

## GCPD Accessible Parking Survey - Individual

**Welcome to the online survey on accessible parking. Your participation is greatly appreciated and will help guide the Texas legislature in reviewing the status of accessible parking throughout the state and any need for changes to our state's parking laws. Your survey responses will be kept anonymous and will be combined with other responses to provide a more informed view of accessible parking issues in Texas. Participating in this survey should take approximately 15 minutes.**

**Please contact the Texas Governor's Committee on People with Disabilities [atgcpd@gov.texas.gov](mailto:atgcpd@gov.texas.gov) if you have questions about or need assistance with this survey.**

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1. Are you . . . ?

Female

Male

2. What is your age?

- 16 - 21
- 22 - 30
- 31 - 45
- 46 - 65
- 66 and over

3. Which best describes your ethnic background?

- Asian/Pacific Islander
- Black/African-American
- Caucasian/White
- Hispanic/Latino
- Native American/Alaska Native
- Other/Multi-Racial
- Decline to Respond

4. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

- 12th grade or less
- Graduated high school or less
- Technical school or trade school
- Associate's degree
- Bachelor's degree
- Post-graduate degree

5. What is your zip code?

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6. Are you a veteran?

Yes

No

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7. Do you currently qualify for an accessible parking space for persons with a disability?

Yes

No



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8. If you qualify for an accessible parking space, please select your qualification(s). Choose all that apply. (You may select option A or B and multiple items under B.)

- A. Mobility: Cannot walk 200 feet without stopping to rest.
- B. Assisted mobility: Cannot walk without the use or assistance of a device, including a brace, cane, crutch or another person or prosthetic device
  - 1. Wheelchair: Cannot ambulate without a wheelchair or similar device
  - 2. Respiratory: Is restricted by respiratory problems or lung disease
  - 3. Oxygen: Uses portable oxygen
  - 4. Cardiac: Has a cardiac condition classified as Class III or Class IV according to the American Heart Association
  - 5. Foot Disorder: Has a foot disorder that a podiatrist states limits or impairs a person's ability to walk
  - 6. Other: Arthritic, neurological, orthopedic, or another debilitation condition that a practicing physician states limits or impairs a person's ability to walk
  - 7. Legally blind: Visual acuity is 20/200 or less in the better eye with correcting lenses
  - 8. Legally blind: Visual acuity is more than 20/200 but with a limited field of vision where the widest diameter of the vision field has an angle of 20 degrees or less

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9. Are you . . .? Choose all that apply.

- A primary driver with a disability who needs no assistance.
- A primary driver with a disability who needs assistance from a personal care attendant or companion.
- A passenger with a disability who needs no assistance.
- A passenger with a disability who needs assistance from a personal care attendant or companion.
- A personal care attendant or companion who provides transportation for a person with a disability.
- A driver for a disability support organization that provides transportation for persons with a disability.
- Other (please specify):

10. How often do you drive a car or other passenger vehicle?

- Daily
- Weekly
- A few times a month
- Rarely
- Never

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11. What type of vehicle is used in providing transportation for the person with the disability? Choose all that apply.

- Sedan
- Van with a side lift or ramp
- Van with a rear lift or ramp
- Truck
- Bus
- Motorcycle

Other (please specify):

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12. What is your functional need for an accessible parking space? Choose all that apply.

- Key factor in determining my ability to lead an independent life.
- I have a need to open the driver/passenger door fully in order to load/unload a manual wheelchair.
- I have a need to deploy a side ramp/lift with plenty of clearance to navigate the wheelchair off a vehicle ramp.
- I have a need for driver side clearance for a wheelchair lifting crane to swing clear of the truck bed backend and deliver the wheelchair to the vehicle cab. I
- need an access aisle for disability loading needs.
- I have a need for close parking to limit distance traveled.
- I have a need for close parking to limit safety issues for crossing a busy parking lot.
- I have a need for close parking to safely load/unload a passenger with a disability.
- Other (please specify):

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13. For accessible parking, do you have . . .? Choose all that apply.

