



**PRESS RELEASE**

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Contact: Brooke Peery  
Email: [bpeery@usccr.gov](mailto:bpeery@usccr.gov)  
Tel: (202) 701-1376

**Washington Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights  
Releases Report on Physical Barriers to Accessibility for Individuals with Disabilities**

On March 4, 2024, the Washington Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights (Committee) issued a report on [accessibility for individuals with disabilities](#). The report was issued after a series of public hearings where the Committee heard from individuals, organizations, and professionals with specific knowledge of and experience with accessibility in Washington.

Committee Chair Alexes Harris stated, “We began this project with an interest in learning more about street and sidewalk accessibility for people in general, and for people who use wheelchairs or other support devices. We learned so much about the lack of adequate infrastructure that allows people access to live their lives fully - going to parks, the grocery store and even accessing local buses. Through our panels with people who are in and work with various communities of people with varying physical abilities, we learned that physical barriers to accessibility for people with disabilities is a critical issue for ensuring civil rights for all in Washington State. Our hope is that the recommendations we have outlined in the report are seriously considered by Federal, state, and local agencies charged with creating and funding infrastructure to ensure physical accessibility for all people.”

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The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights is an independent, bipartisan agency charged with advising the President and Congress on civil rights matters and issuing an annual federal civil rights enforcement report. The Commission, by Congressional mandate, establishes Advisory Committees in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Committee members conduct reviews and produce reports and recommendations concerning local civil rights issues, including justice, voting, discrimination, housing, education, and other important themes. For information about the Commission and our Advisory Committees, please visit <http://www.usccr.gov> and follow us on Twitter and Facebook.