

ADA transition plan discussed in Plainfield

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PLAINFIELD — The town council here was updated on its Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) transition plan.

Brock Ridgeway of Eagle Ridge Civil Engineering firm has been working with the town to make sure it is ready to comply with the ADA.

"It's important for

municipalities to comply because it's required to receive federal funds," Ridgeway said.

The portion of the act that is currently under the microscope is the accessibility to public transit.

"The first milestone is due by Dec. 31, 2011," he said. "We have to set the stage for the development of a plan."

He said my mid-2012 there needs to be an inven-

tory of all the town's streets, sidewalks, ramps, and crosswalks.

"What we're looking for are obstacles," he said. "We need to make sure existing facilities are up to ADA standards and make sure their are no blocks or gaps."

Milestone III is prioritizing the projects and budgeting so there is a schedule in place to remove any obstacles. Other milestones include adopting and

implementing an ADA grievance procedure.

"We don't expect much of this," Ridgeway said. "But it has to be handled professionally. So we have to have a form put together, get it online, and be able to track the grievances."

The town also has the responsibility to collect information from the public on the issue. There is already a new page on the town's website where resi-

dents can sign up to receive e-mail updates and make comments.

Town council member Renee Whicker asked Ridgeway to contact local disabled persons and advocates to become involved in the process.

"We should contact Plainfield schools and other advocates," she said. "They would know better about obstacles to accessibility. Hopefully, they'll get on

the list and weigh in. The more eyes we have on the problem the better."

To see the page, visit the town's website at www.townofplainfield.com. Once on the homepage, look on the righthand side of the page about half way down and there is a portal to the ADA Transition Plan.

The board will be seeing a new ordinance on this subject during its next meeting at 7 p.m. Nov. 28.