- Two permanently disabled person (blue) placards (Please note the terms placard and hangtag are interchangeable)
- One set of disabled person license plates for a motor vehicle and one permanently disabled person (blue) placard
- One disabled person license plate for a motorcycle and one permanently disabled person (blue) placard
- One or two temporarily disabled person (red) placards
- Disabled Veteran (DV) specialty license plates and a disabled parking placard
- None of the above. I borrow a vehicle with a disabled license plate or placard from friends or family as needed.
- Other (please specify):

14. How often do you encounter insufficient accessible parking in the community?

- Every day
- Several times a week
- Once a week
- Once a month
- Never

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15. What difficulty do you encounter the most often? Choose all that apply.

- Accessible spots are all filled
- No van accessible space with access aisle
- Access aisle is too small for ramp deployment
- Someone has parked their vehicle in the access aisle
- The accessible path of travel from the accessible space into my destination (store, hospital) is blocked or obstructed
- Other (please specify):



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16. Please rank the following accessible parking solutions. Rank them from most helpful to least helpful to you.

	Most helpful	Very helpful	Helpful	Somewhat helpful	Least Helpful
Increase in access aisle space	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Require more spaces in parking lot be designated as accessible spaces	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mark some spaces as "Van Accessible ONLY spaces"	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Use of trained community volunteer programs to enforce accessible parking laws	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
More public education about not misusing accessible parking spaces	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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17. Please rank accessible parking at the following type of places. Rank them in order from most difficult to least difficult in obtaining accessible parking.

	Most difficult	Moderately difficult	Difficult	Somewhat difficult	Least difficult
Retail establishments (stores, restaurants, strip centers, malls)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Business complexes (insurance, attorney, accountant and other types of business offices)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Apartment complexes or other multi-resident facilities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Medical facilities (doctor's offices, hospitals, clinics, pharmacies)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Government offices (federal, state, county, city and other local agencies)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Other (please specify) and Rating:

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18. When no accessible parking is available, what are you most likely to do? Please rank your possible actions from most likely to least likely.

	Most likely	Very likely	Somewhat likely	Likely	Not very likely	Least likely
Wait until an accessible parking spot opens up	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Park sideways in two "regular" spots	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Park further away	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Use valet service, if available	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Hire an attendant/driver to drop you off at the door	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Leave and go home	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Other (please specify) and Rating:

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19. What types of medical facilities do you visit most often? Choose all that apply.

- Hospital
- Medical office near to or adjacent to hospital
- Veterans medical facility
- Independent clinic
- Rehabilitation facility
- Outpatient physical therapy facility
- Pharmacy
- Other (please specify):

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20. Please rank these facilities in how difficult it is to obtain accessible parking. Rank in order of most difficult to least difficult in obtaining accessible parking.

	Most difficult	Very difficult	Moderately difficult	Difficult	Somewhat difficult	Slightly difficult	Least difficult
Hospital	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Medical office near to or adjacent to hospitals	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Veterans medical facility	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Independent clinic	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Rehabilitation facility	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Outpatient physical therapy facility	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pharmacy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

21. How often do you encounter insufficient accessible parking at medical facilities?

- Every time you visit
- Frequently
- Sometimes
- Rarely
- Never

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22. When no accessible parking is available at a medical facility, what are you most likely to do? Please rank your possible actions from most likely to least likely.

	Most likely	Very likely	Somewhat likely	Likely	Not very likely	Least likely
Wait until an accessible parking spot opens up	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Park sideways in two "regular" spots	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Park further away	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Use valet service, if available	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Hire an attendant/driver to drop you off at the door	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Reschedule your appointment and go home	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

23. How often do you encounter insufficient accessible parking at government buildings and offices, including federal, state and local agencies?

