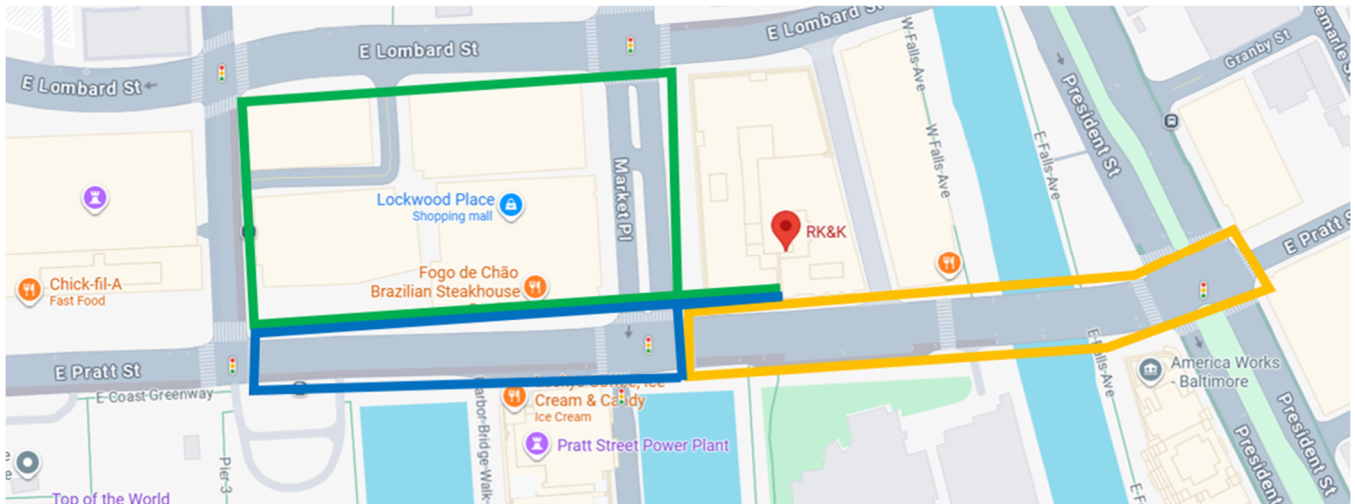


An ADA Immersive Experience For Transportation Practitioners

The purpose of this program is to connect able bodied members of the ITE community with persons with disabilities, offer ITE participants a greater appreciation for the challenges some users face daily, and the importance of ADA-compliant designs which cater to the abilities of everyone.

Our hope is that participants in this program will leave the experience with a renewed and sincere sensitivity to the needs of all users as we work to create more inclusive and equitable facilities.



Agenda

1:00 PM – 1:30 PM Introductions

1:30 PM – 2:00 PM Opening Discussion

- Panelist volunteers will offer their perspective of any challenges interacting with daily travel.
- Background on ADA, PROWAG, etc. and the limitations of each.

2:00 PM – 3:00 PM Immersive Experience

- Panelist volunteers will navigate the route with participants and will offer their perspectives of any challenges they faced along the route.
- Participants are encouraged to take notes and ask questions.

3:00 PM – 4:00 PM Panel discussion

- How do we translate experience to “paper” when designing?
- Discuss challenges experienced during the tour:
 - How to overcome them?
 - How to design better?
- How does the experience differ for people with different abilities?

Common Non-ADA-Compliant Design Features to Observe

For Sidewalks:

Cross-slope
Passing areas and continuous widths
Clearance from vertical and horizontal obstructions
Vertical surface discontinuities
Surfaces – stable, slip resistant, etc.
Presence of Buffer Zone and/or Frontage Zone

Access Ramps

Cross-slope and running slope
Proximity to signal equipment / reach distances
Level landing zones / turning spaces
Detectable warning devices
Surfaces: stable, slip resistant, etc.
Crossing distance and alignment
Clearance from vertical and horizontal obstructions
Drainage obstructions or ponding of water

Amenities & Accessibility

Restrooms: available before and after the walk
Walking distance: just over half a mile, mostly flat terrain

Additional Resources

Montgomery County ADA Compliance Officer:

Mathew Barkley
240-777-6197

City of Baltimore – Chief ADA Compliance Officer

Valorie LaCour
Valorie.lacour@baltimorecity.gov
443-202-5446 (Office)

Maryland Department of Disabilities – Director of Transportation Policy & Programs:

Bong Delrosario
217 East Redwood Street, Ste. 1300
Baltimore, MD 21202
Email – bong.delrosario@maryland.gov
410-767-3649 (Office)
443-935-8252 (Mobile)

MDOT SHA ADA Coordinator:

John Vranish
Email – JVranish@mdot.maryland.gov
410-545-8778

Center for Mobility Equity:

<https://www.mobilityequity.org/>

ADA AG:

<https://www.access-board.gov/ada/>

United Spinal Association:

<https://unitedspinal.org/disability-etiquette/>

Easterseals (Travel Trainers):

<https://www.projectaction.com/>

<https://www.easterseals.com/programs-and-services/transportation.html>

Volunteers for Medical Engineering:

<https://imagemd.org/services/medical-engineering/>

The Image Center for People with Disabilities:

<https://imagemd.org/>

410-982-6311

A special “Thank You” to our contributing partners and volunteer panelists.



Ann Deschamps, Ed.D. (Director) – Mid-Atlantic ADA Center

Ann is Director of the Mid-Atlantic ADA Center, a project of TransCen Inc., whose mission is meaningful work and community inclusion of people with disabilities. The Mid-Atlantic ADA Center provides training and technical assistance on the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) to the Mid-Atlantic region. She has a long history of consulting with school systems and others on best practices in transition and employment for youths with disabilities. Her 32-year career has focused on full implementation of the ADA and successful school-to-work transition for youths with disabilities.



Teara Winmond (Executive Director) – The IMAGE Center for People with Disabilities

Teara Winmond is currently the Executive Director of the IMAGE Center of Maryland. She joined the IMAGE Center in September 2024. Teara’s focus is on expanding awareness of the mission of Centers for Independent living in Maryland and finding additional funding streams to grow the capacity of the organization. Her unique experience in corporate, non-profit and government agencies allow her to take innovative approaches that encourage inclusion in the workplace. Teara has a unique professional background in the disabilities field. Her experience includes employment with several disability service provider agencies working with adults and youth and working with government regulatory agencies funding disability services, namely the Maryland Department of Labor Licensing and Regulations (DLLR) and the Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) and several Developmental Disability Agencies. Her skills include executive leadership, policy development and implementation, technical support, public speaking, human resources, program management and staff development. Additionally, Teara has experience working in the mental health arena and in corporate America managing effective marketing campaigns that provided education, awareness, partnerships and a community presence.

Additionally, Teara has experience working in the mental health arena and in corporate America managing effective marketing campaigns that provided education, awareness, partnerships and a community presence. A strong background in mental health and disability has taught Teara the art of meeting people where they are and working together for a common goal, allowing her to combine frequently used corporate ideals with the more personal touch of the human services industry.

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