



# Access. Insider

Brought to you by: Access.Architectural, LLC



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## Let Access.Architectural Assist You:

- Commercial Accessibility Evaluations.
- Accessible Home Evaluations, Design, and Remodeling.
- Strategic Accessibility and Transition Plans.
- Accessibility Presentations and Training Seminars.

## The New ADA is Law

After a six-year wait, the new Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) has become the law of the land. Facilities now have 18 months to comply with the new law or seek an unlikely exclusion.

In a July ceremony marking the 20th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act, President Obama announced that the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) has issued final regulations revising sections of the ADA.

The final regulations include revisions to Title II (pertaining to the more than 80,000 states and local governments, public entities and public transportation) and Title III (which covers the more than 7 million nonprofits, businesses open to the public and public accommodations and commercial facilities). It also includes adoption of the 2010 Standards for Accessible Design.

Generally, final rules will become effective March 15, 2011, and compliance with the 2010 Standards for Accessible Design will be required in 2012.

Businesses that are not in compliance could face fines, lawsuits, and/or complaints filed against them with the Department of Justice.

Facilities can be excluded from the law if they prove it would significantly alter their historic nature, reasonable accommodations are not readily achievable or it would create undue financial hardship. But the DOJ has warned that it would be difficult to prove such a case.

**Access.Architectural** offers accessibility related **presentations** to assist your firm or business, with knowledge and educational opportunities regarding disabilities and accessibility.

Presentations are now available regarding the **Changes to the New ADAAG** (Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines).

Do you know what changed? Could you use a refresher course? Is your office prepared?



Founder and Owner of Access.Architectural maneuvers his three wheeled wheelchair on the red rocks at the Valley of Fire State Park, outside of Las Vegas, Nevada

## Home Sweet Home



Many of us will experience at least a temporary disability. Accidents will happen and you could find yourself using a wheelchair or walker. As we mature and grow older, getting

around our home becomes more difficult. Then we ask, "How can I get up those steps or through that narrow door?" Planning for this comes from far-sighted homeowners, or tragically after an accident.

**Access.Architectural** understands these difficulties (our owner thrives in spite of his disability!), and we want to help you make your life a little easier and more productive.

That is why we offer accessible remodeling and accessibility modifications in Arizona and across the U.S.

**Access.Architectural** will assist you from Home Evaluation to Design to Construction and through completion.

We have the solutions to your home accessibility needs and modifications to enhance and improve the safety and accessibility in your home.

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#### Who can benefit from Access.Architectural

Government agencies; educational facilities; private business; religious facilities; commercial real estate agents; appraisers, public and private schools, non-profit organizations; and ultimately all persons with disabilities.

#### 175 Billion reasons for accessibility

According to the Census Bureau, more than 48.5 million people live with some kind of disability in the United States. Making your facility accessible for people with disabilities is good business sense, and represents more than \$175 billion of potential income. With our expertise, you can profit while creating more opportunities for others.

#### Tap into the Baby Boom

According to the US Census, the 50+ market has over \$1.6 trillion in spending power and a net worth that's nearly twice the US average.

#### It's more than just ADA Compliance

In many jurisdictions, the building code only sets the minimum standards for disability access. It does not necessarily meet the needs of people with disabilities. Complaints against an organization (even those that meet the minimum standards) spread much faster than praises. Therefore, it is prudent to take proactive steps in making one's place accessible. Becoming more disability friendly and the willingness to learn more will greatly improve one's profile, credibility, and esteem within the community.

#### It's the right thing to do!

People with disabilities have the same desires and rights as everyone else. Any barrier that prevents them from participating fully in the community, economy, and workplace hurts everyone.

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This world is but canvas to our imaginations .

Henry David Thoreau