- Every time you visit
- Frequently
- Sometimes
- Rarely
- Never



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24. When no accessible parking is available at a government facility, what are you most likely to do? Please rank your possible actions from most likely to least likely.

	Most likely	Somewhat likely	Likely	Not very likely	Least likely
Wait until an accessible parking spot opens up	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Park sideways in two "regular" spots	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Park further away	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Hire an attendant/driver to drop you off at the door	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Leave and go home	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

25. How often do you encounter insufficient accessible parking when visiting the State Capitol Complex?

- Every time you visit
- Frequently
- Sometimes
- Rarely
- Never
- I don't visit the State Capitol Complex

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26. When no accessible parking is available at the State Capitol Complex, what are you likely to do? Please rank your possible actions from most likely to least likely.

	Most likely	Somewhat likely	Likely	Not very likely	Least likely
Wait until an accessible parking spot opens up	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Park sideways in two "regular" spots	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Park further away	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Hire an attendant/driver to drop you off at the door	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Leave and go home	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

27. Do you agree with the following statement? "Accessible parking fraud and abuse is widespread in the community."

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

28. Do you agree with the following statement? "Fines alone will solve accessible parking fraud and abuse."

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

29. Do you agree with the following statement? "A combination of fines and education is the best way to reduce accessible parking fraud and abuse."

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

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30. To reduce accessible parking fraud and abuse by people WITHOUT disabilities, some states and communities are moving from exempting everyone with accessible parking placards from paying parking meter fees to a tiered system where some people will be exempt.

For instance, people given a meter-exempt placard and allowed to park for free may include: someone with no hand dexterity or unable to reach above 42 inches high or someone unable to approach a meter because of a wheelchair, cane or crutch.

Would you be in favor of moving toward a system like this in Texas if it resulted in more accessible parking spaces and less parking fraud?

- Yes
- No
- Maybe if / Other comments (please specify):

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31. Texas law allows vehicles with Disabled Veterans specialty plates to park in accessible parking spots. However, Texas law does not state that the veteran must have a MOBILITY disability to use the accessible parking spot.

Would you be in favor of a change in law that in order to use an accessible parking spot the Disabled Veteran must meet the same qualifications for accessible parking plates/placards as other Texas citizens?

- Yes
- No
- Maybe if / Other comments (please specify):



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32. Studies have shown that accessible parking abuse is a growing problem statewide. Enforcement has been inconsistent due to a high ticket dismissal rate as Texas has one of the highest fines in the country for accessible parking violations. When an educational alternative is offered to judges and prosecutors, repeat offender violations either decline or go away altogether.

Would you support a change in law that would keep the current high fines for accessible parking violations but require judges to offer an educational alternative with a reduced fine upon course completion as a deterrent for repeat offenders?

- Yes
- No
- Maybe if / Other comments (please specify):

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33. Education is a frequent strategy in helping address accessible parking violations and fraud and abuse. What do you think may be the most effective means of educating the public on accessible parking?

- Court-assigned offender education program for accessible parking violators
- Mandatory training on accessible parking requirements upon receipt of disability license plates and placards
- Adding accessible parking to the driver's education curriculum for new driver-in-training
- Include accessible parking information in the Texas Driver Handbook issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety Driver License Division
- A statewide public information campaign on accessible parking similar to "Don't Mess with Texas"
- Other (please specify):

34. Would you be in favor of restricting half of the accessible parking spaces at small businesses to "van accessible only" parking spots even if it reduced overall parking access for all individuals with a disability who may not drive a van but depend upon accessible parking?

- Yes
- No

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35. Would you be in favor of reducing the number of disabled parking placards that are issued to an individual with a disability from one license plate and two placards to only one license plate and one placard to reduce overall accessible parking fraud and abuse?

- Yes
- No

36. Is there anything else you would like to share with us about your experience with accessible parking?

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**Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. Your participation in this project has been valuable, and we greatly appreciate your feedback.**

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