

MEMORANDUM

To: CEDI Bathrooms Monitoring Team
FROM: Steve Spehn, Director of Facilities and Capital Planning
DATE: August 16, 2018
SUBJECT: Campus Restroom Survey, Review, and Recommendations

Process

Facilities and Residential Life were charged with gathering information to provide data as identified in the Tuesday Group memorandum to the CEDI Bathroom Action Team regarding Inclusive and Accessible Bathrooms at Carleton. Students were hired and trained to survey campus restrooms in academic, administrative, and residence hall buildings. Data collection occurred over spring break 2018. Data was reviewed over several meetings in April and May. Information was separated between accessibility (ADA) and inclusive (all-gender) restroom status. Based on this data, it is expected direction will be given to develop cost estimates for recommended changes.

Definitions and Assumptions

Data collected and information assembled was done so as consistently to the memorandum language as possible. In some instances further clarification was beneficial, while we tried to refrain from assuming intentions and development of other information that was not requested. Accessibility was evaluated against current building code requirements and deficiencies may be noted as non-compliant even though from a code perspective building deficiencies are grandfathered in until the building code official requires upgrades (usually as part of proposed building improvements). We assume the building met current building code at the time when the building was originally constructed or when the last major building project was completed. The memorandum asked for information as to whether a restroom is accessible. It did not request information whether a building or floor is accessible (only the restroom) and did not take into consideration not every restroom needs to be accessible in order for the building to be ADA compliant (code requires an accessible restroom on every other floor). This additional information exists, but was not necessarily reported.

Official all-gender restrooms were defined as having a permanent sign as provided by the College. It was then noted whether the sign met the current standard. Restrooms with other all-gender signs were not noted as official all-gender restrooms and thusly were counted as a men's or women's restroom as identified in the space management database. Exceptions to this were private restrooms contained in private spaces, such as a student residence room, where there is no sign and likely will never be one. These restrooms are noted as all-gender in the survey.

Counts and Results

In total 403 restrooms were surveyed, 187 in academic and administrative buildings, and 216 in residence halls. There are 48 ADA compliant restrooms, 31 that are ADA compliant but are not signed as accessible, 50 that are not ADA compliant but the restroom sign indicates it is accessible (presumably many have

been affected by code changes but the sign has not been changed), and 274 are not compliant and the sign correctly indicates it is not (183 non-compliant restrooms are in the residence halls).

Restroom Summary			
	Acad/Admin	Res Halls	Total
ADA Compliant	44	4	48
ADA Compliant, but are not signed	25	6	31
Not ADA Compliant, but signed ADA	27	23	50
Not ADA Compliant, signed as such	91	183	274
Totals	187	216	403

Recognizing that making structural modifications to non-compliant restrooms would be difficult, the surveyors also identified restrooms that could be made accessible with modest changes such as correcting the height of paper towel dispensers, grab bars, plumbing fixtures, etc. Fifty restrooms in academic and administrative buildings could be made accessible without structural modifications and another eight in residence halls also fit into this category.

In academic and administrative buildings there are 29 official all-gender restrooms. It should be noted that some of these are located in dressing rooms and green rooms which may not be considered available to the general population and public. There are eight unofficial all-gender rooms. Gender-specific restrooms totaled 150, with 95 being multi-user and 55 being single-user.

In residence halls there are 42 gender-specific restrooms with 11 being single-user restrooms. There are 151 official all-gender restrooms (85 are in private spaces such as a student room) and 23 unofficial all-gender restrooms in the residence halls.

During review of the code requirements, there was a change to the Minnesota code language to allow accessible all-gender restrooms to be counted towards building total restroom fixture counts as required by building code. Prior to this change, all-gender restroom fixtures could not be counted towards meeting the minimum building required fixture counts. This change would allow reviewing accessible, single-user gender-specific restrooms for designation as all-gender.

	Gender-Specific Restrooms		Official All-Gender Restrooms		Unofficial All-Gender Restrooms		Total
	Single-User	Multi-User	Single-User	Multi-User	Single-User	Multi-User	
Academic/Administrative Buildings	55	95	29	0	4	4	187
Student Housing - Public Spaces	11	31	19	47	2	21	131
Student Housing - Private Spaces	0	0	83	2	0	0	85
TOTAL	66	126	131	49	6	25	403

The following are recommendations to convert restrooms, change signage, and develop goals and cost estimates for accessible and all-gender restrooms:

Accessibility Recommendations:

- New restroom signs should be installed as soon as possible for restrooms that are ADA compliant but lacking the appropriate sign.
- Review restrooms that are not ADA compliant and have incorrect signs saying they are accessible to determine if changes can be made to make the restroom compliant, or if not, replace it with proper signage without the accessibility symbol.
- Restroom data should be overlaid with building accessibility data, such as building entrance and elevator status.
- Goals should be stated to help prioritize future investments. For example, is the first priority to maximize the number of fully ADA compliant buildings and to use this restroom data to help towards this goal with a secondary priority of increasing the number of accessible restrooms where practical? Is providing additional accessible restrooms in buildings that are not accessible a goal?
- Develop cost estimates for restrooms that can be made ADA compliant without structural changes at locations consistent with intended goals.

All Gender Recommendations:

- Obtain final approval for recommended standard signage for all-gender restrooms (see below).
- Convert 12 gender-specific single-user restrooms to official all-gender per the change in Minnesota building code. Order and install correct signs. This includes: Hulings 121C, Laird Stadium 08C, Olin 203, Olin 205, Rec Center 207, Rec Center 208, 200 Division 226, Weitz 065, Weitz 071, 212 East Second 106, 605 Three Oaks 106, and Bird House 110.
- Remove unofficial all-gender multi-user restrooms in academic and administrative buildings and replace with appropriate sign of the restroom's new designation.
- Identify goals for adding campus all-gender restroom locations. The committee recommends our initial focus on Leighton and Sayles-Hill.