior path of travel (sidewalks and curb ramps) may not be part of the William Penn - they may be City property and as such, the City of Pittsburgh is responsible.

Restaurants (include the number and locations of those that are wheelchair accessible and those that provide menus in alternative formats)

(H) The Terrace and Palm Court are located in the main lobby - and are accessible by ramp.

Starbucks is located off the main lobby and is also accessible by ramp.

The Tap Room & Brueggers Bagels is accessible on Grant Street.

The hotel also offers 24 hour room service.

Menus are available in Braille for lunch and dinner in the Terrace & Tap room.

(C) Accurate. The entrance(s) at Grant Street are accessible, but only provide an accessible interior path of travel to that particular lobby, from where the Tap Room can be entered. The Brueggers' entrance is the same. Brueggers' also has an accessible exterior entrance from Grant Street.

Fitness, Recreation or Business Facilities (include detailed information on the accessibility of the facilities available to guests, including pools, saunas, hot tubs, sports equipment, spas, child care facilities or computing facilities)

(H) 24 Hour Fitness Center - Located on the Conference Level, equipped with (3) treadmills, (2) stairmasters, free weights. A "Get Fit Kit" for use in one's own room is available by request at the front desk. It includes an exercise mat, weights, bottled water

and towel.

(C) Equipment in the Fitness Center not accessible; there are no navigable travel paths. The "Get Fit Kit" is an excellent alternative. [photos 108,109]

(H) Business Center - Located on the Conference Level; Open: Mon-Fri, 7:00am-5:30pm; it provides copy and fax services, and has a wheelchair accessible computer workstation.

(C) The Center is accessible and services are provided by staff.

(H) Child Care - the hotel does not conduct a child care program.

(LSA) will offer a child care program Thursday - Sunday, run by an outside agency, held in a hotel suite.

Parking (include the cost, location, and number of accessible parking spaces available, including van accessible parking spaces)

Note: The hotel does not have its own garage. Information provided by the Mellon Square Garage, located directly across the street from the hotel on William Penn Way.

There are two accessible parking spaces on each floor next to the elevators (5 floors). Floor 2 is van accessible; the maximum van height is 6' which does not accommodate large, raised roof vans, although mini vans (equipped with ramps or lifts) can be parked there.

Current Rates: Self Parking \$11.00/day No In/Out Privileges

Valet Parking - \$22.00/day - Includes In/Out Privileges

TRANSPORTATION SERVICE TO/FROM THE AIRPORT & AROUND THE CITY:

From the Airport:

Express Shuttle offers service directly to the William Penn and downtown locations.

Persons needing wheelchair accessible transportation should call the dispatcher in advance with their flight information, 412-472-3180 or 412 321-4990 to ensure an accessible van. For the LSA meeting attendees who present the special offer coupon, there is a discount \$2 off the regular \$16 one-way or \$30 round-trip fares [see link to coupon]. The shuttle departs hourly from the Airport to the William Penn from 7:00 am to 11:30 pm weekdays and Sunday; and 8:00 am to 5:00 pm on Sunday. "EXPRESS SHUTTLE" identifies their ticket counter, centrally located on the Commercial Side of the Baggage claim area (lower level). Departures are on the same level as the baggage claim area. Exit the Airport through a door located next to ticket counter. Busses board directly outside along the curb, no streets to cross. The return schedule from the William Penn to the Airport is hourly from 6:00 am to 9:00 pm, weekdays and Sunday; and on Saturday, hourly from 6:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Pittsburgh Port Authority Transit Bus Service

The Route 28X (Airport Flyer) bus is a regular city bus that goes between the airport and downtown Pittsburgh and Oakland. **The Airport Flyer busses on this route are wheelchair accessible.** Buses leave the airport seven days a week approximately every 20 minutes and the trip to downtown takes approximately 45 minutes. One-way fare from the airport to/from downtown is \$2.25 for adults and \$1.10 for children and people with disabilities. The nearest bus stop on this route to the William Penn is 7th Avenue and William Penn Place. The main entrance of the hotel is at 6th Avenue and William Penn Place, a longish city block up William Penn Place from the bus stop. The wheelchair accessible entrance of the hotel is the Oliver Avenue entrance. To reach the Oliver Avenue entrance from the bus stop, go past the hotel, turn onto Oliver Avenue and proceed. The Route 28X bus also serves many other locations such as Oakland, U. of Pittsburgh, Duquesne U. and Carnegie Mellon U. For schedules and other stops, check the Port Authority website at www.portauthority.org.

Private Taxi

Public transport and taxis can be found on the baggage claim level of the Landside Terminal. Taxis are Checker Cab (413-381-5600, does not have wheelchair accessible vehicles) and Yellow Cab Co. of Pittsburgh (412-665-8100) which has some wheelchair accessible cabs, although they do not assure that one will be available. They do not take advance reservations and their drivers are independent contractors. If you want a wheelchair accessible cab, you need to call them and they will check to see if one is available.

Paratransit Service:

ACCESS Transportation Systems, Inc.

650 Smithfield Street

Centre City Tower, Suite 440

Pittsburgh, PA 15222-3914

Office Hours 8:00am to 4:30pm Monday through Friday

Phone Numbers (412) 562-5353 or TDD relay 1-800-654-5984

If you are interested in using this service, **you must contact Anna Captain at the above phone number one month in advance** and fill out an out of town visitors application. She will send out a whole packet of information and schedule rides for you.

ACCESS is door-to-door, advance reservation, shared ride transportation which is provided throughout Allegheny County and serves primarily senior citizens and persons with disabilities. Service is provided from 6:00 a.m. to midnight, seven days a week, and at such other times and places that the fixed route transit service is in operation. There are no restrictions on the purpose or number of trips which may be taken by riders, except that riders are required to share their vehicle with other riders who are traveling in the same direction and at the same time.

ADA Eligibility Requirements for use of ACCESS: Disability alone does not create eligibility; the decision is based on the applicant's functional ability to use the bus and is not a medical decision. At the same time, unavailability of fixed route service does not constitute eligibility.

OTHER SOURCES OF INFORMATION

General Accessibility Resource:

Three Rivers Center for Independent Living
Cindy Williams, information specialist
412-371-7700 x 136 (M, W, Th)

Port Authority of Allegheny County

2235 Beaver Avenue
Pittsburgh 15233
tel: 412-422-2000
fax: 412-237-7101
TTY: 412-231-7007

KEY to PHOTOS of SELECTED FACILITIES at WILLIAM PENN HOTEL

Guest Rooms Reported to be accessible by Omni Hotel

Photo #	Location	Description
	Guest room 903	double/double with roll in shower
# 13		roll-in shower
# 22		sink
# 25		toilet
	Guest room 803	double with roll in shower
# 33		roll-in shower and toilet
	Guest room 632	double with bathtub
# 43		tub in bathroom
# 45		toilet and tubs
# 46		toilet

Common Areas

(Men's Rooms provided similar elements to Ladies')

# 61, 64	17th Floor	Ladies Room Standard Stall
# 65	17th Floor	Ladies Room Alternate Stall
#76	4th Floor	Toilet Room
#89	4th Floor	Toilet Room signage
	5th Floor	Toilet Room is similar to 4th Floor
#95, #98	Lobby	Mechanical Lift to access lower level accessible rest rooms (key/attendant operated)
#104	Wm. Penn Level	mini elevator used to access William Penn Ballroom (attendant operated)