

My experience and suggestions since having to use a walker the last couple of months.

Need emergency exit and power outage plan for getting out of the courthouse or down from the upper floors for anyone requiring any kind of assistance as a walking device, wheelchair or crutches who may not be able to maneuver the outside steps. I personally would have a problem trying to get down from any other floor inside the courthouse also.

The exterior door of the elevator room is very heavy making it difficult coming into and exiting the building with any assisted walking device or wheelchair. Is it possible to have a push button added to make the exterior door open automatically when needed? It doesn't need to open every time someone passes by, so, maybe a push button would work best. My personal issue is I risk falling when not keeping both hands on my walker. I currently pull the door open with one hand, get my shoulder against it to push it open wide enough to get the walker in through the door all while trying not to trip over the walker as I am currently limited in maneuvering one foot and leg. I'm not sure how anyone in a manual wheelchair could possibly handle that door as it is now.

Add a covered awning outside at the exterior elevator room door and sidewalk to help during inclement weather.

Add additional handicap parking places. I've seen on multiple occasions when someone parks in the two spaces available on the west side and they're not doing business in the courthouse. If a courthouse employee uses one of the two handicap spaces, then that space could be taken all day.

The sidewalk on the West side of the courthouse is too narrow. Most vehicles are pulled up to the curb which takes away part of the sidewalk. My personal situation makes it difficult to push my walker in the grass. I look for other places to park but sometimes a West side spot may be all that's available.

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