

METHODOLOGY FOR ADA RAMP SCORES

The ramp prioritization method was developed by scoring each intersection in the City and then ranking these intersections to establish the priority for improvement.

The ranking can be used in several ways:

1. The raw score can be interpreted strictly as an order of priority.
2. Neighborhoods (i.e. census blocks) can be scored based on the average score of the intersections within them.
3. A heat map can be developed to reflect the density of higher scoring intersections relative to lower scoring intersections in a manner that is not constrained by boundary.

The score is derived from two sets of factors:

1. Origin factors which reflect socio-demographic characteristic of a census block, including the populations of senior citizens and persons with ambulatory or sensory disabilities.
2. Destination factors which reflect the density of points of service and amenities that need to be accessible.

20 types of destination were considered:

- Restaurants and Bars
- Theaters and Entertainment
- Retail and Shopping
- Social Services
- YMCAs
- Police Stations
- Hospitals
- Homeless Shelters
- Public Health Clinics
- Courts
- Correctional Facilities
- Educational Institutions
- Public Transit Stations
- Libraries
- Community Gardens
- Fire Stations
- Senior Centers
- Park Entrances
- Administrative Offices
- Employment Centers

Where possible, the density was derived directly from the count of facilities per square mile area of that census block. For some categories, employment data was used as a proxy.

Each intersection was assigned a score based on population and destination density, weighted by proximity. This score was then used to identify a “top 200” list of priority intersections but each intersection in the city had a score and therefore a rank.

In the original method, each of the destinations was weighted evenly. In 2014, a survey was developed and disseminated in collaboration with community representatives that identified 20 types of destinations as being a priority for accessibility. Respondents ranked the importance of accessibility at each destination. The original scores were recalculated based on the ranking of importance identified in the survey. Equity factors associated with each census block would also affect the scores and therefore the rankings.