AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

■ PROJECT DESCRIPTION
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) prohibits discrimination and ensures equal opportunity and access for persons with disabilities.

In commitment to providing equal access to its facilities, LAWA undertook a review of its paths of travel, including curb ramps. The study found curb ramps within LAX’s Central Terminal Area (CTA) in need of improvements to meet current ADA accessibility guidelines. In response, LAWA undertook a multi-phase program to reconstruct these paths of travel.

The overall project involves repairing or replacing curb ramps; striping roadway, passenger walkway, parking stalls, and access points; and improving sidewalks by installing truncated domes near passenger walkways and placing bollards to separate walkways from vehicle traffic. Other improvements include installing new, more readable signage; relocating Pedestrian Control Traffic Buttons; adding drop-off and bus-boarding spaces for persons with disabilities and others with access and functional needs; adding handrail extensions; relocating benches and removing protruding objects from them; and adjusting curb transitions.

Phase I will focus on improving the direct paths from accessible parking spaces in the CTA parking structures, to the front entrances of corresponding terminals across roadways. Less direct paths of travel will be improved in Phase II of the project.

■ TRAVELER BENEFITS
Travelers to LAX will benefit from more efficient and legible signage, smoother curb-to-street access, warning grooves on curb ramps, new tread on stair risers and ramps, more clearly striped roadways and parking slots, and easily reachable pedestrian traffic-control buttons, among other improvements.

■ TRAVELER IMPACTS
Traffic-lane and sidewalk restrictions/closures will occasionally be required during construction. At certain times travelers may be rerouted. Construction will occur in phases to limit impacts on operations. A pedestrian foot traffic map can be found at www.LAXisHappening.com.

■ CONSTRUCTION DATES
ADA Improvements Project (Phase I)
Spring 2012 to Fall 2014
ADA Improvements Project (Phase II)
Fall 2014 to Fall 2016

■ COST
Approximately $6.3 million

■ CONTRACTOR
City of Los Angeles General Services Department

Repainting parking stalls is just one measure the two-phased ADA Improvements Project is undertaking to improve the passenger experience at LAX.